

10.2. Report from Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee - Native Grasslands Implementation Project

C267/08/25

Moved Cr Sue Miller seconded Cr Milli Livingston

That Council:

- 1. Receive and note the contents of the report titled Report from Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee - Native Grasslands Implementation Project.**
- 2. Approve the Letter of Support as provided at Attachment 1 contained in this meeting agenda, to be sent from the Mayor to the Native Vegetation Council in support of the Heritage Agreement submission.**
- 3. As part of the Heritage Agreement submission, endorse the extension of the Native Grasslands Implementation Management Plan from 2 years to 5 years.**
- 4. Endorse a minimum 21 day public consultation (in accordance with relevant Council policies) to officially name the Grassland Restoration Site as a zone within the established Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve, including inviting name suggestions from the community, and include as initial suggestions for public comment the following potential names:**
 - Ratalang Native Grassland Reserve**
 - Pleasant Banks Native Grassland Reserve**

CARRIED

10.2. Report from Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee - Native Grasslands Implementation Project

Decision Report

Responsible Officer: Alan Harvey (General Manager Infrastructure)

Report Author: Ross Whitfield (Manager Field Services)

Previous Decisions: November 22 - ACM221741, September 23 - C23327 & C23328, March 24 - C24160 & C24161, May 24 - C24274

Report Purpose

The purpose of this report is to receive recommendations from the Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee (Committee) for agenda item 4.6 Native Grassland Implementation Project - Progress Update from its meeting held on 31 July 2025, and to consider further information and recommendations from Administration.

The public agenda and minutes from this Committee meeting can be located on Council's website at [Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee](#).

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Receive and note the contents of the report titled Report from Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee - Native Grasslands Implementation Project.
2. Approve the Letter of Support in Attachment 1, to be sent from the Mayor to the Native Vegetation Council in support of the Heritage Agreement submission.
3. As part of the Heritage Agreement submission, endorse the extension of the Native Grasslands Implementation Management Plan from 2 years to 5 years.
4. Endorse an official name for the Grassland Restoration Site as 'Ratalang Native Grassland', as a zone within the established Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve.

Background

At its meeting held 31 July 2025, the Committee resolved the following:

4.6 Native Grasslands Implementation Project – Progress Update

Recommendation Group A

RBB202538

Moved Kallan Dennis

Seconded Paul Minards

That the Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee receives and notes the contents of this report titled Native Grasslands Implementation Project – Progress Update.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recommendation Group B

RBB202539

Moved Paul Minards

Seconded Kallan Dennis

That the Ratalang Basham Beach and Horseshoe Bay Advisory Committee recommends that Council:

- 1. Approve a Letter of Support to be sent from the Mayor to the Native Vegetation Council in support of the Heritage Agreement Incentive Grant application.**
- 2. Extends the Native Grasslands Implementation Management Plan from 2 years to 5 years.**
- 3. Endorse an official name for the Grassland Restoration Site as Ratalang Native Grassland, as a zone within the established Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion

Following recommendation from the Committee meeting held on 10 August 2023 and subsequent resolution of Council (18 September 2023 C23327 & C23328) supporting the proposal to restore native grasslands within the reserve, along with supporting an application for Heritage Agreement to be submitted for the Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve, Administration engaged the services of Seeding Natives Inc. and also submitted an application for a Heritage Agreement to the Department of Environment and Water - Native Vegetation Branch.

The Native Vegetation Assessment Panel are currently working through the assessment of the Heritage Agreement submission and have requested a Letter of Support from Council on behalf of the Committee. In addition, they have also sought an extension to the Native Grassland Management Plan to be extended from 2 years to 5 years. This is to ensure that this project within the proposed Heritage Agreement area is well managed and maintained. Noting that beyond the support being provided by Seeding Natives as part of the Native Grassland Implementation Project, Council will be responsible for the locations ongoing management and maintenance. This will be part of Council's business as usual operations and supported by the Foreshore Trust Fund.

In addition, the Committee gave consideration to an appropriate name for the native grassland restoration site and their recommendation of "Ratalang Native Grassland" is now presented to Council for consideration.

Financial Implications

In accordance with the Alexandrina Council's Adopted Budget / Long Term Financial Plan, the financial implications of adopting this recommendation are considered low as there is no financial implication relating to these recommendations, additionally noting that a budget has already been approved for the Native Grasslands Implementation Project.

Risk Implications

In accordance with Alexandrina Council's Risk Assessment Matrix, the risk of adopting this recommendation is considered low as the Native Grasslands project and application for a Heritage Agreement for Ratalang Basham Beach Conservation Reserve has already been approved by the Council at its meeting on 18 September 2023 (C23327 & C23328).

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Draft Letter of Support