



ANNEXURE TWO

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT



State of the Environment Snapshot

A State of the Environment (SoE) Report is an important management tool which aims to provide the community and Local Council with information on the condition of the environment in the local area to assist in decision-making.

Since 2007, the Councils of the Greater Central West Region of NSW (see map) have joined to produce Regional SoE Reports as part of Council reporting requirements.

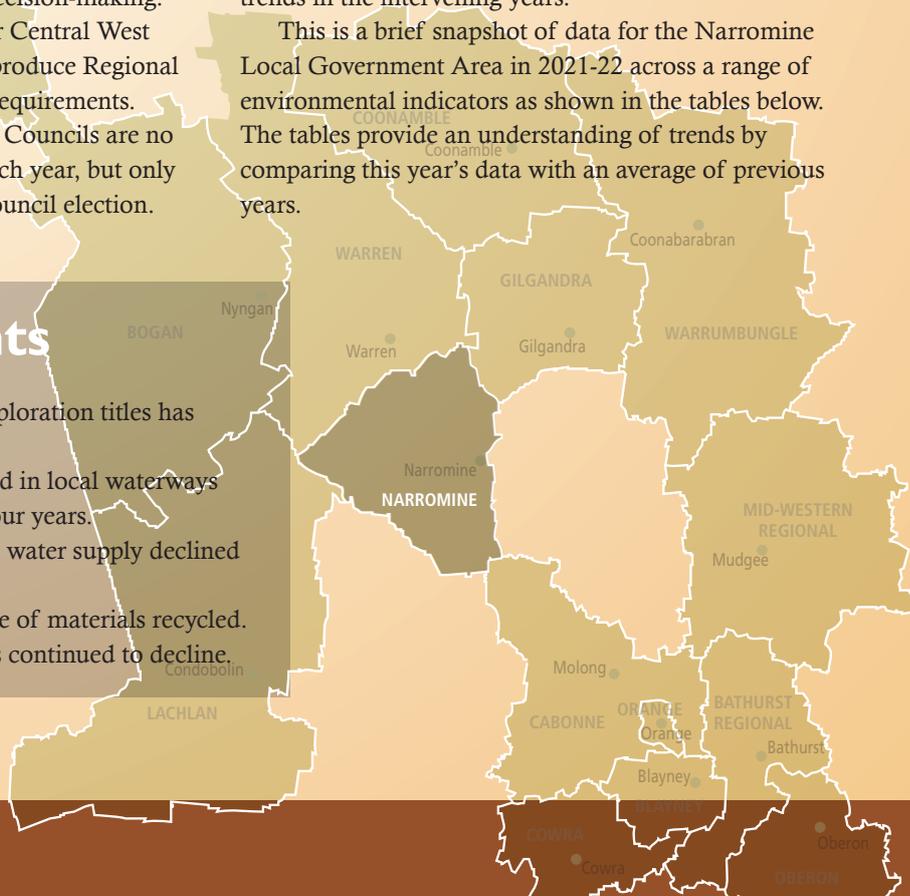
Changes to NSW legislation mean that Councils are no longer required to produce SoE Reports each year, but only once every four years, in the year of the Council election.

However, the participating Councils have decided to continue reporting on an annual basis so that they can provide a detailed Regional SoE report that covers trends in the intervening years.

This is a brief snapshot of data for the Narromine Local Government Area in 2021-22 across a range of environmental indicators as shown in the tables below. The tables provide an understanding of trends by comparing this year's data with an average of previous years.

2021-22 Highlights

-  The area covered by mining and exploration titles has steadily increased.
-  The number of native fish re-stocked in local waterways was at its highest level in the past four years.
-  The consumption from the metered water supply declined from last year.
-  There was an increase in the volume of materials recycled.
-  Council's greenhouse gas emissions continued to decline.



Land

Issue	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Trend
Contamination	Contaminated land sites - Contaminated Land Register (number)	0	0	0	0	0	
	Contaminated land sites - potentially contaminated sites (number)	49	74	74	49	79	
	Contaminated sites rehabilitated (number)	0	0	0	1	0	
Erosion	Erosion affected land rehabilitated (ha)			0		0	
Land use planning and management	Number of development consents and building approvals	73	82	62	61	83	
	Landuse conflict complaints (number)	1	3	2	0	2	
	Loss of primary agricultural land through rezoning (ha)				0	0	
Minerals & Petroleum	Number of mining and exploration titles			28	26	29	
	Area covered by mining and exploration titles (ha)	137,000	223,000	299,000	341,000	376,000	

 improvement  no or little change  worsening trend

Note - the trend is based on comparing the average of the four previous years of reporting with 2021-22

Biodiversity

Issue	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Trend
Habitat Loss	Total area in the National Parks Estate (ha)	4,401	4,401	4,401	4,401	4,384	↔
	Total area of State Forests (ha)	1,056	1,056	1,056	1,056	1,052	↔
	Total area protected in Wildlife Refuges (ha)			413	413	413	↔
	Area protected in conservation reserves & under voluntary conservation agreements (ha)	253	140	268	430	1,535	↑
	Extent of Traveling Stock Reserves in LGA (ha)		6,880	6,722	6,677	6,646	↓
	Proportion of Council reserves that is bushland/remnant vegetation				30%	30%	↔
	Habitat areas revegetated (ha)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Clearing complaints (number)	5	6	2	5	1	↑
	Roadside vegetation management plan (Yes/No)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	↔
	Roadside vegetation rehabilitated (ha)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
Threatened Species	Threatened species actions implemented (e.g. PAS, recovery plans) (number)			73	71	72	↔
	Threatened species actions implemented (e.g. PAS, recovery plans) (number)				0	0	↔
	Fish restocking activities: native species (number)	4,132	6,000	12,000	41,000	70,000	↑
Noxious weeds and feral animals	Fish restocking activities: non-native species (number)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Number of declared priority weeds	91	92	94	99	100	↓
	Invasive species (listed priority or WONS) under active management		11	11	11	12	↑

Water and Waterways

Issue	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Trend
Riparian	<i>E.coli</i> remote from wastewater treatment plants (per 100ml)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Riparian vegetation recovery actions (number)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Riparian vegetation recovery area (ha)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
Industrial/ Agricultural Pollution	Load Based Licencing Volume (kg)			0	8,307	8,307	↓
	Exceedances of license discharge consent recorded (number)	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Erosion & Sediment Control complaints received by Council (number)	0	0	6	1	0	↑
Stormwater Pollution	Number of gross pollutant traps installed	1	1	1	0	0	↓
	Total catchment area of GPTs (ha)				0	0	↔
	Water pollution complaints (number)	0	0	1	1	0	↑
Town Water Quality	Number of instances drinking water guidelines not met	0	0	0	0	0	↔
	Number of drinking water complaints	0	0	0	1	0	↑
Water extraction	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from surface water sources			120	119	122	↓
	Volume of surface water permissible for extraction under licences (GL)			175	172	170	↑
	Actual volume extracted through surface water licences (GL)				26	70	↓
	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from groundwater resources			1,029	1,063	1,068	↓
	Volume of groundwater permissible for extraction under licences (GL)			82	79	78	↑
	Actual volume extracted through groundwater licences (GL)			67	31	19	↑
Council water consumption	Area of irrigated Council managed parks, sportsgrounds, public open space (ha)	118	118	118	118	118	↔
	Water used by council for irrigation (including treated and untreated) (ML)	59	45	43	43	40	↑
Town water consumption	Annual metered supply (ML)	1,376	1,376	570	1,041	832	↑
	Annual consumption (Total from WTP) (ML)			570		685	↓
	Average annual household mains potable water usage (kL)		34	34	1338	273	↑
	Average level of water restrictions implemented	2	3	3	0	0	↑
	Water conservation programs (number)	1	1	1	0	1	↑

Towards Sustainability

Issue	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Trend
Waste Generation	Total waste entombed at primary landfill (tonnes)			1,192	1,774	1,877	↓
	Total waste entombed at other landfills (exc recyclables) (tonnes)		0	0	387	20	↑
	Average total waste generated per person (tonnes)			0.18	0.33	0.29	↓
	Average cost of waste service per residential household				\$427	\$600	↓
Hazardous/Liquid Waste	DrumMuster collections (number of drums)	22,321	0	15,728	7,661	17,373	↑
	Household Hazardous Wastes collected (kg)	2454	2,829	0	6,382	2,826	↓
Reduce	Organics collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)	1,413	577	590	0	856	↑
	E-Waste collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)		10	0	2	18	↑
Recycle	Volume of material recycled (tonnes)	575	328		44	4,760	↑
	Volume of material recycled per person (kg)	88	50		7	738	↑
Littering and illegal dumping	Number of illegal waste disposal complaints to Council	5	43	23	37	15	↑
Engineering, Infrastructure and Civil Works	New road construction (km)	0	0	1	0	0	↑
	Road upgrades (km)	682	500	426	59	489	↓
Risk Management	Flood management plans/ flood mapping - increase in area covered (ha)	0	0	0	0	1,367	↑
	Hazard reduction burns (number)	0	0	0	0	0	→
Climate Change Mitigation	Office paper used by Council (A4 & A3 reams)	945	933	682	656	860	↓
	Council sustainability initiatives (number)			0		2	↑
	Council mitigation initiatives (number)			0		1	↑
Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Annual electricity consumption for Council controlled facilities (MWh)	1,820	1,906	1,945	2,784	1,760	↑
	Annual natural gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (Gj)	0	0	0	0	0	→
	Annual bottled gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (L)	0	0	30	111	90	↓
	Total fuel consumption (KL)	294	289	290	666	370	↑
	Proportion of Council's electrical energy demand met from council-owned renewable energy infrastructure	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	→
	Council total operational greenhouse gas emissions* (tCO ₂ -e/year)	6,348	6,412	4,915	6,322	3,583	↑
Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Small scale renewable energy uptake (kW installed)	917	768	942	1,045	616	↓
	Number of solar water heaters and heat pumps installed	6	5	4	5	1	↓

People and Communities

Issue	Indicator	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Trend
Active community involvement	Environmental volunteers working on public open space (hours)	0	0	11	0	2	↓
	Number of environmental community engagement programs	1	1	2	3	3	↑
	Number of growers' markets/local food retailers specialising in local food	1	1	3	4	0	↓
Indigenous Heritage	Number of Indigenous sites on AHIMS register	293	363	373	422	429	↑
	Inclusion in DCPs & rural strategies (Yes/No)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	→
	Extent of liaison with Indigenous communities (self-assessed from 0 = none to 3 = High)	3.0	0.0	1.0	3.0	3.0	↑
	Development approvals on listed Indigenous sites (number)				0	0	→
	Number of indigenous heritage management actions/responses				0	0	→
Non-Indigenous Heritage	NSW Heritage Items (number)	0	0	0	0	0	→
	Locally listed heritage items (number)	11	11	11	31	25	↑
	Actions to protect non-Indigenous heritage (including management plans) (number)	1	1	1	0	0	↓
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists demolished/degraded in past year (number)	0	0	0	0	0	→
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists renovated/improved in past year (number)	0	0	0	0	1	→

CASE STUDY – Narromine High Park River Reserve Project

The Narromine High Park River Reserve is located on the Macquarie River approximately 3 kilometres east of Narromine. This 3.05-hectare Reserve is owned and managed as a natural area by Narromine Shire Council and provides the public with access to the river.

The Reserve is open eucalypt forest with tall to very tall River Red Gums with a dense to patchy herbaceous groundcover interspersed with bare ground and scattered shrubs. Typical high ground is closer to River Drive and slopes towards the river including the lower floodplain. Soils are sandy, well drained and vegetated. The Reserve provides a habitat for kangaroo, wallaby, avifauna and various ground species.

Over a number of years vehicles have been driven down and up the steep riverbank and on to the sandy area of the riverside, causing erosion and degradation. At times rubbish has also been dumped at the site.

Council has received grant funding to target illegal dumping within the Shire, with this Reserve being one of the target sites. Rubbish has been removed from the site, surveillance cameras installed to combat illegal dumping, and illegal dumping signage installed at the Reserve entrance. Bollards have also been installed to prevent vehicular access down the riverbank.

Competition from weed species is a constant threat requiring regular monitoring for not only the health of the Reserve but also in reducing the spread of weeds onto neighbouring farms and wider afield.

Council has received grant funding to control weeds and re-establish native species along the riparian areas of the Macquarie River, providing a critical food source for native fish, and assisting in maintaining bank stability. Council will continue to control invasive species on the Reserve. Volunteers, and other stakeholders, will be then invited to assist with planting endemic species saplings in the autumn season.



Caption



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