

WCC breaks its new coastal plan to allow racehorse training



Map 6. Wild Coast Precinct.

Examples of key values	Key management issues
- Wild and scenic landscape - Minimal development - Supports extensive areas of relatively intact coastal vegetation - Passive and nature based recreational opportunities - Wildlife corridor and biological hotspot - Adjacent to the Lower Merri River Wetlands; listed on the Directory of Nationally Important Wetland - Diverse birdlife population, including threatened and endangered species - Places of Aboriginal cultural heritage value	- Conservation management of native flora and fauna - Pest plant and animal management - Unauthorised vehicle, motorbike and pedestrian access - Dune instability - Rubbish dumping and littering - Competing and conflicting uses - Unauthorised domestic and commercial animals access - Fire management - Existing licence agreements and work authorities - Threats to environmental values from outside the management area

Biosis Research Pty. Ltd. Warrnambool Coast Vegetation Management Plan, 2011.

Carol Altmann – The Terrier

Why are so many people determined to save Levy's Beach?

Well, this one page from the W'bool City Council's 2013 Coastal Management Plan says it all.

It is only five years old, this plan, but already the council has trashed it.

It took many months and no doubt a lot of money to prepare, but it is worthless because it has failed its first real test.

This page, page 20, sets out all that things we cared about and valued at Levy's, which is part of our wild coast precinct.

It also sets out the challenges and what we need to do to repair it and preserve it for the future.

Despite this, the council has agreed to allow up to 800 racehorses a week to train on the beach, including a large dune, and to come in and out on a track across the dunes (it is the only way they can get in). Dune instability is one of the issues listed in the plan.

Our council has let us down. Our trust in them to protect our wild coast has been betrayed.

But when you are betrayed in this way the only thing you can do is fight back, to restore what was supposed to happen in the first place. So on we go.

www.the-terrier.com.au

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