

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Stuart

2. Last name *

Read

4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Australian Garden History Society

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

Melbourne

8. State *

VIC

9. Postcode *

3004

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

The Australian Garden History Society promotes awareness and conservation of significant gardens and cultural landscapes, Australia wide. AGHS has three branches in parts of New South Wales (Sydney & Northern NSW, with a sub-branch in Northern NSW; the Southern Highlands Branch; the ACT, Monaro and Riverina Branch (whose 'patch' extends from the Illawarra to the Victorian border).

AGHS runs branch and national events on lands including NSW Crown Lands, be those public parks, national parks, leased farmland, urban lands, coastal and riverine lands, travelling stock routes, cemeteries.

AGHS has just (c/o COVID-19) postponed its national conference, which was to be held in Sydney and surrounds, in October 2020. This conference will now be held in 2021. Its conference papers, and visits, including pre- and post-conference tours, will include NSW Crown Lands.

Each AGHS NSW branch and sub-branch runs its own activities, funds conservation projects, some of which include sites that are Crown Lands.

AGHS publishes research and information on sites which include NSW Crown Lands, both online (at www.gardenhistorysociety.org.au) and in its journal 'Australian Garden History' and elsewhere.

While this information is not collected or kept, it is quite possible AGHS members, private individuals, lease, manage and have direct and indirect (e.g. through other community groups) roles in managing NSW Crown Lands.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

AGHS values NSW Crown Lands for its existence value, its natural heritage value that goes beyond just 'biodiversity': its geo-diversity; its ecosystem support (indeed, ecosystem provision) role.

AGHS values NSW Crown Lands for its potential to compensate for over-development and over-focus on economic development of other lands and waters in NSW.

AGHS values NSW Crown Lands for its potential to help provide truly 'sustainable development', meaning sustaining the environment, ecological systems, (not just human needs or wants), groundwater and surface water recharge and flows, job creation that does not detract from the rich environmental and social values of such lands.

AGHS value NSW Crown Lands for its potential to help provide truly 'sustainable development' in proactive job creation prioritising and focussed on First Nations Peoples as their birthright, regardless of the existence of status of native title claims over some Crown Land. AGHS sees NSW Crown Lands as the 'Country' or 'Countries' of First Nations Peoples, i.e. as inherently belonging to the people of NSW, and considers that NSW Crown Lands - all of them - should be considered as belonging to all the people of NSW - including its First Nations People - i.e. as of right.

AGHS value NSW Crown Lands for their rich and diverse natural heritage values.
AGHS value NSW Crown Lands for their rich and diverse cultural heritage values, particularly its 'landscape' values: landscapes, parks, reserves, public gardens

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Yes> additional priorities are absent and are needed:

1. Protecting and improving the natural heritage and biodiversity, i.e. environmental values of Crown Land must be included as a priority, with clear outcomes of both protecting and improving, i.e. ensuring 'sustainability' of these values (this means a need for a clear prohibition of land clearing of native vegetation on any NSW Crown Lands.
2. Prioritising the custodianship of First Nations Peoples as co-owners of all Crown Land, with rights to access it for cultural purposes, direct involvement in its management and in decisions on its best 'uses'
3. The existing priorities are overly biased to the short-term, the economic, and to apparent further sale, disposal and privatisation of Crown Lands - none of these are supported.
4. Opportunities for job creation, environmental condition improvement, eco-tourism and improving and monitoring the condition of Crown Lands should be part of this plan
5. Green Open Space priority is overly-skewed to active recreation and needs to specify passive recreation and non-human functions of open space, e.g. habitat, flora and fauna connectivity and movement.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

A number of changes need making to these outcomes; and others are also needed:
There needs to be a clear, unambiguous outcome of protecting and improving the condition of the natural heritage, i.e. biodiversity and environmental values, of all Crown Lands. That means a prohibition on clearing of native vegetation on Crown Lands. Period.

There needs to be a clear, unambiguous commitment to treating First Nations Peoples as custodians and co-owners of all NSW Crown Lands, as of right, regardless of the existence or status of Native Title Land Claims.

Resources need committing to (a) resolving the 38,000+ native title claims as a priority; (b) establishing a Treaty with First Nations Peoples over NSW Crown Lands; (c) co-management of all Crown Lands with First Nations Peoples; (d) prior and genuine consultation with First Nations Peoples before any NSW Crown Lands are transferred between Crown entities (or sub-entities); disposed of or sold.

A clear, unambiguous outcome of sustaining and nurturing the cultural heritage values of Crown Lands needs to be included, that prioritises retention and sound management of these lands to sustain their heritage values (not just maximise economic values).

A clear, unambiguous outcome of only courting investment in Crown Lands where this meets other objectives, such as sustainable development (carefully defined), retention of natural and cultural heritage values, wholistic landscape management, maximisation of benefits to all NSW people.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Environmental and social values must be built-into 'standard lease' or 'licenses', to sustain, manage, conserve and improve their condition over time. This includes a single, independent state agency responsible to monitor and manage the environmental and social health and condition of all Crown Lands. This body must be independent of any Minister, adequately funded and staffed.

Leases and licences must give due weight to environmental and social values.

Add enabler of active, serious, staged ongoing government (or other) funding and investment in conserving and improving the natural and cultural heritage values, and condition of Crown Lands.

Add enabler requiring co-management with First Nations Peoples of all Crown Lands, supported by funding and assistance to demonstrate custodianship as a guiding principle.

Add enabler of opportunities for job-creation in 'Caring for Country', co-managing Crown Lands, cultural and eco-tourism run by or co-run with First Nations Peoples.

Enabler(s) for transparency must require public consultation before any transfer of Crown Land from one Crown entity to another; any proposed sale or disposal; must require open public tender (not private deals) over leases and disposal or sales.

Enabler for volunteer partners must ensure no unfair transfer of costs, i.e. responsibility is transferred, but no funds to help manage, to improve condition, etc ('outsourcing') - this is inappropriate for a publicly-owned asset that belongs to all.



Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

First Nations Peoples as co-owners and custodians; Environmental (natural heritage, biodiversity, ecosystem health), Social (e.g. heritage values, i.e. cultural heritage, meaning landscapes, parks, reserves, gardens) must be goals, outcomes and built into the enablers to achieve these goals. Targets should be built into this plan.

Implementation of the Green Spaces Strategy for Metro Sydney should be cross-referenced and added as an enabler to this plan, as these include Crown Lands.

The Crown Lands Estate should be expanded, with strategic acquisition to fill 'gaps' of under-conserved natural environmental bioregions, biomes, sensitive environmental lands.

Funding and commitment to an independent state body to monitor and manage the environmental and social health and condition of Crown Lands should be part of this plan.

Travelling Stock Routes should be prohibited from sale or disposal, and careful balanced management of their environmental and heritage values must be part of this plan.

Western Division perpetual and other leases must be more transparent as to renewal, conditions, monitoring and compliance. Clearing native vegetation should be prohibited on all Crown Land.

Transparency needs improvement, e.g. public consultation before proposed transfer between Crown entities, disposal or sale. Open public tender for sales. Licenses of privately held waterfront land should have more scrutiny.

Green Grid principles of ecological connectivity, canopy cover need incldg.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

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Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Peter

2. Last name *

Maslen

4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

Gulmarrad

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2463

10. Email *

[REDACTED]

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

I use crown lands to enjoy and observe natural ecosystems. Much of crown land has remnant native vegetation which must be protected and managed to ensure that it is enhanced ensuring that the biodiversity of site are maintained and enhanced. Native habitat corridors must be maintained and enhanced.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

<p>There are no obvious priority to protect and enhance the natural habitats of crown lands. The protection of biodiversity and the natural heritage values must feature as a priority for the management of crown lands.</p>

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

There is little emphasis on maintaining and enhancing the natural heritage values of crown lands. With a large percentage of crown lands being under various forms of agricultural leases conditions of those leases must include the protection and enhancement of natural ecosystems and the associated corridors. All use of crown lands that have the ability to ensure connectivity between habitat areas must be maximised.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
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Of minor importance
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Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

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Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

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Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

It is essential that the use of crown land and the associated leases be made completely transparent and accessible to the whole community. Standard leases and agreements must include conditions regarding the protection and enhancement of natural environmental values.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

It is interesting all the majority of pictures are of natural areas yet commercial projects and use is the theme of the plan rather than the protection and enhancement of these areas. Crown lands hold valuable remnant ecosystems especially in areas outside urban areas. In many situations the only connectivity between natural areas is through tenuous natural corridors. These must be protected, enhanced and not permitted to be further degraded. Abrogating management to many local governments has resulted in the loss or degradation of natural areas. In my local council this has seen clearing of native vegetation patches to assist an adjacent private land owner access more easily than through their own property.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Word of mouth between like minded people who care about our natural environment

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

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Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Chris

2. Last name *

Maltby

4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

BONDI BEACH

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2026

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected *Other*, please provide details (1,500 characters):

The environmental significance of Crown lands including their role providing extended habitat links for threatened species and in protecting and enhancing biodiversity generally. Crown lands will also be vital in managing climate change as carbon banks and as refuges for displaced animals and plants.

As a place which is not under the relentless pressure for economic development and the need to make financial returns. Crown lands represent a form of scare capital that cannot be restored if sold or extensively developed.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

These priorities seriously overstate the importance of economic development of Crown lands, even to the extent of making that the focus of Aboriginal lands.

The priorities do not address the importance of Aboriginal custodianship and the backlog of native title claims, while apparently promoting the sale or potentially culturally destructive activities on lands that may be subject to those claims.

The priorities also undervalue the environmental significance of the Crown lands estate and instead identify "green space" and "quality of life" (perhaps recreational uses) as disembodied environmental objectives. A better priority would be the management of the total Crown lands estate to maximise biodiversity and habitat conservation, including the importance of remnant fragments of pre-european morphology.

Finally, the priorities do not include the need to develop and maintain a comprehensive data base of the Crown land estate. This data base would help identify areas of vital importance for Aboriginal, environmental, cultural, heritage or other significance to ensure that their preservation can be given appropriate priority and the relevant stakeholders be consulted about their management.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

- Innovative/sustainable industries

How can these criteria "innovative and sustainable" can be meaningfully applied? Crown lands should not be being sold or developed for industrial purposes.

- Sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

The concept of "sustainable resources projects" is oxymoronic for extractive resources. If the support is for renewable energy/infrastructure then that should be clearly identified, while noting that mining (particularly fossil fuel) is not a priority.

- Investment

Surely "investment" is not an outcome in itself but rather one of many components in the delivery outcomes identified as priorities.

- Affordable housing

Expanded access to affordable housing is a desirable objective, but not that Crown land needs to be developed to achieve it. The lived experience of new land releases is the opposite. A much more effective strategy would be to require affordable housing in all development.

- See Aboriginal land transfers [...] as an opportunity

Once again, development is the apparent goal, not respectful dialogue of Aboriginal communities needs and priorities.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Once again the emphasis is on the economic exploitation of the Crown lands estate.

- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

This reads like a determination to aim for a lowest common denominator approach to leases and licenses that would work against the specific management priorities of different lands - eg local biodiversity community interests.

- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures

See above - removal of site specific provisions is not compatible with best management practice.

- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Once again, the priority is the expansion of economic development of the estate.

- Build understanding of native title

As this is surely a core competency in the management of Crown land, it is astounding that it is listed as an enabler, except perversely by enabling the bypassing of Aboriginal interests to deliver the plan's explicit promotion of economic development.

- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

The key issue here is not the "new"ness of Crown land managers, but the objectives of Crown land managers generally and whether they accord with the full scope of management objectives beyond profit making uses.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

On the whole the plan is disappointing. The Crown lands estate is a crucial asset for the people of NSW, providing many returns beyond those measured in dollars. The plan is clearly aimed at maximising the financial return ahead of all other priorities, even to the extent of the wholesale sale of lands to private interests.

Further, this feedback form has been designed to create the appearance of public support for the various aspects of the plan. The limit of 1,500 words to respond to the priorities, objectives and enablers is too low to allow detailed alternatives to be presented and supported by evidence.

I think the Department should redesign the plan and carry out a less biased public consultation on that redesigned plan before any contingent legislative or regulatory changes are implemented.

Thanks for the opportunity to make this submission.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Through communications from a variety of bodies concerned about aspects of the plan and its impact on the non-financial value embodied in the Crown lands estate.

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Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public <i>CM</i>

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

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Important information about this form

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Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Annie

2. Last name *

Nielsen

4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Parramatta Climate Action Network

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

Winston Hills

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2153

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

I do bushcare as a volunteer on Crown land owned by the Council.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The 'quadruple bottom line' approach will prevent environmental values from relatively natural ecological communities with Aboriginal influence such as cool burning. These landscapes are crucial for the ongoing survival of what's left of the diverse, complex precolonial landscape and character of NSW. I feel that the draft Strategic plan has failed to adequately acknowledge this. The overall vision should include a statement about the environment. I advocate for an additional strategic priority; to enhance environmental and cultural values.

Travelling stock reserves (TSR): TSRs are critical conservation assets across much of NSW. They retain threatened species, Endangered Ecological Communities and vegetated remnants. TSRs compliment the protected area network and play an essential role in maintaining the connectivity of habitats at the landscape scale. Loc

I am very sceptical of the priority to work with Aboriginal communities to realize the potential of their land rights. This sounds like the land only has commercial value. Aboriginal people shouldn't have to see their land as an economic opportunity. Often it has intrinsic value and is vital to remain in its original form. If the government was so concerned about Aboriginal land rights there wouldn't be 38,000 unsettled claims. These claims should have been assessed a long time ago and many of them approved then I may agree that the government is concerned about Aboriginal communities rights.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

There is too much emphasis on the Crown land having an economic benefit. Often the Crown land has benefit just being as it is and doesn't need to be a financial asset. Beaches, bushland, travelling stock reserves all are important as they are. They have ensured the land is able to be preserved in its current form without change.

I am encouraged by the outcomes 'support and restore environmental values on Crown land' and 'build resilience in a changing climate'. However, these statements could be quite at odds with other outcomes described in the document.

It is unclear how environmental values will be weighed up against growth, commercial opportunities and economic progress. There is no clear provision to identify the landscapes that should form part of the reserve for cultural heritage.

Although jobs growth may occur in rural and regional areas due to communities working on Crown lands in tourism or a renewable energy project this shouldn't be a priority, but a side benefit. Crown land shouldn't be sold as it belongs to the people and so should be accessible by the people.

Marginal farm land in Western NSW should only be leased as it is marginal and should be protected from overgrazing and land clearing. With climate change causing more drought conditions maybe the government should make more of this land into national parks to protect it as it did with the land in the north west corner of NSW.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Red tape: I am wary of proposals to reduce red tape. The draft strategy suggests doing so in order to allow government entities managing Crown land to more efficiently carry out “low risk” activities. Due process and robust assessment are necessary to prevent damage to these important landscapes. In particular, engaging the community can be time consuming but is necessary, and it can save time if done well.

The first and last two Enabling Initiatives are good but the rest are just about making money. The people of NSW are lucky to have the Crown land as an asset and I feel strongly that they should not be sold off to private industries. Managing some in a partnership with community groups is good and enables volunteers to work on something that they care about.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Water and the protection of catchments are left out of this document entirely. Crown land interfaces with others responsible for waterways, but how do they work together? Having a better understanding of catchments and their importance may help reduce the effects of drought in the future. Acting on climate change will also be extremely important for the future of NSW. The document talks about climate resilience but don't say what this climate resilience might look like and isn't covered at all in the enabling initiatives.

Travelling stock reserves (TSR): TSRs are critical conservation assets across much of NSW. They retain threatened species, Endangered Ecological Communities and vegetated remnants. TSRs compliment the protected area network and play an essential role in maintaining the connectivity of habitats at the landscape scale. Local Land Services is responsible for leasing Crown land for grazing - but are permits ensuring sustainable land use?

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Ben

2. Last name *

Setchfield



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

APA Group

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Spring Hill

8. State *

Qld

9. Postcode *

4001

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

High Pressure Gas Transmission Pipeline Licence / Easement Holder.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

High Pressure Gas Transmission Pipelines.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Please refer to attached submission for details.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au



20 August 2020

APA Reference: 446486
Your Reference: SSP Crown Land

Crown Lands
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
PO Box 2155
DANGAR NSW 2309

EMAIL OUT: cl.enquiries@crownland.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Thank you for your correspondence received on 4 August 2020 in relation to the Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land.

APA Group (**APA**) is Australia's largest natural gas infrastructure business and has direct management and operational control over its assets and investments. APA's gas transmission pipelines span across Australia, delivering approximately half of the nation's gas usage. APA owns and operates over 15,000 km's of high pressure gas transmission pipelines across Australia.

APA is the licence holder for a number of gas transmission pipelines in New South Wales (see table 1 for details). Many of these pipelines form part of the broader Australian East Cost Grid whereby natural gas can be transported between NSW, QLD, SA and Vic and is a critical energy source for the State and Australian economy.

Table 1: Transmission gas pipelines in the area of consideration

Pipeline	Pipeline Licence	Diameter (mm)	Measurement Length (m)
Moomba – Sydney Ethane Pipeline	15	200	600
Moomba – Wilton Natural Gas Pipeline	16	850	760 + 795 + 805
Young – Lithgow Pipeline	17	150	140
Bathurst Spur		100	92
Brewongle to Oberon Spur	18	150	140
Young – Wagga Wagga Pipeline	19	300	270
Young – Wagga Wagga Looping		450	463
Cootamundra Spur		80	40
Junee to Griffith Pipeline	20	150	140
Junee Spur		100	93
Dalton to Canberra Pipeline	21	250	190
Browns Creek to Orange Spur	22	100	92
Wagga Wagga to Culcairn Pipeline	23	450	463
Culcairn to Murray River Pipeline (T99)	24	450	485
Marsden to Dubbo Pipeline	25	150 + 200	140 + 201
Central Ranges Pipeline	27	150 + 200	201
Illabo to Tumut Pipeline	28	200	-

Note: measurement length is applied to either side of the pipeline.

APA's Role

As a Licensee under the *Pipelines Act 1967*, APA is required to operate high pressure gas transmission pipelines (**HPGTP**) in a manner that minimises adverse environmental impacts and protects the public and property from health and safety risks. Once a HPGTP is in place, APA is required to constantly monitor both the pipeline easement and also a broader area within which we are required to consider land use changes and development and to assess what such changes means to the risk profile of the HPGTP.

APA has a number of responsibilities and duties to perform under a complex framework of legislation, standards and controls across Federal, State and Local Government landscapes. In particular, our HPGTPs are required to be operated in accordance with Australian Standard 2885 (Pipelines – Gas and Liquid Petroleum) (**AS2885**). In discharging our regulatory responsibilities, APA needs to continuously review what is happening around its assets, what land use changes are occurring and what development is taking place to ensure it remains in a position to comply with applicable operational and safety standards and legislation whilst meeting its commercial obligations and imperatives.

Pipeline Risk Profile and the Measurement Length

In managing HPGTP's and considering land use changes, APA must focus on that area geographically defined by AS2885 as the Measurement Length (**ML**). The ML area is the heat radiation zone associated with a full-bore pipeline rupture. APA is mandated to consider community safety in the ML due to the high consequences of pipeline rupture to life, property and the economy.

The ML is determined by the diameter and the Maximum Allowable Operating Pressure (**MAOP**) of the pipe. APA must consider any changes of land uses within the ML area to determine the effect of a new use on the risk profile of the pipeline.

Note that the ML is a radial dimension, and therefore applies to both sides of the pipe.

Sensitive Uses

APA seeks to limit sensitive uses from establishing within the ML so as to retain a high level of compliance with applicable safety standards. AS2885 defines a sensitive use as one which may increase the consequences of failure due to its use by members of the community who may be unable to protect themselves from the consequences of a pipeline failure.

To this end, APA's preferred position is that all land uses listed below be located outside of the ML:

- Child care centres
- Detention facility
- Educational facility
- Function facility
- Health care services
- Hospital
- Hotel
- Place of worship
- Residential care facility
- Retirement facility
- Service station
- Shop
- Shopping centre
- Theatre

Safety Management Study

AS2885 requires a Safety Management Study (**SMS**) to be undertaken whenever the land use classification of land within the ML changes. The purpose of an SMS is to assess the risk associated with a change in land use, including both construction risks and ongoing land use risks. The SMS will also develop appropriate controls to reduce risks to 'as low as reasonably practicable' (**ALARP**).

The cost of undertaking an SMS is to be borne by the proponent as the 'agent of change'. APA has developed a list of preferred SMS facilitators. This ensures facilitators are both independent and satisfactorily qualified to undertake this assessment. This list is available from APA on request.

Easement Management

An essential part of operating and maintaining pipelines, and expanding the grid, is tenure. Fundamental to APA's pipeline operations are the easements within which most pipelines are located. This tenure allows for many things critical to our business and to the security of gas transmission and supply, including:

- Allowing for the direct control of the immediate environment surrounding the pipeline ensuring it is free of vegetation and structures that may compromise operations;
- Provides a statutory mechanism requiring anyone wishing to undertake works to contact and discuss with APA;
- Provides for protection officers to traverse along pipelines undertaking safety based surveillance;
- Provides for the ability to undertake air based surveillance to ensure safety is maintained;
- Provides for clear safety signing and marking bringing the presence of a below ground pipeline to the public's attention;
- Provides space to undertake maintenance work without unnecessarily impinging on adjoining land;
- Provides for potential duplication of pipelines; and
- Can provide opportunities for open space connection outcomes in urbanised areas.

Whilst APA does not necessarily seek out Crown Land, it is inevitable due to the linear nature of our assets, that there are, and will be future, occasions where APA is the beneficiary of HPGTP easements that traverse Crown Land in New South Wales. To ensure compliance with the safety requirements of AS2885, APA needs its easement to be protected/retained as beneficiary tenure and that we continue to manage those spaces to an appropriate standard.

APA considers that its occupation of Crown Land accords with the Priorities for Crown Land as set out in 3.3 of the Strategic Vision as our assets support investment and job growth and can form part of green spaces.

To protect these important assets, any works within the easement must be approved by APA through a Third Party Works Authorisation process. This process ensures all works are undertaken in a safe manner that does not physically impact on the pipeline. APA does not seek to unnecessarily inhibit future development proximate to our assets and is happy to work with Planning Authorities and development proponents to achieve mutually acceptable and compliant outcomes. The basis of these processes however, is pipeline safety and security of supply considerations a fundamental facilitator of which is tenure (easements).

Any interested parties are strongly encouraged to contact APA early to discuss the process of integrating APA assets into their future developments.

It should be noted that State and local government can access pipeline information via the Australian Pipelines and Gas Association which maintain an online mapping database from which data can be exported as an ESRI Shapefile or Google KML file. This includes the measurement length for all APA transmission pipelines as well as other pipelines. Registration is available at <https://maps.landpartners.com.au/apd/APGALogin.aspx>.

APA is happy to meet with the Department to discuss these comments further, please contact us to arrange a time to meet.

APA requests that it included in any further consultation processes as the State Strategic Plan is developed.

For any further enquiries relating to this correspondence, please feel free to contact [REDACTED]

Yours faithfully,



Ben Setchfield
Senior Urban Planner
Infrastructure Planning and Approvals

Department Planning Industry and Environment

e: Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

The National Parks Association of NSW (NPA) is a not-for-profit conservation group formed in 1957, seeking to protect, connect and restore the integrity and diversity of natural systems in NSW. It is a community-based organisation with members and supporters from rural and urban areas across the st te.

The Armidale National Parks Association (NPA) was established in 1974. We have members throughout north-west NSW, some of whose rural properties are severely impacted by drought and fire, and yet these members are still keen to see public lands, especially those with special conservation and cultural values, preserved and protected.

Armidale NPA has long advocated for the protection of environmental values of Crown Lands and for better NSW Government support and resourcing of government agencies charged with the care and management of cultural and environmental values of Crown lands.

Our members voluntarily engage in environmental activities, and conduct educational and recreational excursions on Crown land reserves.

We work with government agencies and community groups to better understand and protect these areas.

Attached please find some documentation of Armidale NPA's connection with north-west NSW's Crown lands and with government agency land managers and with community groups caring for environmental values. Appendix 3

The stated aim of the State Draft Strategic Plan for Crown land is to:

“set the vision, priorities and overarching strategy for the management of Crown land in the State, having regard to the objects of this Act and appropriate environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations.”

Whose vision? Strategic for whom? What is interpreted by appropriate?

For a true Vision for the Future, the role of the NSW State Government's DPIE needs first to **recognise the significant ecological values as well as cultural values** contained in much of our Crown lands.

Priority One for the DPIE and it's Vision should be to **identify the natural values within it's Crown Land estate**. It is noted that this is not a priority nor listed in the outcomes (page 30).

To conserve 'natural resources' (p 31) there first needs to be a detailed inventory of

these ‘resources’, made publicly available as noted in p.42 “Crown land across NSW can be used for conservation of landscapes and species, in support of the government’s biodiversity priorities.” There is no explanation of what the government’s biodiversity priorities consist of. **Question : What are the government’s biodiversity priorities? (as mentioned page 42)**

Armidale NPA Recommendation : Re Retain and Manage Crown land to build resilience in changing climate p.43

That the NSW **Government retain Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves and other crown lands**, as they are especially vital in north-west and northern NSW to facilitate the DPIE to help communities to:

“meet the impacts of climate change, including rising sea levels, longer and more intense drought and fire seasons, and more intense storms, flooding and coastal erosion. In many cases, proactive land management is a critical component of mitigating these risks for communities, habitats and species. Crown land is often positioned at the interface between natural hazards and sensitive land uses (eg coasts, waterways, riverbeds and peri-urban bushland).”

It is pleasing that there is recognition of the **refuge role** of Crown lands *including through travelling stock reserves and showgrounds.*

It is also encouraging to learn that the *NSW Government has commissioned a review following the recent devastating bushfires and continues to develop its approaches to mitigation of food, coastal erosion and drought risks. We will look for opportunities to work with the responsible government agencies, which have the required specialist expertise, as well as with communities to manage Crown land using the new approaches that are developed.*

Retaining the integrity and resilience of NSW Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves

There have been numerous reviews of the TSRs during the terms of the Rural Lands Protection Board and the Local Land Service e.g. NSW Travelling Stock Reserves State Planning Framework 2016-21. Many submissions have documented and stressed the significant environmental values of the whole integrated network system of NSW TSRs, but still lacking are effective State-wide and Regional Management plans.

It is vital for the health of Crown reserves including TSRs to care for the ground layers of vegetation e.g. the native grasses and forbs, plus the invertebrate and vertebrate fauna that depend on this layer. Therefore it is sound management to maintain the native ground layer and this can be achieved by judicious intermittent grazing rather than mismanaged regular and frequent grazing.

Loss of the ground layer cover can lead to erosion and loss of irreplaceable top soil.

If the DPIE puts pressure on LSS staff to increase the number of long-term grazing leases (LTGPs) for remuneration purposes, this can severely hinder the opportunity for state land managers to build up **the essential environmental resilience** of the TSR network.

This is especially important as greater areas of the State succumb to drought, fire and land clearing. For example, after drought it is critical for biodiversity maintenance that the native forbs not be grazed until they have flowered and set seed. Therefore it is important to support and resource the work of LSS to ensure that they are not obligated to issue new, or the need to renew, inappropriate 5 year long-term grazing leases.

Also, in these times of long drought periods the LTGPs may disadvantage non-lease holding pastoralists seeking short term drought respite with travelling grazing permits if the leased areas have been overgrazed.

It is vital that the entire Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves network of NSW is kept intact and in public ownership as a public asset, and that it is appropriately and sustainably managed for its integrated network values at a regional and landscape scale. The whole TSR network has the potential to be a globally unique, continental-scale corridor of publicly owned remnant vegetation with great environmental, economic, cultural (both Aboriginal and European) and social benefits to NSW and Australia - if effectively and sustainably managed by a well-resourced LLS system.

The Northern Tablelands TSR network contains some of the oldest TSRs (gazetted as early as 1876) and some of the highest quality, connected remnants of vegetation in eastern Australia. There is also substantial information on the animal and plant biodiversity and ecology of the region and its TSRs because of the many studies and research projects carried out over many years by the Botany and Zoology Departments of the University of New England.

Armidale NPA Recommendation : Re *Partner with the organisations that serve our communities* p.48

That the NSW Government and DPIE **include state community conservation organisations**, for example Nature Conservation Council, National Parks Association NSW, Birds Australia in their partnership program of peak bodies, as they contain members who are actively engaged with voluntary work state-wide on Crown land estate.

Also that the DPIE liaise with diverse local Aboriginal Elders groups as well as with Land Councils in each area when seeking to widen inclusive consultation

Armidale NPA Recommendation : Re 4.1 *Make more of our information available and transparent* p.59

- Defer any further decisions on the future fate of Crown lands until the necessary data bases and digital maps have been fully prepared and made readily available
- Make existing information available immediately – not, for example vague suggestions e.g. that the department “may include a digital map of Crown land”
- The department could better “empower” their “stakeholders and customers” to better understand the department’s vision and draft strategic plan, let alone the

“opportunities available through the use of Crown land”, if it fully made available now all the data already in it’s possession.

Before the public and ‘stakeholders’ are asked to comment on the State’s Vision for a Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land, and in order to make an informed response, the DPIE must first make available detailed data with regard to the environmental and cultural values state-wide.

Where there are gaps in DPIE’s knowledge, then there is an urgent requirement of the DPIE to conduct extensive surveys, mapping and research to eliminate this ignorance of fundamental knowledge of precisely what natural and cultural values are contained within the State’s Crown lands.

If there are fundamental gaps in DPIE data does this lead to an inadequate Draft Plan and a narrowed scope of vision?

See Appendix 2 for an example of local values on Crown land estate, the value of detailed information and engagement by local community

Armidale NPA Recommendation: Re 4.3 Expand support for Crown land managers p.62

Agree with points 4.3.1 and 4.3.2

4.3.3. Yes to intergenerational **recruitment of Crown land managers especially if there is an active engagement of, and support for Aboriginal trainee land managers.** Word of caution – that the NSW Government and DPIE do not hasten the departure of experienced, dedicated and long-serving competent and professional land managers even if they are “approaching the age of retirement”. This hasty moving-on of such land managers risks the loss of a sound knowledge of working with local communities and volunteers, detailed knowledge of landscapes and infrastructure.

Armidale NPA Recommendation: Re Timelines to deliver the plan’s priorities and outcomes (p. 65 -66)

*Support and restore environmental values on Crown land – the long-term category is entirely misplaced and this should be accorded a **short-term aim**, as it is essential to achieve **in order to Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate** (which has been accorded a short-term aim)*

*Make more of our information available and transparent – this should be accorded a **short-term aim** as without comprehensive detailed information it is difficult to make informed responses to the Vision and the Draft Plan.*

Does this indicate that the Vision and the Draft Plan are themselves limited by lack of data?

Armidale NPA Recommendation : Re: *We will report regularly on the plan's outcomes* p.68 – 69

Thank you for offering to report regularly

Recommend that you reply directly to the questions raised in this submission. This would provide reassurance that the matters of concern to our members are also taken seriously into consideration by DPIE as we note that “your feedback is important to us”.

Can you please provide responses to the following questions that have arisen from reading the Draft Plan:

Question :

What are the government's biodiversity priorities? (as mentioned page 42)

Question:

Why is there no recognition or mention in the Draft Plan of areas of crown land within the context of obligations of the government to identify land for conservation under Australia's Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation of Australia (IBRA)?

Question :

Where in the DPIE Draft Strategic Plan for Crown lands is there mention of, or references, of departmental identification of the State and Nationally listed threatened species, migratory species and wetlands?

Where are the Crown land areas that contribute to whole-of-landscape conservation outcomes, such as public lands that offer refuge and or contribute to connectivity and adaptation of biodiversity to changing climate ?

Question : Where are the details pertaining to the Government resourcing of land management services across the State?

Question :

What specifically are the “new approaches that are developed” in relation to managing Crown land in a changing climate? (p.43)

Question :

What does leverage the economic benefits mean? (p.65)

Question : How can the public properly respond to plans for public lands without access to sufficient detailed data?

Question :

Will the DPIE please check the research by NPA as listed in appendix 1 and verify whether this information is currently correct?

Your feedback would be much appreciated.

Although it is encouraging to read the words of the Hon. Rob Stokes that a “*strategic approach to managing Crown land also gives us the opportunity to do things better than we have in the past, and that is especially pertinent when it comes to the resolution of Aboriginal Land Claims and ensuring recognition of Native Title rights.*” we have concerns with implications of the Draft Plan.

The lack of detail is especially of concern in relation to even the recognition of environmental values, let alone the importance of protecting these values, in particular those areas beyond the cities that are severely impacted by drought and fire.

(Draft Plan – 34 million hectares of Crown land in NSW (approximately 42% of the state) and of this approximately 85% is in the Western Division, much of which leased on a perpetual basis and used for grazing, cropping & mining. This part of the state also has the least amount of protection of biodiversity and cultural heritage - small areas only are fully protected by national parks, nature reserves and co-managed Aboriginal Areas in these reserves)

The focus on the use/sale/lease of public Crown lands to attract investment in manufacturing and industry does not sit well when there is a lack of detailed information and data available in the draft and online about the natural and cultural values in the Crown land estate.

This therefore makes difficult the task to prepare informed responses to the State Strategic Plan – A vision for Crown Land, and thus creates difficulty for a community response to the document’s statement “Where we come together”

Armidale NPA supports NPANSW’s recommendations with regard to Aboriginal interests as expressed in *National Parks Association of NSW submission on the NSW Government Crown Land Strategic Plan* 20 August 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the NSW Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. We look forward to opportunities afforded by further invitations from DPIE to contribute to the future plans for our Crown lands.

We consent to this submission being made public.

Yours sincerely,

Lynne Hosking

President, Armidale Branch NPA

20 August 2020

Appendix 1. Extract of conservation analysis by NPANSW 2004 – we would appreciate DPIE feedback on the current situation as the following NPA data is 16 years old.

- Central NSW has been heavily cleared, is very poorly reserved, and is a recognised national priority for conservation.
- Other public lands in central-western NSW are scarce or non-existent, and Crown leases represent the only opportunity to implement a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative reserve system there. For example, 19% of all remaining vegetation in the Darling Riverine Plains bioregion is in Crown leases, whilst only 1% is in State Forests.
- Leasehold Crown lands provide known habitat for at least 71 threatened plant species and 111 threatened fauna species, and likely habitat for an additional 234 threatened plant species and 72 threatened fauna species.
- Leasehold Crown lands encompass 93,900 hectares of wetlands, including two Ramsar listed wetlands, and provide habitat for at least 23 migratory bird species protected under international agreements.
- Crown leases are dominated by ecosystems that are a very high priority for conservation. Of the 193 ecosystems that occur within Crown leases, 143 are endangered, vulnerable or poorly reserved.
- Vegetation on Crown leases is of a suitable size and configuration to provide major habitat refuges, important additions to existing reserves and vital landscape connectivity.
- Approximately 846,600 hectares of lease is contained in large patches of vegetation greater than 1,000 hectares in size, providing crucial habitat refuges and large areas suitable for reservation, the largest one being 40,000 hectares, more than double the size of Royal National Park.
- There are 423 patches of vegetated leases adjacent to existing National Park reserves, representing a unique opportunity for consolidation of reserves.
- The most poorly reserved bioregions in NSW are those in which Crown leases are most extensive. The Cobar Peneplain, Darling Riverine Plains, Nandewar, NSW South Western Slopes and Riverina bioregions are the highest priority bioregions for Crown lease conservation, followed by the Brigalow Belt South and New England Tableland bioregions.
- Leasehold Crown lands include numerous areas of outstanding 'iconic' value to nature conservation in NSW. A few examples of icon leases include: Leases in and around three of the States largest and most highly threatened wetlands – the Macquarie Marshes, Gwydir Wetlands, and Lowbidgee Floodplain.
- Leases contributing to major landscape corridors - from the Queensland border south to the Upper Hunter Valley, from the Castlereagh River south-west to Quanda Nature Reserve, from the Lowbidgee Floodplain north along the Lachlan River, and from the Pilliga and Goonoo east to the Great Escarpment.
- Leases incorporating irreplaceable islands of remnant vegetation within heavily cleared and intensively cultivated landscapes on the Cobar Peneplain and the South Western Slopes.

Appendix 2. Example of local involvement with Crown land
2017 Information from Mrs. Beth Williams OAM :

“I will list some HCV TSRs that are vital to the survival of the Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater because they contain breeding habitat, and I will give evidence that mandates priority conservation management for these areas.

As a member of the National Parks Association of NSW (Armidale Branch), I co-authored with Peter Metcalfe *Environmental Values of Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves Armidale District 1991*ⁱⁱ. This Save the Bush report mapped the TSRs and highlighted the biodiversity and outstanding corridor/connectivity values of TSRs in the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board district at the beginning of the Decade of Landcare. It recommended that the environmental values of TSRs be maintained by multipurpose management under the RLPB.

The **Environmental Values TSR Report** lists the travelling stock routes and reserves of Armidale RLPB district by number, parish and area (ha) from Crown lands maps, and gives the results of a series of rapid surveys which identify plants, birds, mammals, tree community and condition of each TSR, TSCR and CR visited. It gives detailed lists of plants, birds, threatened species and ecosystems for significant TSRs such as Gwydir Park Road, Harpers (now = Roumalla Creek), Ironbark patch on Bundarra Rd 54km ex Armidale, and other significant reserves such as Gara River, Blackfellows Gully, Teatree Creek, Tolleys Gully, Sunnyside, The Pinch. I can provide more information on the conservation and community recreation values of these reserves if required.

A copy of the Environmental Values TSR report has been scanned and is held at the Armidale office of NTLLS

In 1993-4 Armidale members of the Royal Australasian Ornithological Union (now BirdLife Australia NNSW) applied for and received a project grant to identify, map and enhance habitat for the endangered Regent Honeyeater (much of it on TSRs) in an extended project area which included Inverell and Barraba areas, referred to as the Bundarra-Barraba Regent Honeyeater Project.

This **Regent Honeyeater project** produced maps of Mugga Ironbark patches on TSRs and adjacent private land of the Bundarra-Barraba area, showing 137 patches of Mugga Ironbark-dominated woodland remnants totalling 4216 ha in a study area of 330,750ha, of which 57% is cleared, 43% tree-covered. Air Photo Interpretation of Lands Department maps was used to confirm identification of some Mugga Ironbark patches not able to be inspected. The digitised maps have since been scanned and made available to NTLLS via the Armidale LLS office, along with the TSR Report

We have since been continuously involved in monitoring the occurrence and nesting efforts of Regent Honeyeaters in selected sites on TSRs and nearby private land in the region, working as volunteer members of the Bundarra-Barraba Operations Group (BirdLife NNSW) for the Regent Honeyeater Recovery Team. Our surveys have been carried out biannually, monthly or more frequently and the data conveyed to the Recovery Team Regent Honeyeater database c/o Coordinator Dean Ingwersonⁱⁱⁱ at BirdLife Australia. This has resulted in many records over the years of Regent Honeyeater foraging or nesting occurrences, as shown in the attached maps (Appendices A, B, C of a BirdLife Australia document) and as documented in papers by Andrew Ley and Beth Williams and others. (References) There have also been several University of New England much more comprehensive research studies and publications, notably Damon Oliver's studies for his PhD Thesis. (see References below)...

The Bundarra-Barraba area has now been declared a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA, formerly IBA Important Bird Area) by BirdLife Australia because of its demonstrated importance for survival of the Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater and other threatened woodland birds. KBAs are areas recognized as globally significant sites for bird conservation in accord with criteria developed by BirdLife International. (see Vine S, Maurer G, Lau J, Quixley M, Warren C. 2017. KBAs in danger: the state of Australia's Key Biodiversity Areas in 2017 <http://birdlife.org.au/documents/KBA-report-2017.pdf>)

The following four TSRs in the NTLLS and three in NWLLS districts of the Bundarra-Barraba KBA have very high conservation value for core habitat of the Regent Honeyeater and for a range of other

threatened woodland birds, as well as for remnants of some largely cleared Endangered Ecological Communities such as Box-Gum woodland. They contain significant patches of vegetation dominated by Mugga Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) which are vital to the survival of the Critically Endangered Regent Honeyeater and support a rich diversity of many other woodland birds in the region. They should all be kept in public ownership and managed primarily for their conservation values.

Gwydir Park Road TSR (TSR 442/3, Parish Torryburn) is a 4 km long wide and well-vegetated corridor from Kingstown Rd to the Gwydir River at Torryburn, which continues for a further 7 km across the river and associated parcels of Crown land to form an 11km east-west TSR corridor to Old Kingstown Rd, which is no longer used for travelling stock but is part of a vital 25 km east-west TSR corridor from Armidale-Bundarra Rd to Old Kingstown Rd.

Gwydir Park Rd TSR contains a large patch of mature Mugga Ironbark + shrubby understory community which extends on to some adjacent private properties. It has many records of Regent Honeyeater occurrences and nests, and it adjoins the Gwydir River (lined with River Oak, *Casuarina cunninghamiana*) at Torryburn/Austins Crossing and the associated parcels of Crown land C&WR 244, C&WR 1591, WR191, Parish Chapman - all forming valuable habitat with many documented records of nesting Regent Honeyeaters and other significant woodland birds. As a TSR it should be assigned to Category 2 of the Review paper and used only for emergency management purposes.

Roumalla TSR (formerly Harpers), (TSR 442, Parish Chapman) runs west for 7km from the Gwydir River Road (formerly Torryburn Rd) to Old Kingstown Road. It contains a large section of Mugga Ironbark habitat for Regent Honeyeaters which extends onto adjacent properties, making up the largest patch (100ha+) of identified core Regent Honeyeater habitat in the Bundarra-Kingstown-Barraba area. Adjacent landholders have fenced off some of their ironbark patches to be managed for habitat protection. We have planted some trees in cleared sections of the TSR near the western end and the eastern end, to enhance habitat for Regent Honeyeaters. A sign is erected on the roadside near Milsons Bridge over Roumalla Creek.

We have documented numerous foraging and nesting Regent Honeyeaters in Mugga Ironbarks near the Roumalla Creek TSR. It is imperative that management of this TSR prioritises conservation, rather than the issue of long-term grazing permits to obtain revenue. It is not directly used for travelling stock. There is water and a limited amount of grass available at the eastern and western ends of the TSR which should be used only for emergency refuge i.e. category 2.

Bundarra Rd TSR Ironbark patch between Caches and Basin Creek, 54 km from Armidale, (called Merrifield by us because of adjacent property entrance on west side of Bundarra Rd.) This wide section of TSR 5371 stock route on Bundarra Rd contains large Mugga Ironbark trees and a diversity of native plants, some uncommon, in the shrubby understory. The Ironbark trees extend onto adjacent private properties, which have installed some fencing to protect Ironbark patches from heavy grazing pressure. We have documented many records of nesting Regent Honeyeaters over the years in and near the Bundarra Rd Ironbark patch. It is a very important part of the habitat sustaining the remaining local population of Regent Honeyeaters.

Emmaville-Ashford Rd TSR (known as Springvale TSR). This TSR is a stock route forming a well vegetated east-west corridor. It contains two significant Ironbark patches with a diversity of bird species including Scarlet Honeyeater, uncommon in the region, and records of Regent Honeyeaters nesting. It merits conservation management, limiting roadside clearing and hazard reduction burning. It should only be used for travelling stock, with limits on time of occupation.

I would like to record my thanks to NTLLS personnel for their ready cooperation in modifying their interim management plans

Coonoor Turnoff/Bundarra-Woodsreef Rd Ironbark patch near Saveall and Ironbark Creeks, 120 km from Armidale. This wide NWLLS Stock Route is mostly well vegetated, with a variety of tree communities including Mugga Ironbark, Caleys Ironbark and Yellow Box. It is occasionally used by mobs of stock, either travelling or grazing from adjacent properties. The Ironbark patch at Coonoor Rd turnoff has many good big trees which extend on to adjacent private properties making up a very significant patch of habitat (augmented by the River Oaks (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*) along Ironbark Creek) for Regent Honeyeaters and Swift Parrots and other woodland birds. BirdLife NSW members have documented Regent Honeyeater occupation and nesting occurrences at the Coonoor Turnoff

Ironbark patch and Ironbark Creek, and with other researchers from University of New England have studied movement and ecology of the local populations of Regents. Records show that a colour-banded Regent Honeyeater moved from the Coonoor site to the Gwydir River and Gwydir Park Rd TSR sites, reinforcing the necessity to keep the whole network of TSRs intact and well managed for the survival of our regional population of critically endangered birds.

Nangahra Creek runs beside the Woodsreef-Warrabah Road, with a wide section of Crown land (a revoked TSR?) between the road reserve and the Creek at about 11km west of Linton Nature Reserve. The site contains a large patch of Mugga Ironbark community which is documented as significant habitat for nesting Regent Honeyeaters and other woodland birds. The site is suffering from lack of management; it has a Local Government (former Barraba Shire) derelict gravel quarry with some erosion which needs attention, and it has also suffered from a recent incident of felling of Ironbark trees for fence posts, which was reported to EPA and Tamworth Department of Lands, resulting in successful prosecution of an offender. There should be re-consideration of management for this site - perhaps assessment of its value as State significant land under the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016*. It does not appear to be used for travelling stock, but is important for connectivity and biodiversity conservation, and should be assigned to Category 3.

Linton NR east grid: Another unfenced roadside Ironbark patch on Woodsreef-Warrabah-Kingstown Rd, just east of Linton NR, the sixth of the sites on a 240km road circuit regularly monitored by members of BirdLife Northern NSW. It has records of Regent Honeyeaters foraging and nesting and is therefore important for conservation management Category 3. Perhaps this and the Nangahara Creek site could be assessed for their value as State significant land under the new *Crown Land Management Act 2016*."

Mrs Williams OAM, a Life Member of N A and a founding member of Armidale A, is a botanist and retired Teaching Fellow involved in teaching field botany and ecology for the Botany Department University of New England, with long-term commitment (for some 40+ years) to conservation of the environment, especially of biodiversity values and of woodland habitat for the endangered Regent Honeyeater on TSRs of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services area (formerly Armidale RLPB and then Northern Tablelands LHPA).

Appendix 3: Armidale NPA publications for community awareness about the environmental recreational and rural values of public reserves including Crown lands

Sponsors:

National Parks Association of NSW Inc., Armidale
National Parks and Wildlife Service, Armidale.
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Principal Contributors:

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Maps: Terry Cooke
Illustrations: Frank Low, Alan Jackson
Layout: Brian Hardaker, Diana Ford

The sponsors wish to acknowledge the assistance of all those involved in this entirely voluntary project

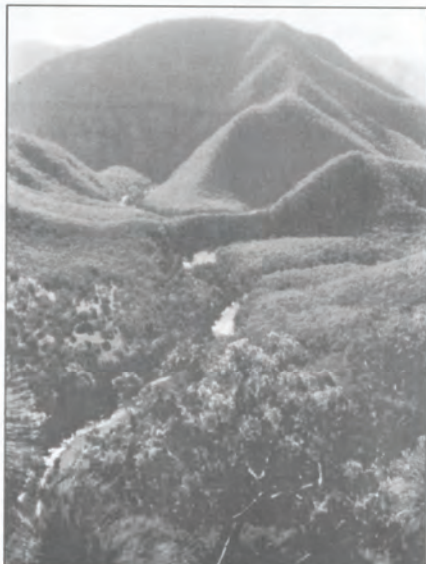
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Family Outings Around Armidale

*A guide to picnicking, scenic and recreational spots
for those who love the Great Outdoors*

Armidale, NSW
1997



Macleay River:
gorges, rivers and mountains, easily accessible picnic places and remote wilderness - all feature in Armidale's natural heritage.

PREFACE

'Do you know a good place for a picnic?' This question is so frequently asked that members of the Armidale Branch of the National Parks Association saw the need for a booklet to guide bush lovers to the wealth of outdoor experiences available in the area around Armidale.

Close to Armidale there are no less than six national parks, and numerous public reserves sufficient to cater for all outdoor activities. At its nearest point only 16 km from Armidale, Oxley Wild Rivers National Park is the seventh largest in the State. Often overlooked is the extensive system of travelling stock reserves also available for passive recreation; many of these conserve areas of bushland much as they were before European settlement.

Some places have a long tradition: Dangars Falls Reserve was dedicated for public recreation in 1876 and Gara Falls Reserve in 1880. With such a wealth of places available, we have come to expect quiet serenity and freedom of use which would be rare pleasures to residents of crowded cities.

With growing popularity, our special places need special care. During visits, make sure you leave them at least as clean and undamaged as you find them, light fires only in established fireplaces and take home all rubbish. For your enjoyment and for those who come after you, please follow the 'Code of Care' given over leaf. Enjoy the many beautiful spots described, but 'take nothing but photographs and leave nothing but footprints'.

Many assisted with this voluntary community project by researching information, providing technical advice and proof reading. We wish to thank Peter Anderson, Joan and Robert Boyd, Anne and Mark Brigham, Arnold Goode, Judy Grieve, Barry McCleary, Chris Nadolny, Jillian Oppenheimer, Stan Ryder and Beth Williams for their considerable assistance.

Do you know a good place for a picnic?

In this booklet are answers to this question and many others about enjoying the beautiful outdoors around Armidale. Places for walking, swimming, camping and many other activities are described; some 80 places are identified, plenty of places for picnic outings, for locals and visitors to enjoy the serenity of our bushland parks and reserves.



ARMIDALE NPA
npa@armidale@gmail.com

FAMILY

Outings Around Armidale



Second and Revised Edition




A Guide to Picnic, Walking, Fishing, Camping and Other Recreational Spots

Appendix 3 Armidale NPA publications: Travelling Stock Routes (2 leaflets in produced in conjunction with RLPB)

? WHY ARE TSRs VALUABLE TO THE COMMUNITY

TSRs provide


RECREATION
picnicking
birdwatching
bushwalking
horse riding
fishing
pedal cycling



ROADSIDE SCREENING
Trees and wildflowers attract the passing traveller; an asset for tourism.

AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE
Bushland on TSRs is used by schools for environmental studies.

NATURALNESS IN OUR ENVIRONMENT
Native plants and animals living on TSRs are part of our heritage.




? WHY ARE TSRs PART OF OUR RURAL HERITAGE

They protect native plants and animals for future generations by providing:


HABITAT
The remnant bush on TSRs gives shelter, food and nest sites for many native birds and animals unable to make a living on cleared land.
To save our native species we must retain our trees.

CORRIDORS
Birds and animals move across the land using the TSRs for shelter and food as they travel.
These corridors allow movement across the cleared land between patches of bush.
TSRs are essential for their movement.

REFUGE FOR RARE SPECIES
Rare plants and birds, wiped out by clearing, can survive where TSRs provide shelter.
Trees on TSRs are essential for their survival.



TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVES



? WHY ARE THEY VITAL

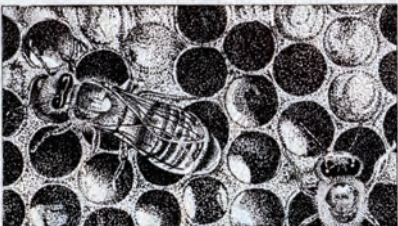
Report Illustrations
50% RECYCLED FIBRE

? WHAT ARE TSRs


Set aside about 100 years ago the network of stock reserves across NSW managed by the Rural Lands Protection Boards covers approximately 3% of the area of NSW. Armidale District has 35000 hectares of TSRs.

? WHY ARE THEY VALUABLE TO FARMERS

- Travelling stock routes and reserves
- Provide windbreaks for stock
- Help control pasture pests by sheltering beneficial birds and insects
- Provide seed stock for farm trees
- Provide emergency grazing
- Provide beekeepers with honey



ARMIDALE DISTRICT TSRs




TRAVELLING STOCK ROUTE

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE

< 100 ha ◦

> 100 ha *



Dianis pedunculata

? HOW CAN WE HELP PROTECT THIS VITAL RESOURCE

YOU CAN HELP BY

- preventing fires
- growing your own trees for firewood and fenceposts
- joining a LANDCARE group
- watching for people who damage the reserves
- Ring the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board on 72 2366 if you see anyone doing these **prohibited acts.**


- lighting fires
- felling trees
- taking soil or gravel
- dumping rubbish
- riding trailbikes

ARLPB

FELLING OF GREEN TREES PROHIBITED.

MORE INFORMATION on the conservation values of remnant bushlands on TSRs of the Armidale District is available from the Rural Lands Protection Board, Armidale.

Produced by the Armidale Branch National Parks Association as part of a project funded under the Save the Bush Remnant Native Vegetation Program by the Dept. of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories for the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board. Designed by R. Shepherd.



3. EAST OF THE N. E. HIGHWAY

Diversity

TSRs along the Guyra-Ebor, Grafton and Kempsey roads have soils from shale, coarse and fine granite and basalt. Altitude ranges from 200 m at George's Creek to 1400 m at Hyatt's Flat. Rainfall increases to the east. This gives a sample of Tablelands vegetation with over 30 species of Eucalypt changing from east to west. These include Wattle-leaved and Narrow-leaved Peppermint, New England Blackbutt plus many other trees and shrubs towards the east. Grey Box, Hillgrove, Spotted and Sydney Blue Gums, and Tallow Wood occur on the Kempsey Road.

Noteworthy Rare Species

Eucalyptus nicholii is rare in the wild. Those on the TSR east of the Gara River have provided seed for many of the trees now in cultivation. Others are *Callitris oblonga*, a small native conifer and *Pultenaea campbellii*, a rare native pea.

Recreation

The popular Gara River reserve is used for picnicking and outdoor activities. Dangar's Lagoon is part of the TSR along the Walcha Rd. Up to 80 species of waterbirds can be seen from the hide provided by the NPWS as joint managers of the area with Armidale RLP Board.



Pink-eared Duck

4. WALCHA DISTRICT

Vegetated Links

The TSRs east of Walcha link with State Forests and National Parks. To the south they are wooded corridors through cleared land.

Noteworthy Trees

Wattle-leaved and Narrow-leaved Peppermints, Giant White Gum, Brown Barrel and Coastal White Box grow towards Yarrowitch. Healthy New England Peppermint, Snow Gum, Black Sallee, Black Peppermint and Mountain White Gum are found on TSRs around Nyangala.

Recreation

TSRs on the Cobrabald and Macdonald Rivers are popular fishing places.

The TSRs of the Armidale district are vital for the continued survival of our native plants and animals.

LET'S CARE FOR THEM



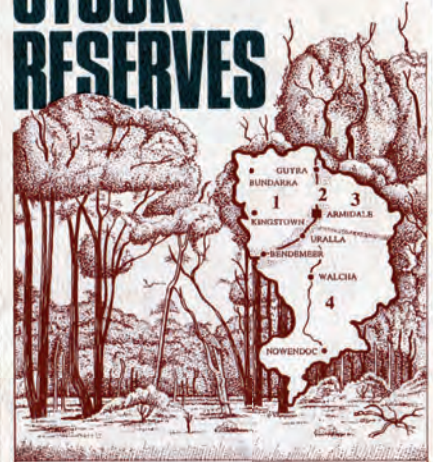
? MORE INFORMATION

See "Environmental Values of the TSRs of the Armidale District". This detailed report is available from RLP Boards and Local Government Councils and Libraries.

Produced by the Armidale Branch National Parks Association as part of a project funded under the Save the Bush Remnant Native Vegetation Program by the Dept. of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories for the Armidale Rural Lands Protection Board. Designed by R. Shepherd.

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Armidale District TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVES



ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES:

Diversity - TSRs of the Armidale Rural Lands Protection District occupy 35,000 hectares across a range of soils, climates and altitudes.

Remnant bushland in this TSR network has over 37 species of Eucalypt and many plants, animals and birds that cannot survive elsewhere.

The TSRs are vital for continued survival of our native flora and fauna.

LET'S CARE FOR THEM

Environmental values of TSRs, Armidale District.

1. West of N. E. Highway

Diversity, Habitat Values

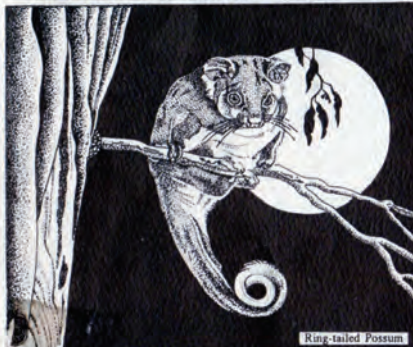
These TSRs have the highest conservation value of the district. They provide habitat for a mixture of species of both the western slopes and the tablelands. Rare plants and animals are found here. Others are at the edge of their range.

Essential Links

Wide TSRs in this dry granite area link the Nandewar Range with the tablelands. Well vegetated TSRs between Bundarra and Bendemeer form a north-south network. The TSRs between Kingstown and Armidale make an east-west corridor.

Noteworthy Trees

White Box, Blakely's Red Gum and Red Stringybark, south from Kingstown; northwards we find Mugga Ironbark, White Box, Yellow Box and four Stringybarks with a diverse understory of native shrubs, ground orchids, etc. Hill Red Gum, Orange Gum and Kurrajong grow in rocky areas.



Ring-tailed Possum

Special Birds and Animals

Crested Bellbird, Little Cuckoo-shrike, Little and Musk Lorikeets, Common Bronzewing Pigeon and Blue-faced, Black-chinned and Regent Honeyeaters are found in the Armidale district only in remnant patches of mixed Ironbark/White Box on some western TSRs and nearby bush. Koalas and Squirrel Gliders are also found in these valuable remnants.



The Regent Honeyeater is an endangered bird which depends on seasonal supplies of nectar from native trees. The remnant Ironbarks of the western TSRs are one of its few breeding places. Ironbarks in the Armidale District are essential for the continued survival of Regent Honeyeaters.

The Regent Honeyeater needs your help:
Save all ironbark trees from felling.
Seek alternatives for fenceposts and firewood.
Plant ironbarks on the farm for future needs.

2. NEW ENGLAND HIGHWAY

Visual Relief

TSRs along the highway with good trees and regrowth contrast with wide areas hit by dieback.

Noteworthy Plants

Moonbi White Gum and Bendemeer Apple Box are uncommon trees confined to the TSR and a small area around Bendemeer. Blakely's Red Gum, Yellow Box, Apple Box, New England Peppermint and three species of Stringybarks around Armidale give way to Snow Gum, Black Sallee and Manna Gum near Guyra. The highway TSR is the only known habitat of the rare orchid *Diuris pedunculata*.

Valuable refuges

Large reserves at Moonbi Range, Sunnyside Rd and Devil's Pinch are where more than 70 species of bird breed each year. Dollar Birds, Kingfishers, Kookaburras, Owls, Parrots, Pardalotes, Tree Martins and Treecreepers re-use the same nest holes in old trees. Other birds nest in shrubs and saplings, a rare resource in dieback areas.



Striated Pardalote

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- D. L. Oliver, A. J. Ley, H. A. Ford and B. Williams. 1999. Habitat of the Regent Honeyeater *Xanthomyza phrygia* and the value of the Bundarra-Barraba region for the conservation of avifauna. *Pacific Conservation Biology* 5: 224-239.

Travelling Stock Routes. Why are they Vital? & Armidale District Travelling Stock Reserves. Leaflets produced by **Armidale NPA in conjunction with Armidale RLPB, & NSW Government's Save the Bush Remnant Native Vegetation Program**

Family Outings Around Armidale. Edition 1 Brian Hardaker & Alan Jackson Published by Armidale NPA 1997 and Edition 2 Brian Hardaker, Armidale NPA 2003

J. Macris ***The Unseen Conservation Estate. Tenure Security and Conservation Management of Crown Lands in NSW*** NPANSW 2005

C. Flint ***Our Heritage under the Hammer*** NPANSW Dec 2005

National Parks Association of NSW submission on the NSW Government Crown Land Strategic Plan 20 August 2020



BUSINESS COUNCIL
OF CO-OPERATIVES AND MUTUALS

Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Submission to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and
Environment

20 August 2020

To whom it may concern,

The Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's consultation on the Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land (the Plan).

The BCCM is the national peak body for co-operative and mutual enterprises (CMEs) in Australia. It is a member driven and funded organisation representing CMEs operating in all industries including agriculture, tourism, housing, and energy. There are more than 2,000 co-operatives and mutuals in Australia. The top 100 CMEs have a combined turnover of more than \$31bn (National Mutual Economy Report 2019).

The BCCM supports the identification of enabling 'jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW' as one of the four priority areas in the Plan. Further to this, our submission provides comment on two matters:

1. How co-operatives and mutuals can contribute to sustainable economic progress in the regions
 2. Barriers to effective use and management of crown land by fisher-owned co-operatives
1. How co-operatives and mutuals can contribute to sustainable economic progress in the regions

Co-operative and mutual enterprises are businesses that are formed to provide goods and services to members on an equitable basis. As member-owned businesses, they have an interest in local economic and social development in the region where members live and work.

The members of CMEs can be producers (businesses), consumers, employees, a likeminded community or a combination of these stakeholders.

CMEs can be for-profit, not-for-profit or charitable and can use a variety of legal structures, but always have a constitution that reflects a mutual purpose and governance model (generally, one-member, one-vote).

Regionally-based co-operatives and mutuals, whether owned by producers, consumers or the local community, are successful at:

- Enabling the production of high-quality Australian food produce
- Maintaining traditional ways of life whilst providing economic growth to strengthen regions
- Helping to maintain local community ownership of strategic assets
- Helping to maintain local access to essential goods and services
- Generating significant export earnings
- Facilitating the competitiveness and viability of independent primary production businesses by providing access to domestic and international markets
- Facilitating economies of scale by enabling individual businesses to jointly own and

- control their supply chain
- Enabling smaller business owners to stay in business and remain independent
- Spreading wealth back to members through patronage rebates
- Providing long term, quality local employment

New South Wales has a strong tradition of co-operative and mutual enterprise, with 700 locally-based member-owned businesses. Co-operatives and mutuals operating in New South Wales in industries identified in the Plan include:

- Fisher-owned co-operatives like Clarence River Fishermen's Co-operative and Ballina Fishermen's Co-operative
- Tourism and travel sector mutuals like the NRMA
- Renewable energy co-operatives like Pingala and Goulburn Community Renewable Energy
- the Common Equity NSW group of affordable housing co-operatives
- Aboriginal-owned co-operatives like Nungera Co-operative

2. Barriers to effective use and management of crown land by fisher-owned co-operatives

Fisher-owned co-operatives are important contributors to regional economies along the New South Wales coast. After a period of industry restructuring, many fishing co-operatives are seeking to secure long-term sustainability through strategies that leverage their existing infrastructure in ways that boost local tourism and open up new retail channels for their members' products. The benefits from these strategies will stay in the local economy, including by way of increased employment and boosted returns to independent fishing businesses who are members of co-operatives.

BCCM members in the fisheries sector provided feedback on matters that are currently hindering their efficient use of crown land.

Co-operatives have reported it can be difficult to establish a clear line of communication with Crown Lands and other stakeholders for a number of land management matters.

Co-operatives also noted that while they are responsible for public safety on their sites, this is not effectively communicated to third parties by Crown Lands or other relevant stakeholders. In this context, difficulties can arise for the licence holder to manage public use, where use of the site for commercial purposes requires payment and recreational use is limited to passive activities.

BCCM supports resolution of barriers for fisher-owned co-operatives to effectively use and manage crown land being identified as short-term outcomes in the Plan.

We would be pleased to provide further information on any matters raised in this submission.

Contact:

Anthony Taylor

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Maire

2. Last name *

Sheehan



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Better Planning Network

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Greenwich

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2065

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

BPN is a member organisation. We have member groups across NSW and many use and care about crown lands in their local area and across the state. Our members are particularly interested in how Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) is applied to crown lands and how they are well managed to achieve Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) results now and for future generations.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected *Other*, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Unclear what renewable energy means in context of uses of crown land.
I could make sense on some crown lands. However selling the Crown land for private commercial renewable energy projects, given current practice, is likely to not be in the public interest or Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD).
Also jobs and economic growth must come through management of crown lands for Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) purposes and not as a driving priority.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

<p>Economic development priority should be linked to Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) outcomes. Currently asset management plans put ROI as the dominant required outcome. This dominant requirement must not be applied to crown lands as it will undermine, as it does now, the priorities in the proposed plan. transparency - there must be community engagement on all proposals to sell crown land and must be by public tender. Currently land can be transferred across agencies and government corporations with projects set up with the purpose to sell. This practice should not happen with crown lands as its primary purpose should not be commercial return.</p> <p>Combining park lands - Centennial Park is crown land - new proposal to merger into single entity could limit the protective provisions and open up to ROI as the priority. Parramatta Parks lands is UNESCO heritage listed. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) manages UNESCO listed assets in NSW and the federal government is also linked. The potential for erosion of the public interest, intergenerational equity and Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) is high given past experience identified in the auditor general report, the parliamentary inquiry and the governments emphasis on short term \$\$ ROI.</p> <p>We have selected 'neutral' for "Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW" as it will depend on the project and its sustainable return for the community..</p>
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Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Investment important depending on the investment driver.
If it is to achieve Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) outcomes, yes and returning a profit to private pockets, no. Drivers, purpose of, by who, for whom must be clear.
Same issue for co-management.
Outcomes will not be achieved unless implementation is well resourced and managed. The Auditor General's report and the Parliamentary Inquiry identified the many serious failing as the necessary knowledge and skills were effectively eliminated by cuts.
Government's response indicates it may start rebuilding capacity however it is not guaranteed in plan. A range of knowledge and skills exists within the community to provide input for rebuilding knowledge and skills. The commissioner to work with community to achieve.
Affordable housing important. Arrangements favour developers. Include social housing. All within ESD.
Traveling stock routes sold and gaps appearing, breaking the linear networks. No visible proposal to restore stock routes & habitat connectivity. They should be restored and retained in perpetuity.
While current community uses such as scouts and showgrounds can work well, new uses such as the construction of mountain bike trails can significantly damage ecologically sensitive places. Bike trails are more than trails as support vehicles etc. will also be included. A recent report by Hornsby council gives extensive examples of negative impacts. Also existing activities should not include land clearing.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Given the erosion of knowledge, skills and capacity over many years we propose that crown lands be allocated a minister whose sole responsibility is to fix the problem created by years or neglect and erosion. The minister and the commissioner should work together and with the community to rebuild capacity for Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) outcomes.

In the current government, responsibility for crown lands is shared between the minister for water, property and housing, Melinda Pavey, and the minister for planning, Rob Stokes, but claims are managed through the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE).

The plan overall and the initiatives could lead to excessive corporatisation

None deal with sustainable and protected ecosystems

No mention of funds for preserving ecosystems or built items on crown land

It appears that green open space is urban focused and about recreational space over passive open space, tree canopies and habitats.

No emphasis on environmental outcomes this must change

A key issue is the current rules of ROI on assets. That must be lifted from crown lands.

In addition cost shifting to local councils and Aboriginal land councils must not happen.

Both should be financially supported to work with the state government on the Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD) outcomes for crown lands.

Put a stop to land clearing on crown land as is happening now on western lands.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Transparency is an important issue and this is currently falling short.
There is no list and map of all crown land sites.
There is no audit of crown lands and this should be completed as a matter of urgency. the government response to the auditor general report and the parliamentary inquiry indicated it would carry out an audit however there is no information on the progress of the audit or if it is underway. Currently information in crown land sites can only be bought through land titles process.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday August _____, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 9

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form

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Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Tara

2. Last name *

Cameron



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Wentworth Falls

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2782

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc (the Society) is an incorporated voluntary association of 880 people helping conserve the World Heritage Blue Mountains region through bushcare operations, advocacy, campaigning, growing and selling plants indigenous to the region.

. What use/s of Crown Land do you value? *

Please select all that apply

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

a) Conservation of topsoil, uncontaminated freshwater, forests and woodlands, carbon storage in soil and vegetation and other natural resources;

b) Conservation of iconic native animals (such as koalas) and plants (such as waratahs) for purposes of national and state identity and cultural expression (not simply as artefacts of 'biodiversity');

c) Contribution to the science-based NSW protected area system;

d) Optimising management of NSW protected areas by transferring in-holdings and Crown lands adjoining protected areas into the protected area system.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

Crown land has become the refuge of last resort for many species because the government has largely ended habitat protection on private land in rural and regional areas. The NSW State of Environment Report 2018 notes, for example, the 'number of species listed as threatened continues to rise. These species are at the greatest risk from threats including vegetation clearing ...'; and the 'condition of most native vegetation is deteriorating'. Crown land also conserves topsoil (for example, the Report also notes the decline in soil resources 'caused by intensified land use'), freshwater, carbon and other natural resources. These issues are not adequately addressed in the draft Plan.

The Society believes the primary priorities for Crown land (ie. land owned by the people of NSW) should include:

- a) Conservation of native animal and plant habitat and ecosystems;
- b) Conservation of topsoil and other natural resources;
- c) Completion of the protected area system including through purchases of important habitat and ecosystems on private land;
- d) Realisation of Aboriginal land and water rights (which means achievement against measurable targets not simply 'working towards' ...);
- e) Retaining of all existing Crown land in public ownership, including Traveling Stock Routes and Western Lands Leases, except where transferred under the Land Rights or Native Title

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 15 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown Land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

The Society believes the outcomes for Crown land should include:

- a) Native animal and plant habitat and ecosystems are maintained or improved in quality and extent;
- b) Topsoil, freshwater, forests and woodlands and soil and vegetation carbon are maintained or improved in quality and extent;
- c) The protected area system is completed including by incorporating Crown land adjoining and/or forming in-holdings to existing protected areas into the conservation estate;
- d) At a minimum, all outstanding Aboriginal land and native title claims are resolved and there has been a significant increase in areas under co-management.

Any initiatives to promote economic development need to be undertaken in a transparent fashion including through: credible and independent economic benefit-cost analysis; well-advertised community consultation prior to the decision to offer a lease or licence; well-advertised public tender of all opportunities with ample time for those who would like to participate to do so; and rigorous adherence to conflict-of-interest and anti-corruption measures. These measures are essential to prevent unfair (and economically wasteful) advantages being given to politically well-connected individuals and organisations over others in the private and public sectors (as has happened, for example, with water reform in NSW).

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

7. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

No 'enablers' contribute to the conservation of biodiversity/native animals, plants and ecosystems, or indeed to natural resources more generally. The Society recommends the adoption of the following enablers:

- a) Make decisions on a sound scientific basis: by undertaking a rapid but thorough audit of animal and plant habitat and ecosystems on Crown land, and then using the audit to permanently protect existing animal and plant habitat and ecosystems on Crown land (including on land leased to the private sector);
- b) Contribute to the completion of the NSW protected area system of 'effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected system of protected areas' (Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Target 11) including by purchasing private land containing important habitat and ecosystems (such as the strategic additions to the Blue Mountains National Park identified by the Society, and land identified in the NSW National Parks Establishment Plan 2008 and subsequent documents) and transferring in-holdings and adjoining Crown land into the protected area system;
- c) Integrate and address the findings of the NSW State of Environment Report 2018 and NSW River Condition Index: by identifying Crown land that contributes to the condition of natural resources, and then managing the Crown land to improve or maintain the relevant resource;
- d) Allocate funds to undertake the above, and to properly manage Crown land.

Other feedback

9. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

Crown land has become the refuge of last resort for many species (State of Environment Report 2018: 'The number of species considered at risk of extinction continues to rise. There are currently 1025 species listed as threatened in NSW') and is conserving other vital natural resources including soil, freshwater and carbon. These issues are not adequately addressed in the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. Instead there appears an excessive focus on economic opportunities.

Murray-Darling water reform is an example of an excessive focus on economic opportunities and a disregard for the environment, combined with a lack of government transparency: a small number of individuals were gifted a valuable public asset; little assistance was provided to communities to help them adjust; billions of taxpayer funds have been spent on infrastructure of little environmental value; and the health of the rivers have continued to decline.

The existing Crown land community engagement strategy is focused on managing the community response to a government proposal/intention rather than genuine consultation in relation to the future use of Crown land.

0. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1800 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Neil

2. Last name *

Southorn



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Director Environmental, Planning & Building Services. Bathu

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Bathurst

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2795

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Bathurst Regional Council is a manager of crown lands for the purpose of recreation and operational activities which includes roads, paths, rivers and public parks and reserves.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected *Other*, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Landscape and amenity value
Its role in mitigating climate change by avoiding urban heat island effects and acting as a storage of carbon through maintenance of vegetation and soil.
Provision of other ecological services such as clean water and air.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

A priority should also be to:
"Manage high biodiversity conservation value crown lands to ensure that these values are maintained, and to support their role in biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation".

It is import that we also ensure the value of forested, timbered or otherwise vegetated crown lands that have high value native vegetation for their role as biodiversity banks, carbon stores, green space, landscape and amenity values. The reserves should be excluded from development or high activity use by the public, due to the pressures that come with such use.

These lands have a role in supporting wildlife, maintaining vegetation cover and stepping stones and extends beyond their value in receiving biodiversity credits. High value sites should be identified and managed in perpetuity, perhaps by addition to the NPWS estate where appropriate.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

These priorities are not mutually exclusive and they may be considered to be all very important. However, a priority to assist resource or infrastructure projects may be at the expense of regional tourism or supporting and restoring environmental values on crown land. Therefore, if crown lands are to be managed for the benefit of all, the activities that benefit the wider community should be prioritised over those that may benefit only those investing in the land for resource extraction, as an example.

To "Support and restore environmental values" may be limiting and not include the range of environmental services that crown lands may play. For example, this could be split into separate outcomes such as:

- Identify high biodiversity value crown lands that can contribute to the national reserve system
- Increase the number of crown lands that would benefit from biodiversity or ecosystem credit offset management
- Utilise crown lands as a storage for carbon to mitigate climate change

Local government should also be recognised for its role in creating and maintaining urban green space. Therefore the 'Sydney Green Grid' idea should be expanded to include growing regional centres across NSW.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Additional funding on top of assistance and resources should be made available to the community managers of crown lands (showground trusts, heritage land trusts, landcare groups etc) so that they can best manage the lands that they have been entrusted. Our experience is that these organisations struggle to maintain the lands that they have been entrusted with and the additional resources are imperative. Some crown lands may not be suited to commercial exploitation and therefore, funding assistance is needed.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Bathurst Regional Council supports the need to better streamline the management of crown lands, increase the ability for Aboriginal groups to obtain Native Title claims and improve the capacity of community groups to manage their crown lands. A more open and transparent Crown Lands has wider benefits and will help to build further collaboration and trust within the community. Council supports the improved utilisation of crown lands especially where there exists a community benefit through public open space or green space. Council also supports the increased utilisation of crown land for commercial purposes where it can be done without detrimental impact to the environment or local community. Crown lands are owned by all, and therefore the benefit should be to all, not just the developer or business involved in the commercial venture.

Council however feels that there should be a greater emphasis on the identification, protection and enhancement of those lands that have high biodiversity value, have a role to play in climate change mitigation or provision of other environmental services such as beach and creek stabilisation and clean air and water. Some crown lands already under lease may best be returned to the original Aboriginal custodians, whilst others could be included in the National Reserve System. These two actions should be considered priorities where the other priorities and outcomes follow.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Local Government NSW newsletter.

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

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To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

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Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Rachel

2. Last name *

Symons



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

City of Canterbury Bankstown

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Bankstown

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

1885

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

As a Council we manage Crown land both as Crown land managers and as having Crown land devolved to us. This land is in the form of entire parks, sections of parks, and as portions of linear riverside parks. This open space is used for both formal and informal active recreation and passive recreation. Some of this Crown land is subject to leases and licences for uses such as sports courts and clubhouses.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

As a city council with responsibility as Crown land manager over many parcels of Crown land, we prioritise the maximisation of use of Crown land for passive and active recreation, climate change amelioration, river foreshore park use, areas for general community use, shade, aesthetics, wind control and so on. Council strives for flexibility of use of space for all age groups, abilities and cultural backgrounds.

Council would advocate for a greater emphasis on flexibility and multi-use of Crown land, particularly in city areas where existing open space is at a premium. This is something that has been reconfirmed during COVID-19 where we have seen a greater need for, and use of open space, by our community.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

As a city council with open space at a premium, the City of Canterbury Bankstown would not support the loss of any existing Crown land open space to housing.

Already the most populous LGA in New South Wales, the City of Canterbury Bankstown is currently home to more than 370,000 people, and this number is set to increase as the City continues to attract more residents, workers and students. With this, will come an increasingly dense built form and the demand for quality open space serving various needs will also continue to grow. Public open space will be placed under increasing pressure. With more people living in higher density dwelling and increasing family sizes, there will be less private open space, a gap which public open space will be expected to fill.

The City of Canterbury Bankstown would strongly support outcomes that prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas, support and restore environmental values, manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate, and partnering with the organisations that serve our communities.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Crown land seems to be poorly understood by the general public. Generating greater awareness and educating the broader community on what Crown land is, who owns it, how it is managed and so on could be considered.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Council would strongly support the streamlining of approval and licence processes, where Council is the applicant, particularly in relation activities on Crown land such as waterfront development.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Emma

2. Last name *

Brooks Maher



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Crown Land Our Land (CLOL)

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Bungendore

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2621

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

I have been actively involved in trying to get some sense (and integrity) into the management of Crown Land since at least 2007.

Some highlights of the last 15 years include ---

- * numerous written submissions on various CL matters, especially with heritage context
- * submissions/presentations at Council meetings re proposed use/s for various CL sites
- * as a witness and attendances at Land & Environment Court hearings
- * assistance and input to the NSW Audit Office re NSW Crown Land - 2016 Report
- * research and 39pp major submission to NSW Upper House - 2016 Inquiry
- * input to CL execs (David Clarke) in preparation of Crown Lands Management Act 2016
- * presentations at community/CLOL seminars/workshops at NSW Parliament House
- * workshops re CL, plus consultation/assistance to other community groups
- * active contribution to care/management of the Yasmar heritage estate
- * active contribution to community campaigns re protection for Parramatta Park etc
- * workshops re CL, plus consultation/assistance to other community groups
- * co-founder of Crown Land Our Land (CLOL) as peak-body group with aim to educate, inspire, encourage use, and insist on rule of law in management of NSW Crown Land

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected *Other*, please provide details (1,500 characters):

For me, "Jobs and economic growth" are side-issues when it comes to any "Vision" or over-arching consideration of NSW Crown Land. They are important, but only as the RESULT of an integrated overview, that then leads to comprehensive, community-aware and professionally savvy asset management.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

As the last 20 years of NSW Crown Land shows - ANY strategy that puts "Jobs and economic growth" at the TOP of its priority list is headed into short-term decision-making, skewed allocations, "commercial" compromises, developer rorts.

Multiply this by 10 if the legislation puts Crown Land in control of the impunities perpetrated by local Council politics, and/or confers unfettered ministerial discretion, as in the current CLMA 2016.

In short - the Strategy buzz-words might be different, but in 10 years time, CL outcomes will be just biz-as-usual - ie ultimate fail.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
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Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

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Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

All these outcomes sound good - but it's mostly motherhood wish-thinking.
The two most important, most urgent, outcomes that NSW Crown Lands needs are --

[1]. a State-wide ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN that starts with a comprehensive AUDIT of the entire CL land-holding to provide fullest possible identification of all CL as POSITIVE real estate (ie not just as "waste" lands left-over after consideration of freeholdings) - and for this to become the "data" in an accessible INVENTORY that not only identifies site-specifics in holistic detail, but which INTEGRATES all these within multiples of CONTEXT ---- community, locality, landmarks, legalities, advisories and admin, timing factors, potentials for best-possible use, plus overall State advantage.
(NB - the last two considerations are impartial - ie not related to any "govt in power" nor to any private/commercial or profit factors.)

[2]. a State-wide SIGNAGE plan that identifies Crown Land AS Crown Land.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
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Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The No.1 enabling initiative for NSW Crown Lands is ATTITUDINAL, and this starts in the corridors at Parliament House. Crown Land needs to be seen and VALUED for what it truly IS - not a burden to be somehow "managed", but a huge ASSET that equates to 42% of the whole of NSW - and an asset so diverse, with so many ramifications, and so financially significant that it can only reach its highest potential with the highest level of professionalism in ASSET MANAGEMENT.

And this starts with recognition that it requires full-time Ministerial oversight. In short - Crown Lands should no longer be a flexi-fit add-on to some other Dept, but have its own stand-alone portfolio - with the Crown Lands Minister required to make a detailed formal Report to the Parliament as to the governance and progress in that portfolio each year.

The No.2 enabling initiative for NSW Crown Lands is INTERNAL - to get its own house in order. A major rebuild in For many decades so much vital know-how was held in the heads of long-term field officers out there, on-the-ground. Then came the 1990's and a great hollowing-out of staff.

The result was not just a huge, almost irretrievable decline of expertise & experience but also a debilitating downgrade of moral - with loss of confidence in both staff, and the community at large. The SIGNAGE strategy suggested is just a start in the rebuild needed.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

This submission re the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land should be read in conjunction with the 39pp submission No.149 to the Upper House "Inquiry into Crown Land in New South Wales" as made by community group, CROWN LAND OUR LAND. Although made in mid-2016, almost all the discussion points in this 4yo submission remain as valid now as when made. In summary, it seeks to see a NSW Crown Land system that would be "fit for purpose for the 21st Century".

Which is precisely what this State Strategic Plan should be all about.

Note too - this digital format submission re the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land should also be read in conjunction with a more detailed letter to come from Emma Brooks Maher, this yet to be finalised and sent via email.

This letter is intended to be significantly useful. It includes thought-starters as to WHAT might be needed to ensure a new State Strategic Plan will work - and practical suggestions on HOW to get started re achieving that aim of being "fit for purpose for the 21st Century".

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Other --- Friends in the CLOL network.

NOTE -

Crown Land Our Land is committed to seeing the Crown Lands of NSW emerge from the dark days of recent decades, to be universally recognised as a trusted, valued, thriving, communal aspect of life in NSW - ie a shared success.

As our submission to the Upper House Inquiry shows - we had this "Vision" long before the words "Strategic Plan" appeared in CLMA 2016.

And the CLOL goodwill encompasses all the government instrumentalities that go towards Crown Land governance, fulfilment and well-being.

So while Emma Brooks Maher personally (and with CLOL) is delighted to make this submission - at the same time, we're dismayed that our prior contributions have been so overlooked, that we only learned about the development of this Strategic Plan via network chat. Our combined background is at very least, a useful resource. We would have at least expected a letter.

Given p.10 refers to prior "consultation", we suggest this lack of early contact with CLOL is yet another indication of just how internally fragmented CL management has become.

We trust that Crown Land Commissioner, Professor Richard Bush, takes note -- and takes on the need to inspire much-needed culture change from the inside, out.
Thanks.

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

20 August 2020

STATE STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR CROWN LAND
Personal Submissions re SSP
NOT CONFIDENTIAL

There's one fundamental fact about Crown Land – it's OURS. As the first line of p.13 says it's "*held in trust....on behalf of the community*." It belongs to us, the people of NSW,- not to a "Dept", not to a "Council", not to a State "Govt" – and definitely not any particular Minister, or CEO, Mayor, Director General, local MP or political party which happens to be in power at the time.

So it's good news to read on p.9 of the "State Strategic Plan – A Vision for Crown Land" that this represents "*an opportunity to change the way Crown Land is managed for the benefit of the communities of NSW*".

After nigh-on 15 years working with Crown Land (CL) matters/issues, as co-founder of community group Crown Land Our Land (CLOL), as a concerned observer in the Supreme Court during the 2015 Talus hearings, and as someone who provided input in 2016 to both the scathing Auditor General's Report and to the Upper House Inquiry re NSW Crown Land - I can say from personal experience --there's much room for improvement .

This submission letter amplifies my fillable-form submission as already lodged by email 11.20am 20 August 2020. While not covering every aspect of the SSP, it offers considerations and detail not possible to include within the form format.

Comment # 1. DETAILED CATEGORIES PLEASE

It's good to see reference to the several kinds of Crown Land, and to indicate differentiation from other "public lands" such as Local Govt holdings, and of land owned by State instrumentalities. But nowhere does this State Strategic Plan (SSP) come to grip what's missing about 42% of the whole NSW land mass – namely a proper AUDIT just what CL IS in all its various parts – not just by what use some other bodies might be using it for – but what it is AS LAND, and what stands on that land.

As things stand right now (and shown in the diagrams on p.14) Crown Land descriptors are largely geographic: Western Division, Central, Eastern, with (I gather) some limited scope to identify areas as travelling stock routes, and tidal or riparian. Even Sydney is classed as North-South-East-West and Central

If a landholding as widespread and diverse as Crown Land were being managed by a corporate entity, it would be under ASSET MANAGEMENT. And as assets, each holding would be identified in multiple categories, cross-referenced in detail, and given a dollar value. The point is – how can anyone expect to come up with a "Strategic Plan" when you don't really have a full picture of what you've got to be working with in the first place.

Truth is, the "available data" is simply not fit for purpose in 2020.

For instance – where are the granular/descriptive categories that identify urban vs regional vs rural; or timbered vs open plain; or rugged hillside vs walking track-able vs headland vista sites ? Or basics like pastoral vs agricultural vs horticultural, and town vs village ? The Carapiet Review called for something like this back in 2015/16.

Where is any reference to the land in a real-life and/or human CONTEXT ?

In fact, the very FIRST action in the former Crown Lands Act 1989 (s.10) called for a “*proper assessment of Crown Land*”. Thirty years later, this is still NOT DONE. There was a Parliamentary Inquiry in 2016 – it also called for categorisation etc. The SSP shows that the message STILL hasn’t got through - such need is not even mentioned in this “Vision”, although p.59 does say “*the department will review the available data and present it to the public (in) accessible and transparent ways.*”

From this, it seems that Crown Lands is unaware that its current inventory formats are so inadequate that they fail to include and/or identify critical characteristics that must be known, and be factored into consideration BEFORE any feasible use-effective plan can be prepared.

These include things like – soil types, topographic factors, vegetation regimes, landmark sites as-such, heritage listings/significance, special environmental characteristics such as wetlands, critical habitat, community connections etc, access to infrastructure – main roads, bridges etc.

Consider this listing (as taken from a Gosford City Council chart)

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Property Address</u>	<u>Property Title</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Classification</u>	<u>Zoning</u>
CROWN R8956	1 Terrigal Dr TERRIGAL	Lot: 1 DP:1080783	Crown	Other	RE1 Public Recreation
	1 Terrigal Dr TERRIGAL		Crown	Other	SP2 Infrastructure
	1 Terrigal Dr TERRIGAL		Crown	Other	W1 Natural Waterways

The above chart also has an empty column for “Plan of Management” before “Zoning”, and that’s it. Not much to go on. Official Crown Lands Dept XLS spreadsheets for Reserves do have more technical information – but are equally sparse on descriptive detail. And unless you know the XLS number, about the only way to find a particular location among the 34,000-odd entries is to know which Local Govt area it’s in. Not easy. Otherwise, you need to know the EXACT spelling given for the site name, or the precise format of its R or D number.

Even then, all too often the only way to get even the slightest inkling of what a particular piece of Crown Land might be about is when a community name’s attached – Patonga Caravan Park, Bondi Pavilion, Stuart Park, Greenwich Baths, Pelican Marina Precinct, Berrima Goal, Temora Showgrounds, Ebor Lions Park, etc.

And if you’d like to know what Crown land has heritage significance – it’s not an easy search. In the whole Reserve list, a few dozen are labelled “Heritage Purposes” – mostly old courthouses or Aboriginal cultural sites. For the rest - nothing’s noted, so nothing’s known. Not even Crown Land treasures like Yasmarr homestead villa at Haberfield are identified as being listed on the NSW State Heritage Register. Where’s the “*transparency*” of being another anonymous line on a busy spreadsheet ?

The Crown Land Commissioner sums it up on p.6 “*Our Crown land estate is remarkable in terms of scale, diversity and utility*”. But address and/or DP numbers aren’t description. How can any organisation develop a “Vision” re future use, when there’s no in-depth, or otherwise meaningful, understanding of just what’s involved with the land that it’s got ?

So this first comment call so the long-overdue and now URGENT AUDIT of all NSW Crown Land, and to develop this into a comprehensive system of descriptors and categories that are much more than merely techno-legal – deeply factual and capable of detailed analysis than can assist future projections – yet also easily accessible and easy to understand.

Importantly, this categorisation should include some preliminary indications of land-status in terms of community expectations – some will be “available for immediate consideration “ re particular uses (for instance- social housing, or affordable housing, or student housing, or even fully private home-ownership); others parts may be categorised for their long-term potential – ie LAND BANKING. Meantime, others again may be classified with timelines or when special conditions apply as “for exchange or sale only in exceptional circumstances” or “at highest value” or “only with approval of both houses of NSW Parliament”.

The strictest category would be for Crown Land in perpetuity – ie “never for sale”.

When the real estate area is 42% of the land mass of NSW, this degree of detail is essential to effective asset management – it must be a priority. In fact, three Recommendations of the Parliamentary Inquiry (Oct 2016) are that

9. *That the Department of Industry- Lands undertake a stocktake of all Crown land in NSW before any land is transferred to local government as Local land ...*
10. *That the Department of Industry- Lands undertake a digitisation project of maps identifying Crown land in NSW and publicly release an accurate register of Crown land*
11. *That the NSW Government, when implementing the stocktake of Crown land in NSW at recommendation 9, must consider an audit of its ecological value including its regional and state environmental significance.*

It is troubling that the SSP makes no mention of these recommendations, and moreso that the Govt has done transfers to Local Govt already.

It will indeed be a major project, but its value is far more than merely administrative control. As p.59 says “*Given the vast scale and complexity of the Crown land Estate preparing this info will be a significant undertaking*”. Significant yes - and VITAL.

In fact, there’s no way the SSP “*data*” promise on p.38 can be kept if you don’t do it soon. But whether this year or next, or not for 10 years more, and call it what you will - the need for this “stocktake” or “inventory” or “audit and mapping” will not go away.

Why? Because asset management by inventory means being able to differentiate land-types, current use vs potentials, risk factors, controls. In includes identifying by value, this both in social and dollar terms.

It allows CL to establish parameters for possible uses BEFORE offering to the market – ie Crown land use patterns are no longer the result of random commercial opportunism –

such as happened at Pelican Point, or the now-infamous Iguana Joes waterfront area originally “reserved” for aquatic purposes, that somehow became a commercial enterprise of restaurant and function centre.

On p.36 the SSP refers to increasing “*security of tenure*” for leaseholders – any such extended “length of term” must depend on the character/category of the Crown Land and community benefit involved (not leaseholder preference) – with suitable “commercial duration” factors developed as yet one further element in the above categorisation. But, to do this requires know-how of WHAT the land is in the first place – ie AUDIT.

Comment # 2. DON'T FORGET CONTEXT-CONTEXT-CONTEXT

We know that the Western Division is 85% of all Crown land in NSW, with a few “islands” of former leasehold now converted freehold. That makes for a simple map. But the NSW Western Division is far more complex than this – vast areas of ancient, fragile soils, some with access to river systems, some to irrigation, others only to underground waters. There is so much more context that needs identifying than the word “Western”.

This applies also to the Central and Eastern Divisions – each in its own way. The descriptive para on p.12 in the SSP gives some indication of the vast variety involved., as also in the para on p.13 re typical uses

The range of different elements is huge – but no matter how diverse, the descriptions must be specific, accurate – and included as a fundamental part of any CL “State Strategic Plan”. To put it in basic terms – a Crown land “Rubbish Depot” in Walgett is not the same as Wollondilly, nor the same as Wollongong.

BUT - how to handle all this. To see/understand what geo-topography means in CONTEXT, for assessing value and projecting plans re best-use potentials it helps to have OVERLAYS – as detailed as possible, as many as relevant., and easily accessible.

Maps and overlays would combine in a data management system based on multi-values. This starts by matching in with the 4 aspects proposed for a “*quadruple bottom-line approach*” - ie environmental /social /cultural /economic. (Note: order is deliberately NOT as given on p.28.)

Next would be a system of OVERLAYS for basic CL admin/info – current use pattern/s, lease type, term of lease, how long to expiry date, current rate of rental, concessional factors etc. (The same would apply re licences.)

As the data system develops, separate overlays can be added for whatever differentiators are required– soil types, vegetation, climate/weather, rainfall patterns, infrastructure, transport, road access, population, heritage, community profile/contribution, minerals, flora, fauna, species at risk, distance from regional centre, etc.

Once such factual attributes have been captured, the next logical step is to continue with “Vision” factors – aspects that give CL a chance to move into forward planning. In short, for the Dept itself to take up the advice of Commissioner/Professor Richard Bush and start to “*think creatively about how Crown land can support NSW*”.

This is think-big overview and should extend the ‘Vision’ to at least 2050 – way beyond any timid 10-year timeframe as proposed by the SSP. Relevant overlays here would range widely, starting with current land valuations at \$ per m2, improvements potential and result \$ per m2, profiles re preferred land holder profiles, enviro potentials, preferred usage patterns, crop yields by typical and/or desired, animal types and/or stock levels, employment, jobs, work seasons and staff flow (as in crop-planting/picking), possibilities re new/suitable industries, including eco-energy technologies (wind, solar, etc).

Comment # 3. LAND RELATIONSHIPS & STAFFING

Asset management means understanding the complex interaction of CL sites with use patterns – for instance those set aside as “Stock Routes” have agri-values way beyond mere movement of animals. They not only act as respite areas for drought-relief in bad seasons, but in EVERY season these trees/vegetation provide essential habitat (particularly for endangered species) as well as pivotal pollen resources for bees – ie NSW’s critical apiary industry.

None of this shows up in current descriptors.

Indeed, minus such site-specific information (within a holistic overview) means that any “Strategic Plan” (no matter how well-intentioned) will be built on a motley of past errors, corrections, assumptions, presumptions and present-day guesswork mixed with whatever residual/random experience or Crown Land “corporate memory” remains after notable loss of long-term staff over many years. In short – doomed to repeat what’s gone wrong already, if not already muddled further by the recent changes re Crown Land law.

Another aspect to be considered in differentiating “data” and “context” is the relationship of one Crown land location to another – particularly in regard to coastal and riparian land situations. This needs to be identified in detail to avoid mistakes which sadly have occurred – such as sell-off of a site not “AT” but near or next to river or coastland, only then realising this privatisation now leaves NO public access to that river (for fishing, boating, whatever) or the coast/beach for recreation or other water-use.

Such characteristics and USES need to be documented – in detail. Several hundred submissions to the Parliamentary Inquiry give a very good picture of what’s gone wrong. Staffing is one of the key issues that comes up again and again. Yet it the SSP makes no mention of what’s needed now.

Information which used to be in heads of long-time field officers has gone. A much-reduced CL bureaucracy often doesn’t have time to come to grips with the complexities involved on the ground – not until there’s a problem, or disaster strikes.

This loss of CL staffing and expertise is a fundamental WEAK POINT for CL Dept, and the failure in corporate memory hobbles delivery of service. It must be addressed as a key element in any truly STRATEGIC Plan for NSW Crown land.

In delivering a more detailed understanding of the Crown Land asset base within a more balanced, more complete overview, such inventory helps staff, and unlocks a far clearer grasp of future potentials – which is precisely what this SSP is aiming for.

NOTE re STAFF/Training.

At first reading of p.63 in the SSP, it seems as if CL Dept is going to “engage” a new generation of CL managers. On analysis, this is a swizz. The message is really about managers of third party entities. If, as appears to be the case, CL is unable (for whatever reason) to recruit enough for its own in-house functions/services– how does it expect to become a job-hunter organisation for externals?

The prospect of delegating key responsibilities might sound good –but in practice, not very realistic when it comes to the governance standards and complexities involved with asset management of Crown land. And this goes double when coming from a patchy record re internal recruitment. The SSP Project Team may consider working via specific “management” contracts, but would be wise to revisit the failure of such process at Trumper Park before committing to any such as template system.

There is frequent mention of “partnership” in the SSP. This reads as double-speak for trying to get other bodies to do what the CL MANAGEMENT should be doing itself. Talk about giving support to community groups hides a false economy. Doing it well will require massive increase in CL specialist staff to prepare, introduce, monitor – or similar increase in external consultants to do likewise – and still need internal CL expertise to verify and supervise.

Failures in understanding of, or compliance with, the former CL Trust Handbook point to how far things can go wrong in managing Crown land without close/ngoing follow-up.

Finally - the SSP refers repeatedly to need for training for CL managers in handling of Aboriginal land claims, be it under ALRA or native title – see p.62. This is no easy job – yet the SSP proposes that such essential information is to be given only “where possible” – and this only on “how to access information” – not how to use it.

With a backlog of over 38,000, CL Dept knows full well how hard to handle this aspect is, even with a designated ALRA team. Little wonder Councils throughout NSW are already struggling to cope with the added workload of trying to get to grips with land claims.

Training IS desperately needed. But say only “where possible” is a truly silly suggestion. Won’t work.

NOTE re NAMING.

As example: the old XLS spreadsheet for Reserves is riddled with confusion by way of name variations. For instance “Pound” vs “Public Pound” vs “Public Pound Purposes”. Or “Public Baths Site vs Public Baths”. Or “Recreation” vs “Recreation purposes”. Or “Cemetery” vs “Cemetery Purposes” vs “Graves” vs “Preservation of Graves” vs “Protection of Graves”.

Some logic or rationalisation is long overdue. The SSP should include a policy for using CONSISTENT names/descriptors to identify reserves by purpose - not the current motley of word-variations. Such revision would not only streamline the current clutter, it would improve understanding and transparency as called for by the SSP. Result - faster, easier, user-friendly access to the information by both CL staff, and the community.

Comment # 4 HOW & WHY COMPLIANCE COUNTS !

Glossy as it is, the Draft SSP gives some hint that Crown Land is COMPLEX indeed – and so it should, given the magnitude involved – 34 million hectares of NSW in one State estate. Given this scale, we applaud the summary on p.9 of what the Act seeks to ensure – namely

“ The Act seeks to ensure that Crown land is managed and used in ways that provide consistency, fairness, efficiency, and transparency. It requires us to take environmental, social, cultural heritage and economic considerations into account, and to manage and administer Crown land for the benefit of the whole community.”

The only fine-tuning to do is addition of a very important comma, as in “cultural, heritage

However, given the size and complexities involved, what happens when things go wrong ? as you say it’s COMPLEX.

Two words come to mind. Guidance, and enforce-ability.

The draft SSP talks about public engagement – but NO indication of how this can happen. In fact, p48 speaks of intending to “*Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go*” and explains this means “*We will continue to focus on ensuring that Crown Land is used lawfully and that appropriate revenue is collected*”.

There is NOT A WORD on how this is to be done – and use of the word “continue” in this regard is a nonsense. The 30 years of experience with Crown Lands Act 1989, indicate that all too many CL Managers (especially Councils) to ignore the law, often complicit, and seldom if ever acting to confront or correct breaches, financial or legal.

Findings of the 2016 NSW Audit Office Review of Crown Land confirm this. Despite a brief that conveniently did not allow examination re Council control of CL, that Audit Report reveals a CL Dept that often opted out, so long as responsibility could be off-loaded elsewhere.

Take Tugun area - jurisdictional follies overlapping with the Commonwealth re the Gold Coast airport expansion of concrete areas into CL wetlands is a n ongoing example. Parramatta Park and its ramifications re selling-out on a War Memorial/heritage/Trust is another.

And what of the current scenario at Willoughby re wilful failure to comply with specific Supreme Court orders. Re a Reserve where the CL Dept itself fails to enforce a direct ministerial ruling given 4 years ago in the matter re illegal occupancy – all while it allows the Council Manager to condone the continued occupation, to evade any effort requiring removal, while making no effort whatsoever to rectify a t least two decades” worth of fraudulent fiscal arrangement.

And what of “licence becomes land-grab” for the mobile EAT Truck on the CL waterfront at Gosford that has somehow (and in full-scale breach of CL dining regulations) morphed into a permanent café/outdoor restaurant. No permissions – and no penalty.

Also in Gosford, and alongside the multiplicity of CL no-no's now built into the Wanderers' Stadium we see what remains after the 2015 Alfred Higgs fiasco that almost got away with turning a small waterfront promenade area into a raised concrete podium for takeaways - yet another example of how NIL supervision of CL management by CL Dept can imperil the very existence of Crown Land as public space.

Right now, developments at Moore Park and the Sydney Cricket and Sports Ground Trust hinge on dubious technicalities re "existing use rights". Nothing there about "*Fairness and equity*" for the community if it conflicts with big-biz sport.

For the public - when the gatekeepers at CL Dept don't want to know - there's nowhere to go. We-the-people have NO STANDING in the 2016 legislation. So how will this new-found SSP "*strong approach to regulatory compliance*" come into being ?. And what measures does the SSP intend to introduce - both into law (because this has none there now) and into new admin systems, to ensure that "*Crown land is used lawfully*" AND that "*the public's interest is maintained*" ??

What measures ? This is no small question.

For years there has been a culture of impunity at every level., especially in regard to Reserves. The 1989 Act (and its convoluted Trust system) was introduced specifically to address this. It didn't. And without very specific discussion re ways to confront the issues involved, neither will a wish-speaking Draft SSP

For this SSP to deliver what p.48 promises, what's needed, AND as a matter of urgency, is a CL COMPLIANCE TEAM tasked with direct, ONGOING oversight of how CL managers are managing, how leaseholders are conforming, and how licences are being used -

Does the SSP realise that no matter how far "management" is given over to other parties, and no matter how much training and "support" is given to those managers - CL cannot evade its own ultimate responsibility to monitor performance - ie end result.

And that means its own Compliance system/team. Moreover, practical experience proves that compliance is a non-event UNLESS AND UNTIL there is some way for someone to recognise and report problems, and as needed, seek redress. And this mostly means we-the-people.

There's another reason. And another way. If CL is serious about OUTCOMES, and wants to ensure its Compliance team is low in numbers, but high in results (ie efficient and effective) then there must be some way to tap into COMMUNITY INFORMATION - not just a 1300 number, but a designated HOTLINE to report/sort problems. Important people-plus: legal standing to challenge breaches, and take issues to Court.

And this links back to another topic later in this letter - SIGNAGE. Pro-active community awareness of what and where, and what's happening with CL is in their area is yet another reason why signage is so important. CL needs the care-taking eyes and ears of the people, as well as their heart.

Comment # 5. MORE FORWARD-THINKING VISION PLEASE

If the “available data” is not fit for purpose in 2020, it’s even more deficient when looking ahead to 2030 – or to 2050 which would be a far more “strategic” date to aim for, given the plan is for something a large, and as important as NSW Crown land.

While Figure 8 on pp.65-66 in Section 5 of the SSP indicates the “*more detailed timelines and implementation plans will be developed following the consultation period*” the 36 timings as shown are curious indeed. Only two are “long-term”, with the remaining 34 split 50:50 between “short” and “medium” term. There is no definition of what short and medium might mean in terms of time. Many should be marked as “Ongoing” - some identified as URGENT.

Most line items read as a strategy for the status-quo. There are a few buzz words like “*Leverage*” and “*Repurpose*” – but you can hardly present aims like “*Standardise leases and licensing for common activities*” or “*Make land available for wind and solar generation*” as breakthrough activities. And though reference to “*closed-loop bio-mass*” and “*hydrogen*” might qualify – not when prefaced with words like “*Explore*” and “*Seek opportunities*”.

Instead of a solid Strategy for the Future, this 72-pp document has nice thoughts, pretty pictures, some helpful explanations and a few CL facts – but the overall message is light.

For instance - there’s a plethora of motherhood feel-good throughout Section 3 of this “Vision” – lots about “*environment and well-being*”, being “*resilient and sustainable*” but very little about the who and the how.

A clue to what’s really afoot shows up in the “Vision” chart on p.30 re “**3.3 Priorities for Crown land**” The very first one is the giveaway – “Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW”.–

CL is much more than jobs growth – in rural, regional, or wherever.

CL is much more than economic growth – sustainable or otherwise

CL is not for commercial opportunities UNLESS all other factors make sense

A 2030--2050 Vision for Crown Land can include all three – but “Jobson Growth” comes AFTER comes green space, sustainability, quality of life, community and culture connection - and then ONLY in a way that is integrated, holistic. Transparent too.

For instance – “Expand regional tourism” may be desirable – but not if it means private operators can control a whole harbour as entertainment venue, to the exclusion of general use. Or, where a once-open “camping ground” gets developed as a locked-gate caravan park.

Capitalising on natural resources (ie make the most of them, long term) is good. Exploiting them is not. And handing them over to someone else to exploit under guise of “management” or “lease” is even worse. But to make the most of natural resources you need to KNOW what they are, and WHAT best-possible use they can deliver. The current CL Dept doesn’t have that AUDIT information – or know how to get it as urgently as this SSP Vision needs it.

Note well p.6 where the CL Commissioner says – “*As we experience changes in our economy and lifestyles and in in our climate, the uses of Crown Land will continue to evolve*”.

Comment # 6. STRATEGIC ASSETS NEED VALUATIONS.

A core function of professional asset management is to know what its asset base is worth. NSW Crown lands deserve nothing less than this. Yet there is not a mention in the SSP – not even on p.19 in the “profile” of Sydney’s Hyde Park. This contrasts with in prior CL documentation re Hyde Park, where estimated value was shown as \$19 million - a laughably low figure , but justified because it couldn’t be built on.

The example of Hyde Park is not given here as a joke. It highlights the lack of awareness in Crown lands of the financial ramifications also pertaining to both SOCIAL VALUE and to ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE.

While the SSP talks a lot about culture (particularly in an Aboriginal context) there’s faint mention of what this might mean in terms of “community benefits”, let alone in \$\$\$.

To the community of Sydney, Hyde Park is probably priceless – worth immeasurably more than \$19 million when based on equivalent development sales in (say) Martin Place. But that is no let out for Crown Land Dept. How can a “State Strategic” Plan pretend to take full account of , let alone maximise the value of, the Crown estate – when no-one know what the value of 42% of the State of NSW is ???

This does not mean that every square metre needs to be valued upfrom – but the SSP should at least be aware that valuations are a key part of land strategy – and a matter of urgency.

In fact, it’s long overdue for CL to act like a professional asset manager and start getting realistic valuations for Crown Land BEFORE someone comes in and offers a loony lease rental – like \$14,000pa for 15,300 m2 of open space reserve just down from St Leonards Staton and 400m across from Royal North Shore Hospital - prime North Shore. And the swizz in Wollongong is almost as bad – a sky-dive company that needs clear access to widespread areas of Stuart Park (ie public excluded) – but only pays rent based on the paltry 10m2 it needs per parachute.

There is nothing in the SSP that gives any indication of ways to prevent such pricing malarkey. The result cheats the community of fair income – and the Crown land involved of funds for proper maintenance.

Comment # 7. SIGNAGE SITUATION PLEASE

On p.12 of my fillable-form, it refers to a “State-wide SIGNAGE plan that identifies Crown Land AS Crown Land. The was also one of the first actions required by the old Crown Lands Act 1989. Lack of signs simply saying “This is Crown Land” are a large part of why the community has such low recognition of what CL is, or where – yet still with high regard.

The signs should be based on a complete “KIT” of standardised, highly visible sizing and integrated designs. The aim is to ensure instant recognition. Installation should be planned as a strategic awareness campaign, starting with Reserves and Dedications. Those occupied by long-standing leaseholders should be key priority, along with “landmark” community sites such as Bondi Pavilion, the NSW Art Gallery, the Sydney Cricket Ground, Parramatta Park, etc.

In regional and rural areas, including the Western Division, the topography may be the deciding factors as to whether signage is placed on gate/entry ways, or needs to be seen from along, road or highway. Whatever the location, it clearly says that this is “NSW Crown Land”.

If wished it could add “held under (whatever)(perpetual) lease (licence) by NAME.

This is easily the most immediate, visible and cost-efficient way to communicate what Crown Land is – it instantly goes a long way to fulfil the message in p.59 of the SSP about “*Making more of our information available and transparent*”. And it can happen swiftly, from Day 1 of an SSP in action.

In fact site-signage is probably the fastest, most direct way for Crown Land to BE “*publicly accessible and transparent*” because it goes right to where the Crown Land is – not in a brochure, not in an ad, not in some social media – but right where it’s happening , there- right within the community itself.

Apart from which, every good asset manager knows how important it is to have clear asset identification - as an aid to management as well as statement of ownership.

Comment # 8 GETTING CREATIVE – SHOWGROUNDS etc.

In Objective 3.3.3 the SSP talks about more support and tools to help community facilities and volunteers “evolve to meet emerging needs”. Showgrounds are given as an example with Figure 7 indicating “*The showground of the future*”.

The diagram shows a motley of possible developments – Mens Sheds, Artist in Residence studios, exhibition hall/s, commercial kitchen, provision for disability needs, a marketplace, a refuge, solar installation, community garden areas, rainwater capture– as well as the key showing and space for stock. The text talks about including caravan parks and recreational vehicles.

If there are 230 showgrounds on Crown land (most run by volunteer organisations) no doubt some already have the management skills, and the ongoing 7/52 capability, to be pro-active in developing their tourist appeal, or function-ability, or the residential procedures that underpin an ‘artist in residence’ program, etc..

But how will this this think-big strategy apply to the homely comfortably casual operation of showgrounds in so many smaller towns and villages ? It takes more than a little management savvy to run such comprehensive facilities. Does NSW Crowns Land Dept intend to become a small-biz mentor in marketing and regional development?

In theory, the vision sounds great. But the level of initiative to get such things going will be considerable. The need for ongoing support in early years will be vital. Success will require in-depth pre-planning UPFRONT. So what homework/research been done (and what funds will be available) to validate such upsizing in focus/use?

Comment # 9 FAIR EMPHASIS FOR NATIVE TITLE / ALRA

There is much in this SSP re Native Title and Aboriginal Land Rights . This is long-overdue attention to a grievous issue – but so much of what’s in the Draft SSP comes across as the echo of a guilty conscience. – platitudes rather than practicalities.

Such comments reflect the current situation within Crown Lands - an administrative backlog of over 38,000 ALRA claims, with just 13,356 “resolved” since 1983. This means that less than 1 in 4 matters are being handled under the current system have been– and many have been outstanding for years, even decades. In late the number of claims pending was approx 34,500, and one lodged that Oct, has still not been addressed seven years later - even though there is a Court judgement that declares the Reserve involved has had no valid use since 1978, if ever.

As such, its claimable status is clear. There can be no “uncertainty as to ownership” – the legalities are quire clear-cut: it is hard to imagine a circumstance more ready for a “prompt” decision. Yet now isjust on four years since that legal decision, and still CL dithers, deflects, distracts, defers - and does nothing.

And in this way, the ALRA backlog problem has been growing steadily worse at the rate averaging 500 claims per year. On p. 23 this SSP coyly admits that “*processing has not progressed as quickly as hoped*” but makes no mention of what is to be done about it. Is it any wonder that cynicism abounds.

We know delay is not inevitable - a Rose Bay site was “claimed” in March this year, and by early June 2020, the title had been made over to the Aboriginal Land Council concerned.. So what needs to change?

What IS the new “*strong commitment*” in this Draft SSP that will “*support Aboriginal people’s access to Crown land, to generate benefits for both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities*”? On p.53 the SSP refers to 2019 policies put in place to assist Aboriginal Land Councils get faster approval for their plans –but that solves nothing. The critical hold-up is NOT at planning stage: it comes long before. The key question is “What’s happening with our land claim ?”

There are 38,000 reasons to disbelieve p.53. Words like “*Empowering Aboriginal ownership*” come across as empty blather in the absence of any real information about HOW “accelerating the resolution of claims” is to be done. Yes - people are passionate about Crown land. But this SSP would be foolish to take community goodwill for granted.

And the question remains: -if CL Dept itself currently lacks sufficient “*special expertise*” needed – where will this knowhow come from to deliver the “*Prompt, equitable and efficient resolution*” as promised on p.53 as “*a key outcome of the plan*”.

Further to this come an even more pointed question: if CL’s own internal resources are so deficient relative to ALRA assessments pending, how on earth does CL intend to work on “*co-management of suitable areas of Crown land with Aboriginal groups*” – much less liaise and devise, develop, and disseminate “*a base of information resources regarding native title*” to

hundreds (if not thousands) of external CL managers – this as proposed on p.62. We note the SSP also adds “*where possible*”.

Comment # 10 CONCLUSIONS

If Minister Stokes really wants to “*know how we can best work together to manage Crown land now and into the future*” I suggest a first priority should be to declare ATTITUDE-SHIFT as an urgent pre-Strategy strategy. If not, then this SSP remains a waste of time for all concerned.

Such attitude shift would work to see Crown Land recognised as a cabinet-level, stand-alone portfolio responsible for the overall management, apportionment, maintenance, re-balancing of purposes and priorities, appropriate use and income-generation as involved with almost half the surface area of the whole State. This is an Estate held on behalf of the we-the-people, and worth upwards of (probably) \$-trillions – one small Reserve in Naremburn has an estimate of \$150-million. Moore Park could be double that.

I have no problem with seeing the asset value of Crown land in financial terms – but only insofar as this expresses it as a COMMUNITY ASSET – ie the priorities are for social and environmental values first, then recognition for Aboriginal title, and only AFTER all that, as an economic landholding.

One final point. This letter is intended as an “explanation” of the brief information possible in my fillable-form Submission of 20 August. Give the wide range of information covered, its length is unavoidable. However, it touches on practicalities and offers “creative” ideas resolving issues. I trust these will be welcome to the SSP Project Team, and prove useful in moving beyond this Draft stage.

As ever, I will be happy to help with more information. Thank you.



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Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

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Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

John

2. Last name *

Washbrooke



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

8. State *

9. Postcode *

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

I am trying to bring a Koala population back to their native area of 50 years ago.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

See Other in #11 above

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

There has been no consideration of the effect Wind Farms may have on Crown Lands!

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Ensure you engage with Land Holders.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

By email.

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

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Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Judith

2. Last name *

Damiani

4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Western Murray Irrigation Ltd

6. Postal/street address *

7. Suburb *

Dareton

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2717

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
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<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
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<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

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Strategic Plan priorities

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More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

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Outcomes			
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Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

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Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

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- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The NSW Government must be commended for initiating the first strategic plan for Crown land.

As a business (irrigation infrastructure operator) in the Western Division which represents 94% of the total Crown land area, growth has been inhibited by outdated Crown land management. Changes started in 2018 when arrangements were finally enacted to bring the Western Division in line with other parts of NSW (such as converting leases to freehold).

A more contemporary way of collaborating and utilising Crown land sustainability for economic growth in regional and rural NSW is now critical following the unprecedented drought and COVID-19 pandemic.

There is demand for larger areas of high value irrigated horticulture and the traditional irrigation areas, developed in some cases over 100 years ago, no longer meet this demand. It is not surprising therefore that much of the horticultural development has occurred on the Victorian side of the Murray River.

Western Murray Irrigation would welcome the opportunity to work with the NSW Government in sustainable expansion of its irrigation network which requires the use of Crown land.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

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Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

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Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Neil

2. Last name *

Patchett



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Boating Industry Association Ltd

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Crows Nest

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

1585

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

The Boating Industry Association is the peak industry body in Australia which represents the interests of recreational and light commercial boating industry businesses and is an advocate for boaters' interests.

Boating contributes to significant social, economic and environmental benefits.

We appreciate the opportunity to make comment and provide input on behalf of the boating sector to the draft Crown Lands Strategic Plan.

We represent the boating industry who make use of Crown Land (CL) as a place of land-based work but also water-based work such as: marinas; moorings; boat yards; marine services which includes support for a range of aquaculture industries; commercial vessel operations including whalewatching, charters, hire and drive boats (eg., houseboats), and over-water transport (eg., ferries and water taxis).

We also represent the boating public specially regarding participation, access and storage.

All these activities not only support jobs and the economy but, as the draft Plan points out, these activities also generate significant health benefits. Spending time on the water has been shown to make a positive contribution to people's quality of life by reducing stress and improving mental health.

The boating industry can help deliver key tenets of the Plan which is that CL provides essential space for business, tourism, recreation, well-being and biodiversity.



12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

We value 'blue space' as well as 'green space'. We recommend CL consider adopting an overall 'green/blue' approach in the Plan so that we work to build not just Green Spaces, which gives a sense that they are land based and independent from one another, but to consider a "Green Blue Grid" where the aim is to connect, integrate, enable and care for these natural spaces irrespective of whether they are on dry or over wet lands. Afterall, almost 1 in 5 NSW households have a boat or watercraft.

The Government Architect's Office of Public Works (NSW) published 'The Green Grid - Creating Sydney's Open Space Network' . We have taken the liberty to make minor edits to the stated aims of the Green Grid and extrapolate that to CL statewide under a Green Blue Grid concept as follows:

1. Conserve, improve and expand the strategic network of CL open spaces. Connecting built environments, integrating transport and connecting residents, workers and visitors with a diversity of open space, sports facilities, and commercial and recreational opportunities.
2. Reinforce a sense of place through enhancing open space quality and advocating an appreciation for our diverse natural and cultural environment.
3. Safeguard and plan the Green Blue Grid infrastructure of CL in parallel with the strategic planning of the State's other infrastructure. Promoting the multifunctional nature of the cultural, environmental, social and economic benefits open space offers.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

re., Green Space - see earlier comment under #12. So instead of saying 'expand green space' (#14), this could read: expand the Green Blue Grid.

Most of the beds of coastal waters and the available waterfront land on the NSW coastline is Crown land. This blue space is often directly connected to green space providing an undeniable link between the two for purposes ranging from public access to commercial land use. An integrated approach for the Green Blue would further support the quadruple bottom line.

re., Strengthen and support evolving community connections (#14) - It is important that this priority engages the boating sector for its proven ability to deliver social benefits in wellness and well being. We would also note that BIA has liaised with Professor Ralf Buckley of Griffith University on his work to put a public health value on open spaces. His work published in 2019 revealed Australia's national parks are worth \$145 billion to the economy from the improved mental health of people who visit them, according to peer-reviewed research. This highlights the need for urgent consideration as to how we can provide safe access to both the outdoor 'green' and 'blue' spaces for our collective physical and mental health.

BIA would recommend CL and TfNSW partner on development of a Green Blue economic benefit study and consider engaging Prof Buckley to quantify these outcomes and assist in shaping priorities, policy and strategies re., social benefit.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

re., Expand regional tourism - need to ensure the plan recognises over-water public access and commercial vessel operations are valuable components of the "Green Blue Grid" to support access, economy and jobs.

re., Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas - should read: Prioritise the use of Crown land for the Green Blue Grid and open space

This would reinforce the delivery of public good and quantification could reinforce this and support the strategy of applying the quadruple bottom line approach. This would support how we can provide safe and convenient access by people of all abilities via land or water to both the outdoor 'green' and 'blue' spaces for our collective physical and mental health.

re., Facilitate investment on Crown land - This is particularly relevant to the BIA and issues such as marinas and boat yards.

re., Sustain the places where people come together - This should factor in marinas, boat clubs, sea scouts, etc by encouraging increased public use/ access via rent reduction incentives to encourage greater public access and benefit as such land-water interface facilities.

re., Partner with the organisations that serve our communities - This should involve the boating industry to support access and participation.

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Initiatives to add:

1. Establish an Interdepartmental Leasing Committee - to drive collaboration and consistency in State Government management over the land/ water interface statewide.

This would help deliver Minister Pavey's stated key priorities which are supporting jobs and economic opportunities for our regional communities; to better support our boating and marine assets; youth groups and clubs; improve security and duration of tenure over land, so that the organisations who add so much to our communities have a stable base from which to grow and thrive.

2. Adopt a Green Blue Grid approach for CL statewide - to support the vision of the Plan which is for: CL to support resilient, sustainable and prosperous communities across NSW.

This would not only support the aims of the Plan but the quadruple bottom line approach and recognise that boating is a way of life for many Australian families; it is estimated that 2 million people participate in some form of boating each year in NSW. The vast majority of which occurs in family runabouts and small sailing and paddle craft.

Also, Australians are collectively wealthier, living longer and better educated than ever before; and are settling in coastal areas for the lifestyle benefits which includes being on, in, under and by the water.

More than 85 per cent of the population live within 50km of the coast and almost 1 in 5 households can have a boat or watercraft .

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):



20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au



Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

BRIAN

2. Last name *

WOOD



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

- Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Motorcycle Council of NSW

6. Postal/street address *

[Redacted]

7. Suburb *

Parramatta

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2129

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

See attached.

Question 11:- Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? Other

The riding of Trail Bikes can generate significant health benefits. Spending time trail riding has been shown to make a positive contribution to people's quality of life by reducing stress, improving mental health and as exercise. These benefits are highlighted in the report by Dr Sean Comber, "The Health Benefits of Trail Riding" <https://www.trf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Health-Benefits-Documents-FINAL-01.pdf>

While trail bike riding has many benefits it is also recognised as a difficult to locate sport. The difficulties in locating a number of sports are discussed in a report "Regional Facilities Plan for Difficult to Locate Sports" prepared for the Noosa Shire Council, Sunshine Coast Council and Gympie Regional Council. <https://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Council/Planning-and-Projects/Council-Plans/Regional-Facilities-Plan-for-Difficult-to-Locate-Sports>

As it is difficult to locate trail bike riding facilities this creates issues with illegal trail bike riding particularly by children. Rather than increasing the number of facilities where children can ride, the number is decreasing.

The Ku-ring-gai Mini Wheels Club operated at St Ives Showground for over 40 years until March 2016 when it was forced to close due to dieback in the trees. The Ku-ring-gai Council undertook to find an alternate location but so far this has not been possible.

This Strategy is an opportunity to work proactively across government and non-government stakeholders to share information, create opportunities and overcome barriers so that the community's evolving needs and aspirations regarding trail bike riding for children are met.

The Sutherland PCYC Minibike Club, which has a facility at Lucas Heights, is an example of stakeholders working to provide a much needed hard to locate facility.

The Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council and Sand Dune Adventures at Stockton Beach is an example where trail riding of quad bikes as collectively created employment for 23 Aboriginal people as administrators, tour guides, maintenance workers, site officers, culture and education experts. Similar activities could be located in other areas to boost regional tourism.

Providing more Recreational Vehicle Areas, such as the one at Stockton Beach, would help address the issue of illegal trail bike riding by children.

An article in the Australian Financial Review on 7th April 2016 reported that adventure bike touring accounted for about 1 per cent of Australian tourism, making it conservatively a \$350 million business <http://www.afr.com/lifestyle/travel/biker-touring-boom-accelerates-past-350m-in-australia-20160322-gnob0l> Adventure bike riders from overseas, interstate and NSW pump money into the local regional economies where they ride.

Providing opportunities for adventure bike tourism is a means of addressing the Priority to:- “Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW”.

It is noted that on page 31 the State Strategic Plan states:-In addition to these priorities, much of our existing work will continue. This includes programs to mitigate the risk of bushfires on fire trails and asset protection zones .

The Rural Fire Service has 7 trail bike units that are deployed for a number of purposes, which include reconnaissance, fire trail inspections, and assist other agencies in land search and rescue operations. <https://www.southcoastregister.com.au/story/6502825/nsw-rfs-trail-bike-team-launched-in-the-shoalhaven/> The Motorcycle Council of NSW is currently exploring opportunities where local trail bike groups could assist in keeping fire trails open.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights
--	---	---	--

More information on these priorities is in section 3.3 of the draft plan (PDF).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select

- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Of minor importance
- Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select

- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Of minor importance
- Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select

- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Of minor importance
- Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select

- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Of minor importance
- Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The MCC does not believe there should be any changes to the priorities

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights
--	---	---	--

Outcomes

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in section 3.3 of the draft plan (PDF).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
 Strongly agree
 Agree
 Neutral
 Disagree
 Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
<input type="radio"/> Very important
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
<input type="radio"/> Very important
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
<input type="radio"/> Very important
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
<input type="radio"/> Very important
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
<input type="radio"/> Very important
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
 Very important
 Important
 Neutral
 Of minor importance
 Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
 Very important
 Important
 Neutral
 Of minor importance
 Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
 Very important
 Important
 Neutral
 Of minor importance
 Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
 Very important
 Important
 Neutral
 Of minor importance
 Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
 Very important
 Important
 Neutral
 Of minor importance
 Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

No

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in section 4 of the draft plan (PDF).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

No

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The MCC does not provide any other comments other than those made in response to Question 11

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

State Strategic Plan – A Vision for Crown Land June 2020 (Draft for Comment)

Preamble

I have the following comments to make on the Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land 2020.

I note the following (contained within the box below) with great concern in preparation of my comment for submission. How do you intend to use personal information to assess the submissions, and what are these “other functions required to complete the project”? If you are interested in being ‘transparent’ then please make clear your intentions. The suggestion that if we chose not to make the information available you “may not be able to assess your submission” is punitive and not conducive to public engagement. In my view these requirements do not assist public trust in government. I would hope that comments stand on their merit and that if you have further need for information you contact the contributor. I have made clear the organisation of whose behalf the submission is being made. I have no problem with what is written being made available publicly.

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation’s name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

The comments are based on ‘parent’ documents *Crown Lands for the Future*¹ and the longer companion *Crown Land Management Review 2014* and *Property Asset Utilisation Taskforce Report September 2012* to which reference is made in the initial management review. These documents provide far more detailed information on the review process and helped better inform the comments made here about the Draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Lands.

The Strategic Vision document contains very little detail about what is being planned. It resembles many other glossy State Plans which tend to be long on rhetoric and promise, for example Regional Plans for development, which fail to meet the expectations set out in the body of plan and in particular the contingent plans necessary for proper delivery. No default option is offered in the event of failure. It is as if it doesn’t matter if the necessary supporting documentation never becomes available, and in some cases there would appear to be deliberate restriction of financial and human resources so that it doesn’t become available as the empirically-based material may represent a threat to the master plan and its execution. This does not help to build trust in the process and contingent community engagement. You are often left to wonder if this is a deliberate strategy to make sure that the ‘pesky’ community doesn’t bother any more which can facilitate more rapid implementation of what may be a flawed ideology-based plan rather than one which has genuine community concern and equity at its base. In my view it is critical that promises be kept and that appropriate resources are made available to execute the plan and provide the necessary changes if plans fail. There must be a well-supported iterative process to allow institutional learning

¹ https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/138558/Crown-Lands-for-the-Future-2014.pdf

and adaptation. And plans and changes of plans must be backed with strong empirical evidence, something the current Vision seems to be short on. I

Comment

1. It is claimed that the review process is “independently chaired” by a Mr Michael Carapiet. It is not clear what “independently chaired” means? How was he chosen for the position and what criteria were set for his choice which made his appointment independent? Is he remunerated for this work, and if so how much does he receive? Does he serve on other State owned or controlled boards or organisations which might compromise his independence or represent potential conflicts of interest? These are crucial process issues which require elucidation to allay any community concerns about such matters. I note that the words “improved transparency” are used in the report. Here is the opportunity to demonstrate this principle.
2. I note the strong desire to pass on Crown Land to local government for management. Not a good idea. Many local governments have problems managing what Crown Lands they have now because of lack of resources and problems finding staff who are qualified to do the job. As cost-shifting to local government continues I can see local government being offered Crown Land not to manage, but to sell off to fund their activities which are no longer funded by the state or federal governments. This would represent a serious loss of public property because of financial necessity. A similar thing happened to ALOP aerodromes when they were handed over to local governments back in 1992. They were given a small dowry to accompany the transfer but then the funding ceased. In the *Deed of Transfer* which accompanied the transfer process the opportunity was provided for local government to sell land ‘surplus to requirements’ with the permission of the secretary of the department controlling them at the time. The requisite paragraph also indicated that permission to sell would “not necessarily be withheld”. Since that time there has been wholesale sale of our airports, loss of aviation infrastructure is now massive, and Australian-based aviation training is almost a thing of the past. So much for employment growth and opportunity. Could the same happen with Crown Lands?
3. The assumption seems to have been made that the State government has an effective and totally reliable capacity to read a crystal ball for the future. What might seem surplus to requirements now might not be in the future. I doubt that the State government has that capacity and would not want them acting on my behalf in that regard. Frankly it looks to me as if the State is about to have a fire sale of Crown Land because it is not achieving some false ‘economic’ objective of the land paying its own way, an ideal excuse for the well-heeled to pick up a bargain piece of land. Yes, there is a plan to show the level of subsidy given to Crown Lands which don’t and can’t pay their own way but this level of subsidy can also be used as evidence to show that better value for the land and land use might be achieved by its’ sale. We have no idea what is to be done with the subsidy information or the criteria to be used for decision-making other than the mention of employment of the ‘quadruple bottom line’ in decision-making. So how is a balance to be determined for the competing demands of this form of bottom line and who will be the decision-makers? There is a long history of the ‘economic’ variable prevailing in such circumstances.
4. Many Travelling Stock Routes (TSRs) need to be left alone and not sold off. Quite a number of them are a refuge for our declining natural biological resources, an oasis in sea of cleared and overexploited land subject to Climate Change. They also continue to be a refuge in time of drought and fire. And they are corridors for wildlife in an increasingly cleared landscape. There is no doubt there are problems when land holder exploit the TSRs to preserve their

own feed, a ‘tragedy of the commons’ problem, but this is not a difficult matter to manage. This area requires further exploration before any further consideration is given to sale. The TSRs have more than straight economic value. I applaud the Vision for a plan to review TSRs but please make sure the criteria used are those of Ecological Sustainable Development enshrined in law.

5. There are some Crown Reserves which play an important role in preservation of flora and fauna. Perhaps these might be turned over to National Parks for inclusion in their estate as suggested indirectly in the Vision document, but such a transfer will need to be accompanied by finances to be able to manage them and they will need to be of sufficient size to be viable biologically, not scraps of land which create a nightmare for Parks management with all the contingent ‘edge effects’ to deal with.
6. I view the sale of Crown Land as an attempt to dispose of land that might potentially be part of a Native Title Claim and other demand on the public purse. If it is in private hands, that’s the end of the Claim as pointed out in the Vision. I remain sympathetic to Native Title and note that the State government does not seem to be so even though some attention is given to it in the Vision. The very important State *Draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill (2108)* seems to have disappeared into thin air thus taking away a potentially useful mechanism for making sure that some of the remaining Aboriginal Cultural Heritage is preserved. Until that legislation is completed and properly funded there must be a moratorium on any further sale of pertinent Crown Land. The current antiquated provisions of the National Parks and Wildlife Act will not do.
7. I note that the following line is being pushed: “The NSW Government should retain Crown land of state significance” and that land which does not have that status should be “managed at the local level”. It is no coincidence that Crown Land which was once considered to be of State Significance lost that status when it could no longer meet new “economic” criteria supporting the claim made earlier here that the variable ‘economic’ variable tends to prevail in decision-making. Environmental and important Aboriginal Culture Heritage counted for nothing with the shift. Money became the metric for whether something was “significant” or not. Clearly the shift in criteria for State Significant was one way of managing cost-shifting from the State elsewhere. The definition of State Significant needs revisiting away from a pure ‘economic’ rationale for such classification. ROI must not be the arbiter of whether something is significant at a State level!
8. “Local government can manage local land more efficiently under its own legislation rather than under the *Crown Lands Act*”. Where is the evidence for this bold statement? Saying so doesn’t make it so! And where is the evidence that local governments are better managers?
9. Reference is made to the Regional Planning Process. Let’s face it, as mentioned previously the Regional Planning process is a dog’s breakfast based on a ‘growth’ paradigm which pays no attention to the Principles of Ecological Sustainable Development, principles which are enshrined in many pieces of NSW legislation including the *NSW Local Government Act*, and actioned in our Courts. It is to be noted that plans which are supposed to accompany these regional plans are often incomplete or do not inform the regional plan. These plans include infrastructure funding and management plans (not yet complete) and biological assessment plans (not fully complete because they are starved of funds for completion and are based on out-of-date information). It is to be noted here that the current Vision document for Crown Lands while dated June 2020 is based on material dated 2014 and the PAUT on which the 2014 reports are based, 2012. The NSW Planning system is also in flux and problematic. It is hard to see how the Crown Land reforms can fit with a planning system which is problematic in its own right.

10. "Returning decision making to the local community" is great rhetoric but not to be believed. Local government is not an independent level of government. It is an instrument, a 'handmaiden' of the State government doing the State government's bidding often under the rubric of 'local government reform'. Passing decisions to local government is passing the buck or cost shifting for management of our important Crown Lands. As indicated earlier, local government can hardly manage what it has now given the resources it has. This is recipe for the sale of Crown Land and when they are no longer there when needed in the future, local government will be blamed for their loss and lack of foresight.
11. I object to the proposed business model for Crown Lands management to be, in effect, corporatised. This is clearly a set up for Crown Lands to be sold off as part of the State government's asset recycling program. Of course, we all know that the private sphere does it better than the public domain! I see no evidence that the proposed model will improve the system in the public interest. Again, where is the evidence that it will do so? These seems more like a wealth-shifting process than a reform to benefit the public. I also note the introduction of an ERP system. There are many problems with systems of this kind and there is NO evidence to show that it will be an improvement over the existing system.

Concluding Remarks

Overall, there seems to be little empirical evidence to support many of the proposed reforms particularly with regard to providing better management of Crown Lands. The whole reform process seems to be about devolving responsibility to local governments for Crown Land management, a plan guaranteed to fail because of lack of resources leaving council to sell of land to make end meets. This plan also seems to be making what remains of Crown Lands into a business to be sold off to private enterprise as part of the government's stated recycling policy. The whole reform process is all about a management approach from a past era with the 'economic imperative' the driving force. There is no attention to the Principles of Ecological Sustainable Development or to the Biological legacy of Crown Lands. And little to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and related matters. The reform body seems to have the mistaken belief that it can see into the future needs of the people of NSW when it provides no evidence to support that belief. The business processes it plans to put in place are rigid and costly to implement and there is no evidence showing that the people of NSW will be better off as a result. This proposal for reform should be sent for independent assessment to a panel with critical expertise in the matters raised in the reform process. It is too 'in house' and self-interested to represent genuine reform in the public sector and questions must be raised about its independence. By all means consult internally to 'name the problem' but do not rely on those who are currently part of the problem to provide the best solutions to the problem. Notwithstanding all the rhetoric about 'public benefit and 'unlocking value', *Cui Bono?*

Dr Richard Gates

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Evans Head NSW 2473

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday August _____, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 9

Making your submission public

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Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#)

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Kerry and Derek

2. Last name *

Ridgley



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Urunga

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2455

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

. What use/s of Crown Land do you value? *

Please select all that apply

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

Would have chosen Jobs & economic" growth but these 2 need to be split -economic growth shouldn't be included with jobs. If you leasing lands for tree planting initiatives that provide jobs, is not classed as economic growth but stewardship, and made possible through grants, not always by business investment. Unfortunately these combined is a LNP way to make people choose this option (continued plan to sell off the states assets) because everyone is concerned about jobs at present, but adding "economic" instead of say "rural/potential" growth supports businesses using Crown lands for vested interests, lobby groups & profiteering at the expense of the environment, promotes manouvering with political intervention not in the best interest of the Crown estate in selling off 'the peoples' Crown Land. In Wikipeadia NSW Crown Land definition has also been altered with edits taking out 'natural values & environment' changing what the original meaning of how the Crown was setup and what was intended for the Crown Land estate. Crown Lands are not for the purposes or whim of the state governments, politicians, officials and bureaucrats of the day to remove those protections and destroy these values. Including the sell off of the Titles department! See below for continued comments on values.

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Very important
<input type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Very important
<input type="radio"/> Important
<input type="radio"/> Neutral
<input type="radio"/> Of minor importance
<input type="radio"/> Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

A Crown Land value should be 'Stewardship & Sustainability'. All commercial ventures should have a Stewardship and sustainability plan that can be onground checked by department staff. A Crown land value should be "Climate Crisis resilience" When State governments encourage more fossil fuel companies to use our lands for extractive industries that are known to add to greenhouse gases they are not supporting the Climate crisis they are just supporting the Mining industries and making a buck. It is proven that this industry provides only 2% jobs nationwide.

Point 14.1 Why does Crown Res and Lands need to be an enabler of this and why is this a priority? Jobs across NSW and particular jobs in Rural NSW should not be reliant on Crown Lands and we should NOT be having this as a 'growth' market, there is also a lot of private freehold land that can be used for commercial purposes and partnerships, with state and local governments having initiatives to streamline approvals for projects already.

What is the LNP views on progress - Is it to have a gas network that pollutes our rivers and land and support greenhouse gas polluters? What projects have they hatched already with Crown lands? This government has the worst record for water management and destroying our farms, clearing land and koala habitat, and all but destroying our environmental laws with the rate of biodiversity loss and extinctions in the state one of the worst in the world.

We need Crown Lands to be 14.2, 3 and 4.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 15 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown Land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

A plan to create jobs would be to update all the community halls through way of grants and install solar panels on every roof. This would cost money but this would have considerable savings for the State, communities and meet emissions targets. Review existing halls and assist in making this happen as joint community projects or groups of projects. Or there are cases where heritage buildings need restoration, can be used for holiday letting - with funds generated as being used in the whole area of the reserve for roadways and path making etc. - held jointly with local Council as job creation schemes and retaining heritage. Jointly work with Aboriginal communities to plan long term Community and Cultural programs to support enterprise on sea and land creating jobs for their kids in the community. Look at coastal areas and not sell off these areas to big Tourism operators with the funds going into the coffers of only these companies. The plan needs to include protecting these coastal reserves that are being 'loved to death'. Limiting any development within a certain distance from the sea to stop significant sea level rise erosion. All things sustainable, decisions made with future generations in mind creating a healthy planet. Housing contracts should not go to companies that are not paying taxes like Lend Lease. Value green spaces needs to be sustainable, solar generation, materials that are sustainable and generates cutting edge future changes for industry. A reset!

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#)

Please provide your feedback

7. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

There is also ways of building low tech with affordable housing to house the homeless and these need to be explored. Crown lands shouldn't be available to allow businesses to lease and build on and then it is used by governments to just sell off. The same with putting tourist facilities on Crown Land next to National Parks - creating more tourism instead of housing the homeless. People have turned their homes into BnBs so there is less rentals. Checks and balances need to be in place and a cooling off period needs to happen with leasing of any Crown Lands to large private enterprises. I don't think this should be streamlined in anyway or rubber stamped through the planning department. The environment departments need to be able to scrutinise the projects through every stage with Planning NOT overriding them. All businesses need to have a Stewardship and Sustainability plan that is rigorously checked. If it can't be shown to benefit the environment, biodiversity, water and retain ecosystems then it should not happen. Biomass is a waste of resources - it still is burning fossil fuels in form of turning our forests(or crops) into woodchips and in western NSW what water are you going to use to grow these crops, intensive cattle agriculture is very polluting in generating greenhouse gases and all can't be captured, sequestration can still leak back into the atmosphere after being pumped underground and still allows emissions to be made from coal. Solar, Wind, and tidal!

Other feedback

9. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide detail (1,500 character)

The document reads with so many "greenwashing pop" words and making it sound like the government plans on being sustainable but with the poor record of this LNP government on environmental management the politicians are not to be trusted with 'our peoples' Crown land estate. The questions actually on the submission does not relate well to the Strategy story itself and some of the statements in the document. The strategy just looks like they want to have open slather on devloping Crown land and they are going to do it by coercing big business. So how many deals are going to go down with that one from the Minerals councils and farming lobby groups? The Crown lands belong to the public not to political parties, not to big business but to the people of NSW I point out again. With sea level rise you should be discouraging any development along the coastline, and every national park should not have accommodation on it's door step, and with the comments on being transparent with decisions are we as the general public going to see every single plan for Crown lands that big business will be offered so that we can voice a comment or complaint. In these Covid times we need a reset but a good reset to make our future a future for our childrens children.

0. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide detail (1,500 character):

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1800 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

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Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Veronica

2. Last name *

Hoskisson



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Tweed District Residents & Ratepayers Assoc

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

Tweed Heads

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2485

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Matters not appearing to be raised -

Prioritising inter-generational equity by "Support and restore environmental and cultural values"

No commercial/residential development over single story on coastal crown land

Mapping of Crown Lands -easily accessible?

Travelling stock routes

Plantation forests

Native Forests - logging thereon

Water Catchments - no extractive industry thereunder

Resource Extraction - no more fossil fuel licences

Define green space beyond urban boundaries

New ways of providing public housing, on CL, i.e. 99 year leases, if purchase is to be involved or lifetime leases only so land reverts to the Crown.

Crown land should NEVER be alienated from the public stock.

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Intergenerational equity is paramount in the management of Crown Lands which should be maintained and preserved in their natural state and retained for the original purpose for which they were declared.

The FIRST priority should be "Support & Restore environmental & cultural values"

In our local area, JAMBA and CAMBA Sepp 14 Wetlands, and the endangered eco communities, dedicated in 1926, were leased out for commercial purposes with no public consultation, for purposes of "safety infrastructure", which technology had already been superseded. Public consultation would have properly informed the Minister that the granting of such a lease, for the 99 year time frame, was a totally unnecessary alienation of land from public use.

Thorough community consultation should be mandatory before any development or leases of CL are given.

Our association has no faith that further public lands will not continue to be prostituted for commercial gain while decision making is non transparent and public comment denied.

*Renewable energy, i.e. wind farms, solar, should only be installed on lands currently cleared.

Believe that retention of native forests is absolutely essential and NO LOGGING should occur in remainder stands which may provide the ONLY enclaves for regeneration of native flora and fauna after the 2020 and bushfires yet to occur.

*

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select

Strongly agree

Agree

Neutral

Disagree

Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select

Very important

Important

Neutral

Of minor importance

Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

The first, and over-riding priority should be "Support & restore environmental and cultural values" of all CL. Intergenerational equity and climate change should be prime motivators. Recovery from the bush fires for flora and fauna will take decades. All native forest logging should be banned.

Lands must be managed for the benefit of all - plant, animal and human. Wilderness areas, should be maintained under the guidance of Aboriginal management.

It is an oxymoron to state as the first priority - "Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW" when the consensus of a majority of world scientists says that climate change, without massive changes to current thinking and practices, is inevitable.

Jobs growth should be achieved by commercial interests planning developments on FREEHOLD LAND so as to enable VISITATION, hiking, feral camping, rock climbing, bird watching, etc on Crown Land thus retaining sustainability of the CL and minimum infrastructure intrusion.

Surely, the last bushfires in NSW should impose upon all Government the absolute necessity of retaining in natural state, CL as reservoirs for recovery of flora and fauna.

The billions of \$ spent on urban infrastructure needs to be re-directed to retention and correct management of our unique biodiversity within CL for future generations.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select Strongly agree Agree Neutral Disagree Strongly disagree
--

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Priority 1/Outcomes/ Economic

Define regional & rural NSW. COASTAL should be differentiated from regional and rural. Economic drivers on coast vary greatly from inland. Coastal land should be retained in natural state, i.e. as is, with all commercial development on FREEHOLD land. Define "sustainable". Remove "Facilitate investment on CL". Fracking and extractive industry should be banned.

Priority 2/Outcomes /Green Space

Define green space. Good try but what about CL outside urban areas? Affordable housing should only be provided on CL as a last resort, and if constructed should be for lifetime lease only so land reverts to CL for generational renewal. Planning NSW needs to mandate a larger proportion of community housing in ALL developments.

Priority 3/Outcomes /Community

The best way to strengthen and support is to mandate PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Priority 4/Outcomes /Aboriginal

1. Restore rights to claim lands where rights may not have been extinguished-e.g. stock routes, coastal
2. Deal with the 38,000 land claims outstanding in NSW
3. Courts to decide eligibility of lands claimable, not bureaucrats

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

1. The best enabler is to ensure public consultation when leases are to be granted or renewed on CL.
2. Agree with simplifying licensing for domestic waterfront structures BUT inspection must be required to ensure compliance.
3. Do not agree with reducing red tape for govt entities managing CL as believe the checks and balances/liaison required between lands/enviro/ag ensure oversight/transparency and prevent malfeasance.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Much of the report is excellent. Congratulations. But Crown Lands are not a RESOURCE to be exploited. They are the a collection of CROWN JEWELS to be nurtured, cared for, and passed on to our descendants in as natural and pristine state as created.

The current, or any Government, must not chip away at the integrity of the collection for commercial reasons. Enough has been alienated from the public and Aboriginal domain.

Our members also have grave concerns :

1. that insufficient recognition is being given to climate change.
2. the absolute necessity to ban logging in our native forests to ensure retention of crucibles of flora & fauna. Logging native forests is a NON SUSTAINABLE activity
3. that extraction of fossil fuels is not excluded from CL on the basis of unsustainability
4. the strategy should connect community engagement and job opportunities in conservation and land management with restoring enviro values and climate resilience

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Members attempt to keep a watching brief on activities to do with public land in public ownership.

We have watched with dismay and disbelief the aggressive and unrepentant attack by government on the rights of citizens it claims to represent, to deal with Crown Lands without transparency and accountability.

The treatment of Aboriginal Land Claims has also been of deep concern for many years.

The recent report commissioned by government detailed allegations of attitudes of "colonialists" within NSW land agencies.

We endorse that finding, and trust renewal will occur not only in a new generation of land managers, but within the Crown Lands Department so future advice given to the Minister is fair and balanced.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

You cannot complete your submission until you indicate your confidentiality preference below.

Note: Submissions will be published on the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment website unless marked as confidential. All personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998.

Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au

Complete this form to give feedback on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land. When complete, please return it to us by midnight Thursday 20 August 2020, either by email to cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au or by post to PO Box 2155, DANGAR NSW 2309.

Making your submission public

We collect information about you, which may include personal information, to assess submissions in response to Crown land dealings and activities, and to perform other functions required to complete the project. This information must be supplied. If you choose not to provide the requested information, we may not be able to assess your submission.

To promote transparency and an open government, we intend to make all submissions publicly available on our website, or in reports. Your name or your organisation's name may appear in these reports with your feedback attributed.

If you would like your submission and/or feedback to be kept confidential, please let us know when making your submission. You will be asked for your confidentiality preference at the end of this form.

If you request your submission be kept confidential, it will not be published on our website or included in any relevant reports, however it will still be subject to the *Government Information Public Access Act 2009*.

Your submission will be stored securely consistent with the department's Records Management Policy and you have the right to request access to, and correction of, your personal information held by the department.

Further information is available in our [Privacy statement](#).

Important information about this form

The fields marked with an asterisk * are mandatory and must be completed in order to submit the form.

Activity

Name of Activity

State Strategic Plan for Crown Land

Our Reference:

SSP Crown Land

Please provide your details

1. First name *

Rex

2. Last name *

Weribone



4. Are you completing this survey as part of an organisation? *

If 'Yes' is selected, complete details in Q.5

Yes No Prefer not to say

5. Organisation

If you answered 'Yes' to Q.4

Toomelah Local Aboriginal Land Council

6. Postal/street address *



7. Suburb *

, Boggabilla

8. State *

NSW

9. Postcode *

2409

10. Email *

11. Which of the following options best indicates your current or past use or interest in Crown land in New South Wales? *

Please select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Crown land manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am a Showground society manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am involved with a community or volunteer group that uses or maintains Crown land facilities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am a member of a Commonwealth or state peak body with operations on Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a lease to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have a licence to use Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for my business
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am an Aboriginal Land claimant over areas of Crown land
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I am a Native title claimant over areas of Crown land
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land for recreation
<input type="checkbox"/>	I use Crown land when travelling away from home or visiting other places
<input type="checkbox"/>	I care about Crown land management as a resident of New South Wales
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

12. What use/s of Crown land do you value? *

Please select all that apply:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open or green space
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Community use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Aboriginal land rights
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Biodiversity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jobs and economic growth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Renewable energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

Strategic Plan priorities

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies four strategic priorities to guide Crown land management and inform the ways in which Crown land is used, and the activities, communities and environments it will support. These priorities are:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

More information on these priorities is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

13. These are the best priorities for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

14. Please rate each of the priorities from 'Very important' to 'Not important at all'.

Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW.

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and support evolving community connections

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these priorities, or are there any new priorities you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Not at this point in time.

Strategic Plan outcomes

The draft State Strategic Plan identifies 15 outcomes to focus our practical efforts and enable us to deliver on the priorities of the plan. These 15 outcomes are mapped to the four priorities in the table below:

Priorities			
Enable jobs growth, commercial opportunities and sustainable economic progress in regional and rural NSW	Expand green space, sustainable quality of life and climate change resilience	Strengthen and support evolving community connections	Work with Aboriginal communities to realise the potential of their land rights

Outcomes			
Support innovative and sustainable regional industries	Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas	Sustain the places where people come together	Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity
Expand regional tourism	Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing	Partner with the organisations that serve our communities	Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights
Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects	Support and restore environmental values on Crown land	Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go	Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits
Facilitate investment on Crown land	Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate		Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

More information on these outcomes is in [section 3.3 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

15. These are the best outcomes for Crown land over the next 10 years. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

16. Please rate each of the outcomes from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Support innovative and sustainable regional industries

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Expand regional tourism

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Assist new sustainable energy, resources and infrastructure projects

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Facilitate investment on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Prioritise the use of Crown land for green and open space in urban areas

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Use Crown land to expand access to affordable housing

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Support and restore environmental values on Crown land

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Manage Crown land to build resilience in a changing climate

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Sustain the places where people come together

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Partner with the organisations that serve our communities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Strengthen and uphold compliance to ensure a fair go

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Make Aboriginal land transfers a priority – and see them as an opportunity

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Contribute to the ongoing recognition of native title rights

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Explore co-management of land to generate mutual benefits

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Collaborate with Aboriginal groups in each place to improve outcomes

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these outcomes or would you like to suggest any other outcomes the department should address in the State Strategic Plan?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

Prefer to see if outcomes are deliverable in Strategic Plan?

Strategic Plan enabling initiatives

The draft plan identifies seven enabling initiatives to support delivery against the strategic priorities and objectives of the plan. These enablers are:

- Make more of our information available and transparent
- Standardise leases and licensing for common activities
- Simplify licencing for domestic waterfront structures
- Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land
- Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers
- Build understanding of native title
- Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

More information on these enablers is in [section 4 of the draft plan \(PDF\)](#).

Please provide your feedback

17. These are the best enablers to support delivery of the plan. *

Please select
Strongly agree
Agree
Neutral
Disagree
Strongly disagree

18. Please rate each of the enablers from 'Very important' to 'Not at all important'.

Make more of our information available and transparent

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Standardise leases and licensing for common activities

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Simplify licensing for domestic waterfront structures

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
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Reduce red tape for government entities managing Crown land

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Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Provide tools and resources to volunteer Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Build understanding of native title

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Engage and support a new generation of Crown land managers

Please select
Very important
Important
Neutral
Of minor importance
Not at all important

Do you believe that any changes should be made to these enabling initiatives, or are there any other enabling initiatives you would like to suggest?

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

New systemic changes are needed to eliminate outdated land management practices that are not effective enough when dealing with aboriginal land claims and/or access to identified crown lands in NSW.

Other feedback

19. Please provide any other comments about the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown land.

Please provide details (1,500 characters):

As it stands in many aboriginal communities there is have or no access to local crown lands to conduct traditional pracrices and caring for country such as cultural heritage site protection, hunting, fishing and gathering of bush medicines or traditional foods.

20. Where did you hear about the State Strategic Plan? *

Please select all that apply:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Print media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Radio
<input type="checkbox"/>	Google search
<input type="checkbox"/>	Crown Lands website
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ad in local paper
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Correspondence from the department
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Other

If you selected Other, please provide details (1,500 characters):

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Confidential	<i>I would like my submission including my name and any contact details to be treated as confidential and not published</i>
Semi-public	<i>I would like my submission to be published but want my name and contact details to be confidential and not published</i>
Public	<i>Please publish my submission including my name and contact details</i>

Privacy & confidentiality

Please indicate your confidentiality preference from the following options: *

<input type="radio"/>	Confidential
<input type="radio"/>	Semi-public
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Public

Thank you for your submission on the draft State Strategic Plan for Crown Land. All feedback is valued by the department.

If you have any questions, please contact us on 1300 886 235 or email cl.enquiries@crowmland.nsw.gov.au