



Lake Macquarie
Landcare

Case Study

Foreshore Site

Wyee Point Reserve Landcare Site



Background

Wye Point Reserve Landcare site is located off Wymeera Circuit, Wye Point in southern Lake Macquarie.

Site Information

The site is zoned for conservation and is part of the larger Wye Point Reserve, a Council-owned public reserve, subject to the 2011 Wye Point Reserve Plan of Management.

Vegetation

The vegetation for this site is mapped as MU 38 Foreshore Redgum- Rough-barked Apple Forest. Beside the site and closer to the lake edge the vegetation is closer to MU40 Swamp Oak-Rushland Forest.

Dominant trees include:

- Forest Red Gum *Eucalyptus tereticornis* slightly upslope
- Sydney Red Gum *Angophora costata* towards the point

The majority of vegetation on site is classified as Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) (River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains). This EEC is listed and protected under state and federal legislation.

Lake Macquarie

Lake Macquarie is located on the NSW east coast, It contains mountains, forests, waterfalls, extensive beaches, and a large coastal estuarine lake with an area of approximately 110 square km, and a catchment area of 605 square km.

These areas support a wide range of habitats and uses including nature conservation, recreation, residential and commercial development and rural activities. As a result, the natural environment has suffered a high degree of modification and degradation.

Aboriginal Heritage

Lake Macquarie is rich in Aboriginal cultural heritage dating back tens of thousands of years. The people who lived around Lake Macquarie and Newcastle were known as the Awabakal which means “*the people of the flat surface*” presumably referring to the Lake and its flat surrounds.

Fauna

The site is home to a range of mammals, birds and amphibians. Of particular mention is the Eastern Grey Kangaroo population that lives and is frequently seen at the site.

The reserve provides habitat for threatened fauna species including the Glossy Black Cockatoo, Little Bent-wing Bat, Large Footed Myotis, Grey Headed Flying Fox, and Varied Sitella. The threatened White-bellied Sea Eagle has been observed hovering over the reserve.



Above: Eastern Grey Kangaroo

Landcare group

The Wyee Point Reserve Landcare group was restarted in 2022 and consists of 3 regular members as well as supporting members within the community. A previous group worked a larger area of the reserve for several years from 2010 and the current group builds on their efforts but focusses on a section of the reserve in the Western area.

Landcare in Lake Macquarie

Lake Macquarie Landcare is a partnership between Lake Macquarie Landcare Volunteer Network Incorporated (LMLVN inc), hundreds of dedicated and committed community volunteers, and the Lake Macquarie City Council (LMCC) which provides project support through the Landcare office.

If you would like to get involved in Landcare in Lake Macquarie or would like more information please contact the Landcare office on 4921 0392 or lro@lakemac.nsw.gov.au

The group meet regularly and have their own Facebook Page to organise working bees. New members are always welcome.

The Landcare group have been working to clear Lantana, Bitou and Blackberry to help support the regeneration of native plants.

The Lake Macquarie Landcare Green Team have supported the group with occasional working bees as resources allow.



Left: Removed Lantana from a working bee with the Green Team, placed in 'habbie stacks' to provide areas of habitat as the weed waste breaks down.



Left: Native regeneration is severely hampered by weeds such as Asparagus Fern

Recent projects

Delta Electricity funding

Lake Macquarie Landcare have been regular recipients of funding from Delta Electricity and in 2022-23 this included support for Wyee Point Reserve Landcare. This support allowed professional bush regenerators to treat Weeds of National Significance and environmental weeds in areas that were densely infested and beyond the volunteer group's capacity.

Weeding of Lantana in mosaics helped to enhance habitat and movement for native animals like the local kangaroos and promote regeneration of native species (photos at right show before and after impact of the work). The Landcare group also worked to achieve an excellent level of weed removal alongside the bush regeneration project.

Landcare week bus trip 2023

To celebrate National Landcare Week, Lake Macquarie Landcare hosted a bus tour on 8 August 2023 to visit three different Landcare sites including Wyee Point Reserve. Around 31 participants, including volunteers, and interested local residents, joined the tour and were guided by Landcare Team Leaders for walks and talks at each of the three sites.

Julie of Dora Creek Landcare observed the following on the tour of Wyee Point Reserve Landcare site "Although the volunteer group has only been active for less than a year, it was an eye-opener for me to see what has been achieved in that short period of time. Walking through the area that has been cleared so far, I was able to compare it to what has been achieved at Dora Creek, albeit Dora Creek is a smaller area. The similarities being both sites where the Lantana has been removed are now filled with filtered light, encouraging native regeneration. We were also able to watch a family of Eastern Greys enjoying the freedom to forage, another positive from the removal of the Lantana."

Wyee Point Foreshore Reserve

Before

After

References and Further Information

Bell, S.A.J. (2016) Volume 2: Vegetation Community Profiles, Lake Macquarie Local Government Area. Working Draft v2. Unpublished Report to Lake Macquarie City Council. March 2016. Eastcoast Flora Survey available at www.lakemac.com.au

Buchanan, R, 2009, [*Restoring Natural Areas in Australia*](#)

LMCC, 2004, *Lake Macquarie Coastal Planting Guide*, available at www.lakemac.com.au

PlantNET (The NSW Plant Information Network System). Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, Sydney. <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au>

The Lake Macquarie Landcare website www.lakemacquarielandcare.org.au provides links to newsletters and environmental information.

If you wish to know more about this and other projects in Lake Macquarie please contact the Landcare Resource Centre.

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