



# **AGENDA**

## **East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting**

**I hereby give notice that an East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting will be held on:**

**Date: Thursday, 27 May 2021**

**Time: 4:30pm**

**Location: City of Darwin Civic Centre  
Meeting Room 1**

**17 Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin**

**Scott Waters  
Chief Executive Officer**



**AGENDA  
EAST POINT RESERVE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Thursday 27 May 2021  
4.30pm**

**MEMBERS**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Birdlife NT	Lou Martini
City of Darwin	Alderman Mick Palmer (Chair)
Community Representative	Lorraine Corowa
Community Representative	Serena Ragosta
Crown Lands, NTG	Kelly Benham
Darwin Military Museum	Norman Cramp
Darwin Triathlon Club	Gary Wall
Fannie Bay Equestrian Club	Inge Gardiner
Friends of East Point	Helen Haritos (Deputy Chair)
Larrakia Nation	Ben Smith
MAGNT	Marcus Schutenko
Mindil Beach Life savers NT	Teresa Hall
NT Heritage Branch	Michael Wells
Pee Wees Restaurant	Simon Mathews
Researcher	John Rawsthorne
Researcher	Patricia Blackwell
Top End Native Plants	Lon Wallis
Weeds Branch, NTG	Chris Collins

**CITY OF DARWIN OFFICERS**

Emma Young	Executive Manager Environment Climate and Waste Services
Jade Leask	Senior Climate Change & Environmental Officer
Jamie Lewis	Senior Coordinator Parks & Reserves
Janine Honner	Senior Administration Officer (Secretariat)

**GUESTS/ OBSERVERS**

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## 1. MEETING DECLARED OPEN

## 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

*We the members of the East Point Reserve Advisory Committee acknowledge that we are meeting on Larrakia Country. We recognise and pay our respects to all Larrakia people, Traditional Owners and Custodian Elders of the past and present.*

*We support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future.*

*We are committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.*

## 3. APOLOGIES

## 4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

## 5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting minutes - 3 March 2021  
(Attachment A)

## 6. BUSINESS ARAISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Action	Responsible Persons	Raised	Outcome	Date closed
Ensure vehicle gate past Pee Wees is in the security patrol lock up.	Jade Leask	3 March 2021	Complete – CoD Property Officer confirmed it is part of the contract to lock this gate. Any instances noted by stakeholders of it not locked to be reported to CoD.	
Meet with Equestrian club and Military museum regarding weed management	Jamie Lewis	3 March 2021	Complete - Corrections Services will be engaged in the dry season to assist with weed management focussing on Coffee bush.	
East Point Biodiversity Plan Action Update	Jade Leask	3 March 2021	Complete - Attachment B (General Business)	
Biodiversity Survey	Jade Leask	3 March 2021	In Progress - Revegetation health survey and Cane Toad management plan EOI's being assessed	

Revegetation Plan	Committee	3 March 2021	Ongoing – waiting on Vegetation health survey outcomes.	
Crown Land acquisition	Jade Leask	3 March 2021	Ongoing	
Strategic Plan	Committee	3 March 2021	Ongoing – Committee to discuss and action if deemed appropriate.	

Other items raised at last meeting:

- Fire management plans – reducing fuel loads and other prevention measures;
- Education and promotion - Community engagement, promote community groups assistance, enhance usage, and improve recreational activities;
- Possible management of sewage outfall issues (PWC);
- Security and prevention of anti-social behaviour.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

Committee Correspondence received (Attachment C)

## **8. GENERAL BUSINESS**

East Point Reserve Biodiversity Management Plan update (Attachment B)

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be set after the general council election being held on August 28, 2021. Meeting dates of committees will be confirmed at the first Council meeting of the new Council.

## **10. CLOSURE OF MEETING**



# **MINUTES**

**East Point Reserve Advisory  
Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, 3 March 2021**



**MINUTES  
EAST POINT RESERVE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday 3 March 2021  
4.00pm**

**ATTENDEES**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Representative</b>
Birdlife NT	Lou Martini
City of Darwin	Alderman Mick Palmer - Chairperson
Community Representative	Serena Ragosta
Darwin Military Museum	Norman Cramp
Darwin Triathlon Club	Gary Wall
Fannie Bay Equestrian Club	Inge Gardiner
Friends of East Point	Helen Haritos
Larrakia Nation	Ben Smith
Mindil Beach Life savers NT	Teresa Hall
NTG - Crown Lands	Kelly Benham
NTG - Weeds Branch	Chris Collins
Pee Wees Restaurant	Simon Mathews
Researcher	John Rawsthorne
Researcher	Patricia Blackwell
Top End Native Plants	Lon Wallis

**CITY OF DARWIN OFFICERS**

Jade Leask	Senior Climate Change & Environmental Officer
Jamie Lewis	Senior Coordinator Parks & Reserves
Vanessa Green	Executive Manager Governance Strategy & Performance
Janine Honner	Senior Administration Officer (Secretariat)

**GUESTS/ OBSERVERS**

Kimberley Henderson	Administration Officer
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**1. WELCOME**

Alderman Mick Palmer welcomed the attendees and thanked them for their interest in supporting the East Point Reserve Advisory Committee (EPRAC).

**2. APOLOGIES**

Marcus Schutenko	MAGNT
Michael Wells	NTG – Heritage Branch
Lorraine Corowa	Community Representative

### **3. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

East Point Reserve Advisory Committee acknowledges that we are meeting, living and working on Larrakia Country. We acknowledge the Larrakia people as the Traditional Owners of the Darwin region. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders with us today and we pay our respects to Larrakia elders past and present and support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future.

We are committed to working with Larrakia and all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to create a city that is sustainable and inclusive for everyone.

### **4. INTRODUCTIONS**

All members introduced themselves to the committee.

### **5. INDUCTION AND MEETING PROTOCOLS**

Vanessa Green presented an overview of the Local Government Act in relation to Advisory Committee policy and procedure.

### **6. MEMBERSHIP**

#### **6.1 Deputy Chair nominations**

Helen Haritos was elected as Deputy Chair.

#### **6.2 Terms of Reference acceptance**

The committee agreed to adopt the Terms of Reference and refer any proposed changes to the next meeting.

#### **6.3 Meeting Schedule**

The committee agreed to have quarterly meetings with the next meeting scheduled for Thursday 27 May 2021.

### **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **7.1 East Point Biodiversity Plan overview**

Jade Leask provided an overview of the East Point Biodiversity Plan (EPBP).

Discussion regarding management practices to implement to support the EPBP were:

## **ATTACHMENT A**

- Inclusion of a fire management plan that includes the use of fire for suppression of fuel load
- Education and promotion of the area to engage the community and enhance usage, including sport and recreational activities
- Consideration of the functionality so that public use supports the biodiversity plan and strengthens community involvement
- Review the security of the area and installation of surveillance infrastructure to prevent antisocial behaviour and vandalism
- Inclusion of more rigorous cane toad management practices
- Management and/or removal of the PowerWater sewerage outflow

### **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Jamie Lewis to advise information on the gate closure times.
- Jade Leask advised there is funding for a biological survey this year. The committee to determine the specifics of the survey.
- Jamie Lewis to meet onsite with representatives from the Equestrian Club and Military Museum to discuss weed management. Emphasis on coffee bush
- Committee to receive an update on all actions from the plan

### **9. FUTURE ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

The Revegetation Plan is due for renewal. This committee can contribute to planning the locations and species for next five year revegetation planting.

Feasibility plan to acquire vacant crown land along the northern side of the Reserve to be undertaken

### **10. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 27 May 2021 at 4.30pm

Meeting closed at 5.40pm

## ATTACHMENT B

### East Point Reserve Biodiversity Management Plan 2019-2024 Action Review

Action	May 2021 update	Status
<b>Native Fauna</b>		
<b>Fauna monitoring</b>		
Fauna survey, using established methodology	Fauna surveys holds negligible value sooner than every 3 years next survey scheduled for 2022.	On Track
<b>Agile wallabies</b>		
Continue surveys. Review data for significant changes in population numbers.	Wallaby surveys will be reduced to annually to ensure population health as current population stable at approximately 200 wallabies.	On Track
Record evidence of overgrazing of grassed area.	Ongoing sufficient grassland areas have been maintained. Ongoing management action by staff undertaking on ground works.	On Track
Continue operation of wallaby troughs unless population is unsustainable.	Regular water trough maintenance undertaken. Animal interference by pythons displacing floats causing overflows is the most common maintenance issue.	On Track
<b>Shorebirds</b>		
Continue the current zoning of East Point to ensure that dogs are not allowed in the Reserve.	Ongoing monitoring of both wild and domestic dog access to the reserve. Periodic education by CoD rangers occurs onsite to remind reserve users of the by-laws around domestic dogs' onsite.	On Track
Support local conservation groups	Covid 19 saw reduction in community activities undertaken at the reserve in 2020. March 2021 Native plant identification workshops completed, Bat Night undertaken 18 May and tree planting days are being planned for June school holidays. Support Friends of East point is ongoing assistance to other groups occurs as requested and viable within management and budget constraints.	On Track
Install educational signage	New signs along the mangrove boardwalk are being installed outlining indigenous use of the area and importance of mangroves ecologically. Due June 2021. Review of other signage ongoing.	On Track
Install a bird viewing platform	Feasibility and budget of a viewing platform yet to be determined.	Not Yet Implemented
<b>Atlas Moth</b>		
Conduct a habitat suitability assessment to determine if revegetation is of appropriate age, height and density to support an Atlas Moth population.	Atlas moth experts approved current vegetation condition, however they encourage continued planting of priority atlas moth plant species.	Complete

Liaise with Atlas Moth expert to procure 20 captive-raised gravid females suitable for release to the Reserve	Atlas moth experts have been engaged. Due to poor wet season conditions and viability of capture and raising of the moth has been limited. Project ongoing but dependant on weather conditions for successful introduction. Breeding commenced January 2021 after favourable wet season conditions allowing for adult moth capture. Staged release started March 2021 with 18 cocoons being placed within remnant rainforest area as at 15 April 2021.	On Track
Monitor success of Atlas Moth reintroduction	Dictated by reintroduction and project implementation.	On Track
<b>Arboreal fauna</b>		
Source supply of suitable habitat and food species for arboreal mammals	Ongoing as part of revegetation plan updates. Investigation of habitat suitability of breezeway area ongoing. Current issues fire and weed management.	On Track
Revegetate the 'breezeway' with species that have been identified as suitable for arboreal mammals	Ongoing in conjunction with Friends of East Point. Will be considered in new revegetation plan.	On Track
<b>Revegetation</b>		
<b>Monsoon forest</b>		
Continue planned monsoon thicket restoration, using the existing species list	Current Revegetation Plan has been completed. A new plan identifying priority areas for revegetation needs to be developed.	On Track
Maintain sheltered grassland habitat in close association with monsoon forest	Identified areas have remained grassland specifically for wallaby foraging and other grassland species.	On Track
<b>Woodland</b>		On Track
Revegetate the 'breezeway' with plant species that provide habitat and food resources suitable for a range of arboreal mammals such as the Black-footed Tree-rat	This revegetation area has been maintained by the Friends of East Point community group with support from council. The updated revegetation plan will consider replanting of woodland species.	On Track
<b>Monitoring</b>		On Track
Revegetation health and condition survey	Revegetation Survey scheduled for mid 2021. EOI has been awarded survey to start early June.	On Track
<b>Weed management</b>		
<b>Restrict new and spread of existing weeds</b>		
Comply with the City of Darwin Weed Management Guide (City of Darwin, 2012) recommendations	Ongoing, significant wet season has seen more weed growth than previous years weeding is ongoing. Weed survey will be conducted as part of revegetation monitoring survey mid 2021.	On Track
Inspection of leased properties to ensure lessees are meeting their lease and WM Act obligations	Implemented as part of the stakeholder holder engagement. Senior Coordinator Parks liaising with stakeholders and engaging Correctional Services to assist.	On Track
Weed control as per established methods in line with the 'N.T. Weed Management Handbook'	Ongoing management action.	On Track

Maintain records of weed control	Ongoing spray and hand pulling diaries completed regularly	On Track
<b>Pest animals</b>		
<b>Cane Toads</b>		
Continue to provide water to Wallabies from raised troughs maintained in good condition	Ongoing	On Track
Survey condition of existing toad exclusion fence	Resource priorities have delayed cane toad management activities. Cane toad Management Plan to be developed in 2021. EOI Proposals received and currently being assessed by Cod staff.	Ongoing
Trial UV light/acoustic toad traps		
Install toad trap at each wallaby and horse troughs		
Repair /maintenance of toad exclusion fence		
Support community organisation Toad control activities	Ongoing limited community interest in the last 2 years.	On Track
<b>Cats, dogs and dingoes</b>		On Track
Monitor reports of dog and dingo activity, respond with contractor pest control as required	Ongoing as required in conjunction with the Animal Management team. Concerns of wild dogs stalking horses has seen the targeted capture of several dogs undertaken late 2020.	On Track
<b>Water management</b>		
<b>Lake Alexander surrounds</b>		
Maintain current irrigation practices	Ongoing. New sand being placed around lake and resurfacing to reduce erosion from rain and irrigation.	On Track
Irrigation of revegetation for the first dry season only	Ongoing as required.	On Track
Water testing of Lake	Ongoing in line with public health considerations. Any spikes in bacteria Lake is closed.	On Track
<b>Access management</b>		
Change closing time of the Reserve to 9.30pm	Completed early 2020. Anecdotal evidence this has helped anti-social behaviour in northern area.	Complete
Install access control to the East Point green waste recycling facility	Swing vehicle gate with appropriate lock has been installed.	Complete
Formalise site access plan	Complete. Track and path resurfacing undertaken by the green army team 2020.	Complete
Monitor condition of unsealed access tracks	Ongoing. Bituminisation of high erosion areas as identified.	On Track
<b>Stakeholder management</b>		
Liaise with leased properties on biodiversity issues, particularly weeds.	Ongoing the establishment of East Point Advisory Committee will aid relationship building.	On Track
Hold stakeholder group meetings, at the start of the wet and dry seasons	East Point Advisory Committee has been established early 2021.	On Track

Continue to support a diversity of research projects	Requests for research approved as received. Current research includes Fiddler crab behavioural ecology and Tropical Forest bird biology and diversity in an urban context.	On Track
Initiate and promote research on key management issues	As required and feasible within budget and resource considerations. Clear identification of research priorities to be established.	On Track
Include research organisations in stakeholder meetings	Research organisations were invited to join the EPARC with 2 researchers on the committee further liaison is required.	On Track
Conduct feasibility assessment for acquisition of the eastern portion of Lot 5984	Initial investigations of land acquisition requirements commenced however not progressed.	Not Yet Implemented

## CORRESPONDENCE

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**Author:** John Rawsthorne, Researcher, East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Member

**Date:** 04/03/2021

**Subject:** Bird data, Bird watching Platform and shorebirds

**Correspondence:**

Hi Jade

A couple of things occur to me, reflecting on the meeting:

1. One of the most popular birdwatching spots in the reserve is around near the western rock shelf. Bush birds there often use the bubbler to get a drink, but recently this has been dry more often than not. I think that an elevated water point (by this I mean a small trough perhaps 3-6 feet above ground, above wallaby height) would be a good amenity for this area.
  2. I see the biodiversity management plan includes a birdwatching platform. There is a reasonable site for such a thing near the western rock platform, which would be quite useful for shorebird observation at high tides. Happy to discuss options with you.
  3. One of the key issues for shorebirds is high tide disturbance, and at East Point there is a particular issue with disturbance by fishermen in one small area on the rock platform (the last rocks that inundate as the tide rises, on the southern edge of the western rock platform). If fishing could be excluded within 100m of this particular platform, it would greatly reduce disturbance to roosting shorebirds. Alternatively, if a sign pointing out that disturbance is an issue could be put in place, this may go some way to reducing the problems.
  4. Not sure if council is aware, but there were three inland bird species which were recorded at East Point reserve for the first time (I think) during 2019 or 2020.
  5. I can provide whatever relevant data I have from my research, for the purpose of your biodiversity surveys.
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**Author:** Gary Wall, Darwin Triathlon Club, East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Member

**Date:** 09/03/2021

**Subject:** Lake Alexander Enhancement and East Point strategic Plan

**Correspondence:**

Morning Jade

A copy of an email I sent 18 months ago below. Some suggestions for future

Never got a response or acknowledgement of receipt

Be great to have a 10 year strategic/master plan for the area

The DTC wishes to be a part of the community and work with DCC and all the other groups at East Point.

Swimming, cycling and running are non-intrusive activities

The area has GREAT potential.

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**Resent from: 25/10/2019**

Hi Darwin City Council

Lake Alexander and East point reserve is a credit to City Of Darwin Council staff. It is a great facility for all types of water sports which includes the Surf life Saving fraternity, Sailing Australia as well as the Darwin Triathlon Club.

The surrounding landscaping is well maintained. There is potential the make this area on par with the Nightcliff foreshore and the Water Front for an public area that allows Darwin residents maintain a healthy lifestyle.

May I make the following suggestions to be investigated and added to the short and long term strategic plan of the area.

1 Enlarge the lake. This could be investigated to make another channel on the eastern side. This would be a circular loop for swimmers as well as board and canoe paddlers.

(Marked in white)

2 Create a DUAL running path around the lake. I would envisage this would be a good 1200m track with distance markers on the ground.

(Marked in black)

3 Darwin Runners Club also has a number of Wednesday night runs at Lake Alexander. Their annual road championships as well as the ABC half marathon is run from the carpark.

I suggest a tunnel under the road near the children's playground and bridge.

This will keep Runners, Walkers and children crossing the main road safe, where even though there is a crossing there, many drivers don't pay attention

4 The running track to east point , past the rock sitters and back to the car park via the areoclub is well maintained and heavily used on the weekend. There is a 200m section just near Pee Wees and the old bbq shelter. This would be an great alternative run/walk if this was bitumised.

The cliff also has great view for the tourists of the city. All just thoughts from a community that uses the facility extensively.



**Author:** Lorraine Corowa, Community Representative, East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Member

**Date:** 16/03/2021

**Subject:** Issues regarding East Point

**Correspondence:**

Hi Jade

Thanks again for the debrief last week following the East Point Reserve Advisory Committee meeting.

Once again I'm very sorry that I was not able to attend due to short notice.

I'm looking forward to the next meeting on 27 May and making a solid contribution to the Committee.

As discussed an update or briefing on the following issues would be useful from my perspective as these are the key issues that people raise with me.

1. Measures that can be undertaken by the City of Darwin to deal with anti-social itinerant behaviour at East Point Reserve.  
I acknowledge that this is a challenging space, however it is a key issue for many users of the reserve.

The issue is particularly important in relation to the area around Lake Alexander and onto the beach near the BBQ tables, playgrounds, pop up vendors and toilet facilities.

2. An update on any current commercial proposals the City of Darwin has received for East Point Reserve.
  3. What actions have been undertaken by the City of Darwin to scope the development of a new "Nightcliff Café" style development at East Point Reserve.
  4. In the interest of inclusion I would like to understand if there are any plans for installing new and more seating along the foreshore for seniors and those recovering from illness – enabling them to comfortably walk between seats in certain key spots.
  5. It would be good to get an update on the Casuarina trees near Rock sitters and the plans to reinforce the cliff face in that area to avoid further loss of the trees and damage to footpath.
-