

Draft Gold Coast Nature Based Recreation Plan 2015-2025

Our 850 conservation reserves have to be one of the city's best kept secrets. This is set to change with the development of the Draft Nature Based Recreation Plan which will promote and expand the outstanding nature based recreation opportunities available in our natural areas.

The Draft Nature Based Recreation Plan is a framework for managing sustainable recreation in the city's natural areas. The Plan has been designed to balance the growing demand for such recreation with the need to preserve the environment on which it is dependent.

Nature based recreation is defined as outdoor recreation activities that:

- are dependent on the natural environment;
- have an appreciation of nature as a key motivational factor;
- do not require substantial modification to the natural environment, and
- are environmentally sustainable, as determined by an ongoing environmental monitoring program.

It includes bushwalking, mountain biking, horse riding, trail running, picnicking, canoeing/kayaking, ecotourism, camping and more.

Photo by Fotomedica



Plan outcomes and objectives

1 Diverse nature based recreation opportunities are available and accessible.

- 1.1 Provide a diversity of nature based recreation opportunities appropriate to the natural environment.
- 1.2 Provide nature based recreation opportunities appropriate to the level of demand, and at locations convenient to the city's population centres.
- 1.3 Ensure the city's natural areas are as safe and accessible as possible to people of varying ages, cultures and abilities.
- 1.4 Collaborate with external groups and providers to maximise sustainable nature based recreation opportunities in the natural areas estate.

2 Community wellbeing is enhanced by sustainable nature based recreation.

- 2.1 Actively promote existing nature based recreation opportunities and provide information about these opportunities to residents and visitors.
- 2.2 Foster an appreciation of the values of our natural areas.

3 The environment is protected through well managed nature based recreation.

- 3.1 Assess, minimise, mitigate and monitor the impacts of nature based recreation activities in natural areas.
- 3.2 Participate in regional partnerships for nature based recreation planning and management.

4 The community is connected to cultural heritage through sustainable nature based recreation.

- 4.1 Build public understanding and a sense of connection to the cultural heritage of the natural areas estate.

Photo by Fotomedia



For more information visit
gchaveyoursay.com.au/nbr