

# Maclean Flying-fox Management Strategy 2018

## Reducing flying-fox conflicts at Maclean

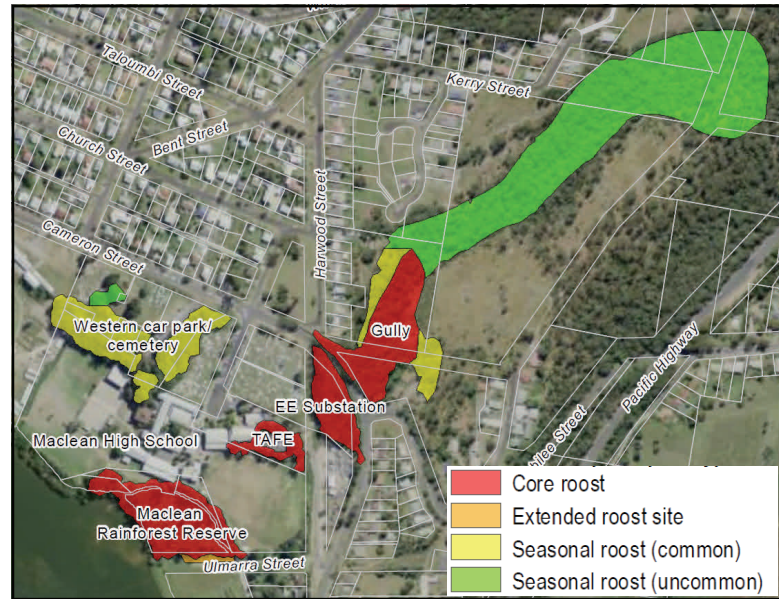


### What is the *Maclean Flying-fox Management Strategy 2018*?

The *Maclean Flying-fox Management Strategy 2018* was prepared with the aim of reducing conflicts between humans and flying-foxes at Maclean. It provides an update to the original strategy prepared in 2010. The objectives of the updated strategy include:

- Addressing the concerns of the community, particularly local residents adjacent to the camp and the Maclean High School community; whilst
- Conserving and co-existing with the flying-fox population within the Maclean Region.

The strategy provides a platform to obtain grant funding for on-ground works and the licences under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) *Flying-fox Camp Management Policy 2015* has been used to guide management action selection.



### Management Actions

Proposed management actions focus on:

- Increasing and maintaining separation between humans and the flying-fox camp.
- Making the lives of those who work and live adjacent to the flying-fox camp more comfortable.
- Improving and creating flying-fox roosting habitat in low conflict areas away from residences and Maclean High School buildings.

The OEH *Flying-fox Camp Management Policy 2015* requires a hierarchy (Level 1 to Level 3) of management options based on a principle of using the lowest form of intervention required. Proposed management actions focus on Level 1 and Level 2 actions.

### Why isn't dispersal proposed?

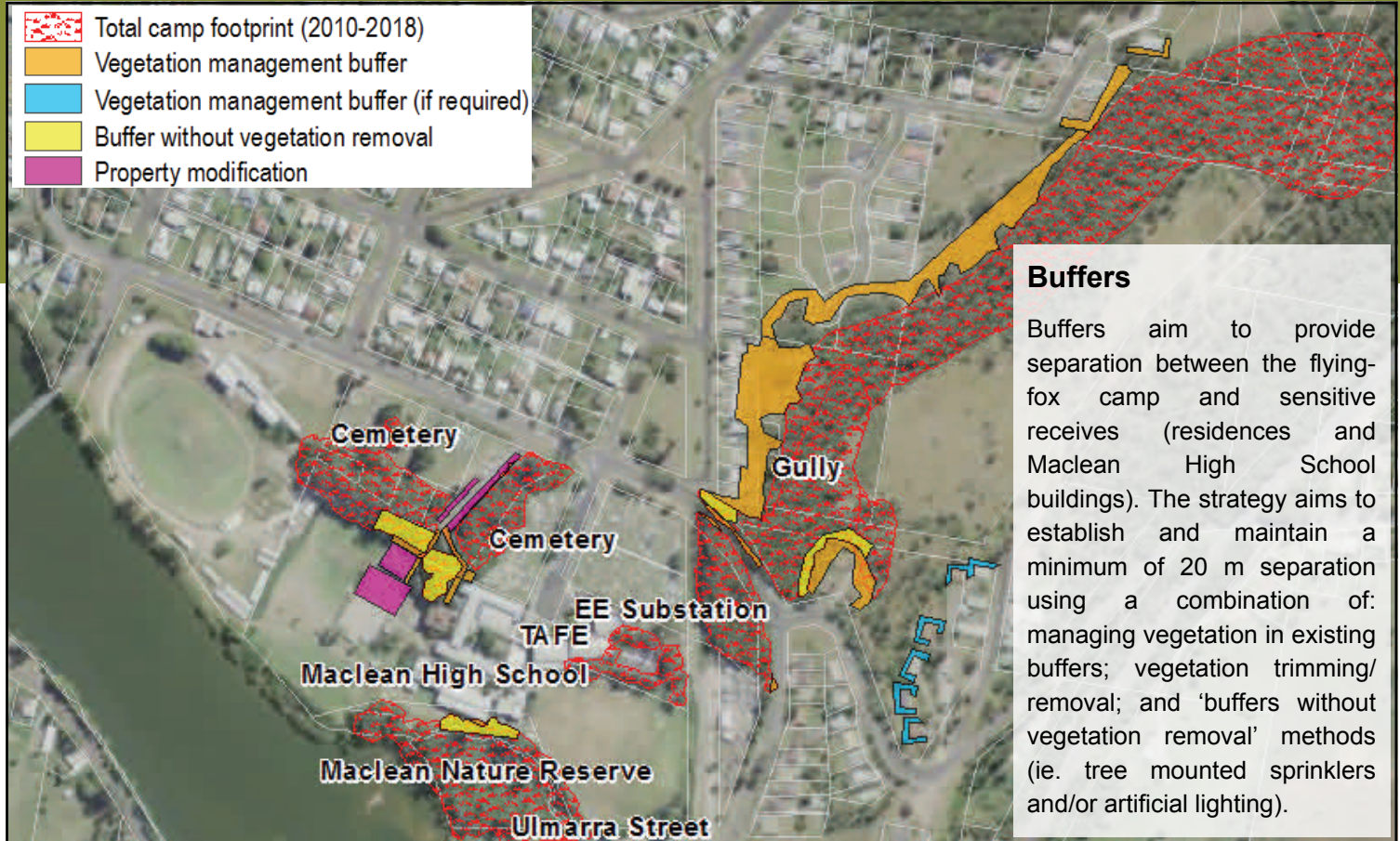
Dispersal and other 'Level 3' management actions are not proposed at this stage due to the high risk of impacting other stakeholders. Dispersal attempts elsewhere show they are generally costly and ineffective (either the flying-foxes returned or relocate to another area of conflict). Review and consideration of the Level 3 action of 'Nudging' is proposed after 5 years of implementing the updated strategy.



Existing vegetation management 'buffers' at Maclean High School and residential houses that will need to be maintained.

# Proposed Management Actions

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### Property modification

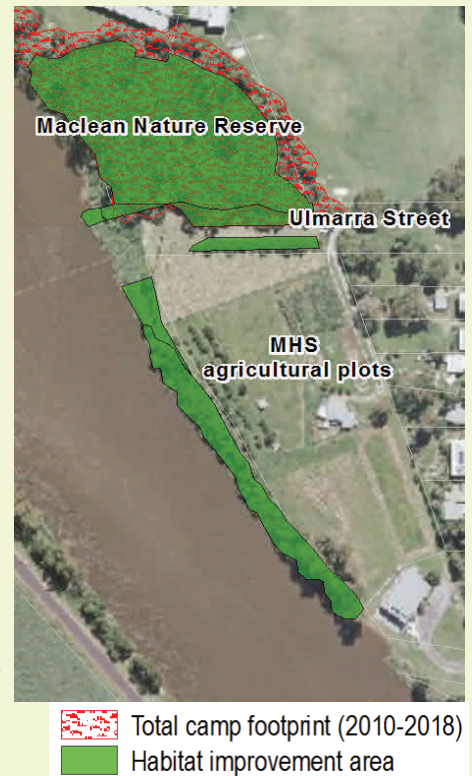
This action aims to reduce impacts on residents adjacent to the core camp area and Maclean High School through property modifications. Proposed actions at Maclean High School include covering the basketball court; covering the carpark and walkways; and air conditioning/double glazed windows at the gymnasium. Potential residential modifications include air conditioning; construction of carports and other covered outdoor areas; purchase of clothes dryers; installation of acoustic batts; and laminated or double glazed windows. Council's role includes supporting Development Applications; assisting with sourcing funding; and education/information programs.

### Other proposed Management Actions

- Council to appoint a Flying-fox Officer.
- Education and awareness programs.
- Voluntary buy back of houses.
- Develop a Clarence Valley Council LGA Flying-fox Management Plan.
- Footpath access management at the gully.
- Protocols to manage incidents.
- Service subsidies for property cleaning equipment.
- Research and monitoring.
- Ecotourism.

### Bush regeneration and alternative habitat creation

This action aims to improve, extent and create flying-fox roosting habitat in low conflict areas, including: Maclean Nature Reserve; Ulmarra Street road reserve; crown land west of the Maclean High School agricultural plot. Habitat creation outside the township of Maclean is also proposed.



For further information view the full version of the *Maclean Flying-fox Management Strategy 2018* on the Clarence Valley Council website: [www.clarence.nsw.gov.au](http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au).