

7 IMPLEMENTATION

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The Bendethera homestead precinct including its landscape setting has high local heritage significance (see Sections 5.4 and 5.5) and should be conserved as set down in the conservation policies in Section 6.

Due to the nature of the Bendethera homestead precinct, and given that there are no extant large structures, the actions below do not require detailed activities that involve works to buildings. However, it is strongly recommended that as part of any changes or proposals to the place that controls set down in the conservation policies be adopted as controls for any changes to the place.

All conservation work on the remaining heritage items and significant elements at Bendethera should be carried out by staff that are experienced and have the skills appropriate to the particular works. Where necessary works are identified, refer to the Guide to Building Conservation Works, Cultural Heritage Division (DECC 2002).

7.2 MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

Works required to manage the landscape, conserve the individual heritage items and site infrastructure, and open up cultural tourism opportunities will occur as PWG, DECC funding allows. In general management will need to prioritise the potential activities to suit available resources. Some programs can be implemented quickly, while others will take some time to be implemented. *NPWS, WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS COULD ASSIST WITH MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE.*

The recommendations set out in this CMP have been prioritised below as both short and medium term actions. There are no long term actions proposed, as the life of this CMP is expected to be no longer than five years and should at least be reviewed, and possibly updated at that time. This section sets out the implementation of the conservation, management and interpretation policies contained within this CMP (Section 6).

7.2.1 Short Term Actions

General actions related to this CMP which should be completed within 1-2 years include:

- Place this CMP on public exhibition for comment at the Narooma DECC office, allowing a suitable time for the public to make comments on the draft plan. • Director, Southern Branch PWG to endorse this CMP. • Provide a copy of the CHD, DECC and Regional office for their information and to update records.
- *NPWS INCREASE PATROLLING OF BENDETHRA PRECINCT DURING PEAK PERIODS. CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN FOR INTRODUCTION OF CAMPING FEES APPLYING DURING PEAK PERIODS.*
- *NPWS MAINTAIN A REGISTER OF REGULAR USERS OF BENDETHRA.*
- *MORE SIGNAGE THROUGHOUT THE BENDETHRA PRECINCT IS REQUIRED TO ASSIST WITH GIVING VISITORS BETTER DIRECTION TO SIGNIFICANT AREAS; THIS MAY PREVENT VISITORS DRIVING IN INAPPROPRIATE AREAS.*

- *SIGNAGE INTO BENDETHRA SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE ASSISTANCE OF MAINTAINENCE BY NON-GOVERNEMENT ORGANISATIONS & PRIVATE PROPERTY SHOULD BE HIGHLIGHTED AS PROHIBITED AREAS UNLESS PERMISSION IS GIVEN BY OWNERS.*
- *MAINTAINENCE OF PRESENT TRAILS BEING USED BY FOUR WHEEL DRIVES TO BE MORE CONSISTENT THROUGHOUT A 12 MONTH PERIOD OR AFTER INCLEMENT WEATHER. THIS WILL PREVENT USERS FROM DIVERTING OFF TRAILS IN THEIR ATTEMPTS TO GAIN ACCESS TO BENDETHRA.*

Other more specific short term actions are those which should be completed within 1-2 years. They include immediate maintenance, the commission of further studies, particularly in relation to the future interpretive planning of Bendethera. These include:

BRIDLE TRACKS (THESE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN SHORT TERM ACTIONS)

MAINTAIN AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE THE ORIGINAL BRIDLE TRACKS. THE NPWS, WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NON-GOVERNEMENT ORGANISATIONS, COMMENCE A REGULAR CLEANING PROGRAMME OF ALL RELEVANT BRIDLE TRACKS. THIS WILL MAINTAIN PRESENT CONDITION OF KNOWN EXISTING BRIDLE TRACKS WHILE WAITING FOR MEDIUM TERM ACTIONS NOTED IN 7.2.2.

Yards

Restore the original post and rail type construction of the yards *AS DEPICTED IN HISTORIC PHOTOS AND AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED BY THE NPWS*. This should only involve the removal of sections that consist of wire and steel pickets.

Bread Oven

RESTORE OVEN TO SOME RESEMBLANCE OF ITS ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION & FENCE AREA AROUND THE OVEN

Stablise sections of the bread oven that are badly deteriorating. The oven should be partially reconstructed using the same bricks (or similar) and a traditional lime-cement mix. This should be done in consultation with a specialist in the use of such traditional techniques.

Grave Site

Remove the modern treated pine fence that surrounds the gravesite of James Richard George. The older hardwood fence should remain.

Water Race

RESTORE WATER RACE TO ORIGINAL FUNCTION. Clear vegetation along a transect of the main water race running from the homestead area to Con Creek. The most suitable location would appear to be not far from the bread oven where there is less mature or threatened vegetation present.

7.2.2 Medium Term Actions

Medium term actions are those which can and need to be completed within 5 years. They include building and site maintenance, early planning work and assessing the feasibility of adaption opportunities for the place. They recognise that some actions need to be planned and evaluated

before they can be implemented, or will take a while to get started, given the available financial resources. The following details medium term actions to be implemented at Bendethera.

Interpretive Planning

Commission an Interpretation Plan for the Bendethera homestead precinct which includes include detailed design and methods for interpretation.

Implement interpretation of the significant landscape and built elements within the interpretation plan for the site.

General

Establish that the place can be managed in accordance with this CMP, without further reference to CHD, DECC.

Yards – *THE ACTION FOR THESE SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO 7.2.1 (SHORT TERM ACTIONS). IF MAINTENANCE IS NOT COMMENCED ON THESE THERE WILL BE NONE LEFT TO MAINTAIN IN THE MEDIUM TERM TIME FRAME (5 YEARS).*

Events

The PWG, DECC management should develop and hold periodic events that celebrate the history and hardy lifestyle of people at Bendethera. Possibilities include but are not limited to 'Back to Bendethera Days' with descendants of the settler families and others with a strong association with the place. These events could coincide with reviews of the CMP or any future proposals for the site.

Tourism/Education

Following the implementation of interpretation at the place, investigate and introduce further cultural and nature-based tourism and/or educational activities to the Bendethera area, such as Discovery Tours or other group tours. *CONSIDER PROVIDING A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF LICENCE TOUR OPERATORS AT ANY ONE TIME. IF NO CHARGE IS REQUESTED FROM TOUR OPERATORS INTODUCE A FEE FOR LICENCED OPERATORS TO CONDUCT TOURS WITHIN THE BENDETHRA PRECINCT.*

A brochure that details the history of the Bendthera area could also form part of the educational and interpretive material for visitors.

Bridle Tracks and Caves

An assessment of the extensive bridle tracks in the area was not considered for this CMP, which has purposely focused on the Bendethera homestead precinct. *THE BRIDLE TRACK FROM COBARGO, NARRIGUNDAH TO BENDETHRA TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED & INCLUDED IN NPWS BRIDLE TRACK MAINTENANCE PROGRAMMES.* An assessment of significance for the bridle tracks should be considered prior to a review of this CMP and included in any updated version.

Archaeological Zoning Plan

An archaeological zoning plan (AZP) should be prepared. This should include not only the former homestead site, but also the wider area of the surrounding cleared areas of the homestead.

7.2.3 On-going Actions

The following activities will be ongoing through the life of this CMP, which include:

- Continue maintenance activities and monitoring of heritage items and significant elements within the Bendethera Valley to ensure no adverse impacts on the significant cultural landscape setting and/or remnant fabric. This should be done in conjunction with a regular inspection of the other remaining historic fabric within the valley (below).
- Monitor the condition of remnant structures in the homestead precinct.
- Retain exotic mature plantings that are present within the Bendethera homestead precinct.
- Undertake photographic archival recording of items within the Bendethera homestead precinct area prior to any proposed works to record the existing state and condition of the heritage item or significant element, and
- Monitor the impacts of recreation and visitation on the landscape heritage characteristics.

PROVIDE FOR MORE PUBLIC FACILITIES IN THE FUTURE PLANNING WITHIN THE BENDETHRA PECINCT.

7.2.4 Review The Heritage Branch (DoP) recommends that conservation management plans be reviewed and updated at five yearly intervals.