

Brannocks Environment Reserve Management Plan: Engagement summary

23 February - 20 March 2026

The Brannocks Environment Reserve is a place prized by bushwalkers, birdwatchers and mountain bikers. Sunshine Coast Council purchased the 92ha reserve through the Environment Levy Acquisition Program. It holds significant cultural value for the Kabi Kabi peoples, the Traditional Custodians, whose lands and waters we all now share, and protects native species and ecosystems within the Sunshine Coast Biosphere.

The management plan provides a comprehensive assessment of the reserve's ecological, social, cultural and economic values. It outlines management actions to protect these values into the future and serves as a resource for both Council and the community.

Community engagement

Community engagement was conducted over a 4 week period from 23 February to 20 March 2026. The draft management plan was made available for public review.

Online engagement activities, hosted on Have your Say Sunshine Coast, included an online survey consisting of 6 questions and a 'Fund-it' activity where participants allocated a budget across proposed management actions.

Engagement highlights

Engagement activities included:

- 4 media articles and 3 social media posts
- 4,318 people reached via social media
- 421 visitors to the Have Your Say page
- 138 downloads of the draft management plan
- 44 contributions on Have Your Say page
- 35 completed online surveys and 9 "Fund-it" activities
- 3 written email submissions, including responses from 2 organisations (SEQwater and Sunshine Coast Environmental Council)

What the community told us

A range of feedback and suggestions was received, with unanimous support for protecting the reserve.

Strong connection to the reserve

Respondents visit the reserve for various reasons, including bushwalking, birdwatching, connecting with culture, relaxing in nature, and for mountain biking.

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One respondent said:

"I regularly walk this location and recognise the benefits this gives me physically, mentally and emotionally... seeing the wildlife (all creatures great and small) on my early morning or late afternoon walks fills my heart with joy."

Support for management actions

All management actions, except two, were given high priority by respondents, indicating strong overall support.

More than 90% of respondents, along with organisations such as SEQwater and the Sunshine Coast Environmental Council, identified the planning and development of a wildlife bridge across Steve Irwin Way as a high priority. This aligned with Council's proposed priority in the draft management plan.

Experimental budget allocation

Participants selected from 7 proposed activities and allocated a budget of \$50,000.

Respondents typically selected 3 to 4 activities rather than only one activity or all activities.

Prescribed burning, rubbish removal and nest box installation/monitoring received unanimous support.

Six out of seven activities received higher-than-expected funding allocations. These results provide valuable insights into community priorities and perceptions regarding reserve maintenance and management.

Council response to feedback

The following updates and considerations have been incorporated into the final management plan:

- Correction of information relating to the flora species *Atractocarpus fitzalanii*
- Strong support and interest in collaboration from key organisations
- Ongoing community support for recreational management actions
- Prioritisation of management actions with strong community interest
- Continued engagement with stakeholders and the community on future projects

Thank you to everyone who contributed during the Brannocks Environment Reserve Draft Management Plan community engagement period.

Stay informed

The final [Brannocks Environment Reserve Management Plan](#) has been uploaded to the Environment Reserve page on Council's website.

Have questions?

If you have any other enquiries regarding Brannocks Environment Reserve, please contact the Council project team via email: naturalareas@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au