

4 Whether the CMP identifies recommended changes to the relevant planning controls, including any proposed maps

No planning controls will be changed as a result of certification of this Coastal Management Program.

Actions within the CMP include investigation, planning and consultation on potential future changes to planning controls including Council's DCP, LEP and Coastal Management Areas as mapped within the Resilience and Hazards SEPP (R5.2, R5.3).

5 A Business Plan

5.1 CMP Investment Plan and Costing

5.1.1 Summary of CMP Implementation Costs

The coastal zone of the Bega Valley Shire is recognised as one of the most significant natural assets of the region, contributing to the environmental, cultural, social and economic value of the area. The *Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program* represents one of Council's long-term investments in this natural asset, to preserve and enhance the environmental value and the ecosystem services that the estuaries provides, to preserve and sustain the significant cultural value of the estuaries and their catchment, and to strengthen its contribution to the economic profile of the Shire.

The CMP is a 10-year program that includes improved planning, research and investigation, monitoring, physical works, engagement and education. These initiatives target a reduction in risks to the estuaries and surrounding assets from environmental stressors and coastal hazards, as well as improving the recreational value of the estuaries to the community.

Investment in the CMP will:

- improve the health of the estuaries through reduction of catchment-related impacts on sensitive ecosystems and environmental processes;
- preserve aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems through improvement of water quality and removal of invasive and exotic vegetation;
- enable climate-resilient and future proof development through risk-informed planning and development controls;
- provide new and improve existing recreational activities around the estuaries.

The Merimbula and Back Lake CMP builds on the achievements made under the previous Estuary Management Plan, and includes 36 tangible management actions within seven different management responses. Each of the seven management responses have been developed to address the seven identified threats to the estuaries. The CMP also includes an eighth management response which contains a series of cross-cutting actions that reduce the risk of multiple threats. Many of the actions are targeted at improving the health of the estuaries, which underpins its environmental, social and cultural value that the estuaries provide to the local area and broader LGA. Other actions are proposed that will address the current and future risk posed by coastal hazards for assets located within the Coastal Use Area around the lake and adjacent open coast beach areas.

This Business Plan sets out the estimated cost of implementing the Coastal Management Program across the 10-Year implementation period, and while funding is yet to be secured for many of the management actions, the Business Plan identifies the potential sources of funding.

Cost estimates shown within the Business Plan for implementation of management actions have been made on the basis of recent experience with similar works, cost estimating guidelines, and typical cost rates for services. They represent an estimated cost only, provided to indicate the cost and financial investment required through time for implementation of the CMP. The cost estimates have not been indexed for future years. For some management actions only Council staff time will be required. Where an action requires a considerable investment of Council staff time beyond existing day-to-day workload, a cost allowance has been made for contribution to additional staff member costs (it is assumed that additional staff would be sourced to work across multiple CMPs, with partial cost attributed to the Merimbula and Back Lake CMP).

The overall cost for implementation of the Merimbula and Back Lake CMP is estimated at \$2,975,000 across the 10-year implementation period. This includes investment in management actions to understand and monitor the health of the estuaries (\$0.45 million), to reduce the impacts of catchment runoff on water quality and aquaculture (\$0.86 million), to rehabilitate lower catchment, riparian and foreshore areas (\$0.81 million), and to manage the impacts of coastal hazards and climate change (\$0.44 million). Table 5.1 summarises the CMP implementation cost in the short, medium and long term, according to the aspirational implementation plan set out in Section 3.4. While the major financial commitment for the CMP is focussed on a small number of high priority threats, there are also a large number of lower value actions spread throughout the 10-year implementation period which aim to reduce the risk of all of the identified threats to the estuaries.

A detailed breakdown of implementation costs for each management action is provided in Table 5.3, along with the timeframe for implementation and alignment of each action with the Themes and Strategies in Council’s *Community Strategic Plan 2042*. This financial plan will enable Council to incorporate the CMP management actions as part of their annual budgeting processes.

Implementation of the CMP is contingent upon a range of external factors, including the securing of funds to support the implementation, and the evolving priorities of Council and other supporting agencies. The aspirational implementation schedule for the CMP will be adjusted annually, along with corresponding adjustments to the Business Plan, as part of the CMP Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Process (Section 7). This will enable implementation of the CMP to remain an agile and responsive process that adjusts to the shifting availability of funding and resources as well as the priorities of Council and supporting organisations, under the guidance of the Coast and Flood Management Committee.

| Table 5.1: CMP Implementation Cost Estimate | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Response | Short Term (1-2 Years) | Medium Term (3-5 Years) | Long Term (6-10 Years) |
| Response to Threat 1: Decline in Ecological Health and Diversity | \$90,000 | \$455,000 | \$210,000 |
| Response to Threat 2: Catchment Runoff and Urban Pollutants | \$30,000 | \$210,000 | \$225,000 |
| Response to Threat 3: Structure and Function of Lake (Back Lake) | \$30,000 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Response to Threat 4: Lack of Knowledge of Estuary Health and Condition | \$55,000 | \$150,000 | \$220,000 |
| Response to Threat 5: Coastal Hazards and Climate Change | \$15,000 | \$317,500 | \$187,500 |
| Response to Threat 6: Degradation of Foreshore and Beach Integrity | \$20,000 | \$60,000 | \$115,000 |
| Response to Threat 7: Reduced Amenity, Recreational Value and Community Satisfaction | \$0 | \$45,000 | \$30,000 |
| Cross-cutting management responses | \$36,000 | \$59,000 | \$115,000 |
| Engagement and implementation support (contribution to additional Council staff) | \$60,000 | \$90,000 | \$150,000 |
| Total | \$336,000 | \$1,386,500 | \$1,252,500 |

5.1.2 Funding Sources

Implementation of the *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP* will be funded across a range of sources including a blend of Council budget allocations, existing Council staff resources and grant finance.

BVSC has budget allocations that can contribute to implementation of management actions which align with the Themes and Strategies of the *Community Strategic Plan*. This includes many of the actions within the *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP* that are related to environmental management, climate resilience and natural hazards, accessibility to natural areas and planning for community infrastructure.

Beyond Council budget allocations, there are a range of other funding sources that can be considered to support implementation of the CMP, as described in further detail within Table 5.2. The alignment of each of these funding sources with each specific management action has been provided in Table 5.3, on the basis of the objectives and constraints of the specific funding programs. The funding sources are generally local, state and federal grant funding streams, noting that the timing and quantum of funding available varies across the different schemes, and is difficult to quantify until applications are made. In many cases the grants also require a co-commitment from Council, which may include a financial or in-kind contribution.

Implementation of the CMP forms part of the core functions of existing Council staff working in relevant departments. Where actions would place an excessive demand on existing staff, it is assumed that additional staff would be recruited to support CMP implementation. It is likely that the additional staff would work across implementation of the *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP*, as well as other CMPs and Council work programs. As such, the *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP* would require partial funding for the additional staff. These costs have been attributed against the specific management actions within the costing tables.

Table 5.2: Description of Potential Funding Sources

| Source | Description |
|--|--|
| Council - Ordinary Rates | Under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> , ordinary rates can be applied by Council on all rateable land within the Bega Valley Shire Local Government Area, chargeable to all private land-owners and businesses. These funds can be used by Council for the delivery of services and infrastructure consistent with Council's approved plans, including the implementation of management actions under the <i>Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management program</i> . |
| Council - Revenue | Council generates revenue from a range of streams that can be used as funding contribution to assist with implementation of management actions. This includes revenue generated from sources such as property rental and hire, commercial arrangements, fees and charges. |
| Council - Environment Levy (E-Levy) | A portion of Council rates contribute to the E-Levy, re-invested in Council-managed environmental works. The E-levy is to ensure that long term funding is available for environmental management activities. |
| Developer Contributions | Developer contributions, enabled under the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979</i> , may be applicable for some specific management actions within the <i>Merimbula and Back Lake CMP</i> . In particular, this may apply where management actions improve accessibility to the lake and recreational assets for beneficiaries within new or extended property developments. |
| NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | The NSW Government's Coastal and Estuary Grants Program underpins the implementation of the coastal management framework and supports local councils and communities to achieve the state's objectives for coastal |

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| | <p>management under the <i>Coastal Management Act 2016</i>. Funding within this grant-based program is available under six funding streams: a planning stream, four implementation streams and a stream to address identified significant open coast hazards. This program will be a key source of funds to support implementation of many actions within the <i>Merimbula and Back Lake CMP</i>.</p> <p>This program is administered by DCCEE, and grant funding at a ratio of 2:1 is available for completing work within a certified Coastal Management Program.</p> |
| NSW Environment Trust | <p>The NSW Environmental Trust provides funding to a range of community, government and industry stakeholders to deliver projects that conserve, protect and rehabilitate the NSW environment, or that promote environmental education and sustainability. The grant-based funding supports (i) action in conserving and restoring natural ecosystems, (ii) protecting threatened species, (iii) undertaking priority environmental research, (iv) building community skills, knowledge and capacity through education, (v) promoting cultural awareness, (vi) dealing with pollution.</p> <p>Specific Environment Trust programs that align with actions under the <i>Merimbula and Back Lake CMP</i> include Environmental Education, Environmental Research, Protecting Our Places, Restoration and Rehabilitation. Programs are administered by DCCEE.</p> |
| NSW Habitat Action Grants | <p>Habitat Action Grants (HAG) are funded from the NSW Recreational Fishing Trusts which direct revenue generated by the NSW Recreational Fishing Fee towards on-ground actions to improve fish habitat and recreational fishing in NSW. Grants are available to a range of organisations, including local Councils, who are interested in rehabilitating fish habitats in freshwater and saltwater areas throughout NSW. Habitat rehabilitation projects which may be funded under the HAGs include removal or modification of barriers to fish passage, rehabilitation of riparian areas, re-snagging waterways with timber structure, removal of exotic vegetation from waterways and replacement with native species, and bank stabilisation works. Many of these activities align with specific actions identified under the <i>Merimbula and Back Lake CMP</i>.</p> <p>The Habitat Action Grant program is administered by DPIRD Fisheries.</p> |
| NSW Flagship Habitat Rehabilitation Grants | <p>The flagship grant program offers major grants for projects that significantly enhance fish habitat, water quality and fish passage opportunities within the coastal catchments of NSW. This program seeks to benefit recreational fishing opportunities by enhancing the habitats that fish need to thrive.</p> <p>Example project types include rehabilitation of riparian lands/wetlands, especially those with acid sulfate soil issues; environmentally sensitive bank stabilisation works; removal or modification of barriers to fish passage, including addressing floodgates, road-crossings, and construction of fishways; re-snagging of waterways with timber structures.</p> <p>Funds may be used for a broad range of actions required to 'get the job done' including project planning, site assessments and on-ground works.</p> <p>This program is funded and administered by Department of Primary Industries</p> |
| NSW Floodplain Management Grant Program | <p>The NSW Floodplain Management Program provides financial support to local councils and eligible public land managers to help them manage flood risk in their communities. Funding is provided under four stages of the program including: Stage 1 preparation of flood studies; Stage 2 preparation of floodplain risk management studies; Stage 3 investigations, design and feasibility studies for works identified in a floodplain risk management plan; Stage 4 implementation of projects including structural works, evacuation/warning systems and raising of houses. This program is administered by DCCEE.</p> |
| Crown Reserves Improvement Fund (CRIF) | <p>The Crown Reserves Improvement Fund Program (CRIF) provides financial support for the maintenance, improvement or development of Crown reserves. More than \$198 million has been allocated by the NSW Government through the CRIF over the last 10 years. This funding has supported important initiatives such</p> |

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| | as the maintenance of showgrounds and community halls, the improvement of local parks, reserves and caravan parks, and eradication of pests and weeds. |
| Local Land Services – South East Marine Estate Management Strategy Grant Program | <p>The purpose of this program is to assist the NSW Marine Estate Management Authority in reaching its vision for a healthy coast and sea, managed for the greatest wellbeing of the community, now and into the future. Program objectives are to improve water quality and reduce marine litter for the benefit of marine habitats, wildlife and the community. There are 4 funding streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • riverbank vegetation improvements • riverbank stabilisation • improving roads and tracks • Clean Coastal Catchments, for primary producers. |
| TfNSW Fixing Local Roads Program | Fixing Local Roads is a NSW Government Program, enabling councils to accelerate upgrades and maintenance on their local road network. The Program has funded projects across the state to improve the day-to-day lives of locals and ensuring better regional connections on well-maintained roads. |
| NSW Boating Now Program | <p>The NSW Boating Now Program provides grant funding to improve maritime infrastructure and facilities across NSW. This investment supports the needs of recreational and commercial boaters and enables broader economic and social benefits for communities.</p> <p>The Program is funded from boating licence, registration and other fees collected by Transport for NSW (TfNSW).</p> |

5.1.3 Detailed Breakdown of CMP Implementation Costs

Table 5.3 includes the following information:

ID and Title of Management Actions: For each management action, this column includes the ID number and title of the management action. The numbering of actions aligns with the more comprehensive description of management responses provided in Table 3.5 to Table 3.12.

Timeframe: This column provides an indication of the time window that each action will incur financial expenditure. It is an indication of the budget that will be required to be secured prior to the indicated period. The timeframes align with the aspirational CMP implementation schedule provided in Section 3.4.

Estimated Cost of Actions: This column provides an estimate of the implementation cost, with a breakdown for key components of the action also shown if relevant. Within this column, (C) indicates a capital cost, (O) indicates an operational cost and (m) indicates a maintenance cost. Where an action has no cost for a given year it is indicated as \$ -.

Where there is an expected requirement for Council staff time, assets or services to complete a management action this is shown as \$ST.

Short, Medium and Long Term Cost Estimate: These columns provide an indication of the financial expenditure required for each action within the short, medium and long term CMP implementation periods. This financial flow will be updated annually to respond to adjustments in the implementation schedule.

Potential Funding Sources: This column indicates the potential funding sources that the responsible agency can consider for resourcing the implementation of each management action.

Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP: This column indicates the alignment of each management action with the Themes and Strategies of the *Bega Valley Shire Community Strategic Plan 2042*, as the overarching planning document within Council's IP&R Framework.

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| R1.1 Review and respond to trends in aquatic habitat change | Coordination and management: Existing Council staff time ³ Awareness and signage program: \$10,000 Eco-friendly mooring replacement program: \$70,000 - \$110,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$100,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R1.2 Protect and enhance wetland and riparian vegetation and vegetated corridors on targeted private properties | Existing Council/LLS staff time ³ Medium and long term revegetation and fencing program: \$100,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$50,000 | \$ST (O) \$50,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R1.3a Rehabilitation of riparian areas and adjacent lower catchment reserves | Coordination and management: Existing Council staff time ³ Contractors: \$20,000-\$30,000 per year for initial works, \$10,000 per year for maintenance | \$ST (O) \$50,000 initial intense program | \$ST (O) \$30,000 maintenance | \$ST (O) \$50,000 maintenance | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R1.3b Merimbula Creek rehabilitation | Coordination: Existing Council staff time ³ Implementation of works: \$80,000 | \$ST (O) \$40,000 initial intense program | (M) \$30,000 maintenance | (M) \$10,000 maintenance | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R1.4 Oyster reef mapping and recovery in Merimbula Lake | Mapping and planning: Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ - | \$ST | \$ST (C) \$100,000 (implementation) | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |

Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing

| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| | Design and project planning: \$40,000 - \$50,000 Implementation: \$250,000-\$350,000 | | (O) \$45,000 (planning and design) (C) \$200,000 (implementation) | | Habitat Action Grants | |
| R1.5 Monitor and mitigate the impact of lake openings on beach-nesting birds | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ST | \$ST | \$ST | Council | Theme A, Strategy A.6 Theme C, Strategy C.1, C.5 |
| R1.6 Ensure the “ <i>Threatened Shorebirds in Bega Valley Shire: Action Plan</i> ” is implemented | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ST | \$ST | \$ST | Council | Theme A, Strategy A.6 Theme C, Strategy C.1, C.5 |
| R2.1a Improvements to requirements, monitoring and compliance of sediment controls for property developments. | Council staff time (Additional staff costs \$30,000 per year) | \$ST (O) \$30,000 | \$ST (O) \$90,000 | \$ST (O) \$150,000 | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1, C.2 |
| R2.1b Rehabilitate powerline easement between Boggy Creek and Merimbula Drive | Existing Council staff time ³ Access control: \$4,000 - \$6,000 Earthworks and drainage: \$15,000 Revegetation \$25,000 - \$35,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$50,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1, C.2 |
| R2.2a Update risk management strategy for sewage contamination | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ST | \$ - | \$ - | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| R2.2b Reduce sewer overflow incidents through education and compliance campaign | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ST | \$ - | \$ - | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R2.2c Improve understanding of vessel sewage discharge needs and risks | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ST | \$ - | \$ - | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R2.3: Extend 'End-of-pipe' pollutant trap program | Existing Council staff time ³ \$25,000 new traps (5) \$15,000 annual maintenance cost (5 traps) | \$ST | \$ST (C) \$25,000 (M) \$45,000 | \$ST (M) \$75,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R3.1: Investigation of physical changes to lake bed in Back Lake | Existing Council staff time ³ Survey and analysis \$25000 - \$35,000 | \$ST \$30,000 | \$ - | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R4.1: Estuary health data collection program | WQ monitoring and analysis: \$30,000 - \$50,000 (Back Lake) \$60,000 - \$80,000 (Merimbula Lake) Analysis of fish assemblages: \$30,000 to \$50,000 (both lakes) Re-mapping of aquatic vegetation (Back Lake):\$30,000-\$40,000 Analysis of aquatic vegetation change (both lakes): \$15,000 - \$25,000 | \$ - \$ - \$ST (O) \$35,000 \$ST (O) \$20,000 | (O) \$40,000 (O) \$70,000 \$ST (O) \$40,000 \$- \$- | \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| | Estuary health data sets updated every 5 to 10 years as needed (ongoing): \$220,000 | \$- | \$- | (O) \$220,000 | | |
| R5.1: Adaptation planning for low-lying assets | Existing Council staff time ³ Specialist advice and consultation activities: \$70,000 - \$100,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$85,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program NSW Floodplain Management Grants TfNSW Fixing Local Roads Program NSW Boating Now Program | Theme C, Strategy C.5 |
| R5.2: Develop a CVA and update relevant planning documents | Existing Council staff time ³ Technical advice and consultation activities: \$20,000 | \$- | \$ST (O) \$20,000 | \$- | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.2, C.5 |
| R5.3: Review CEA, CUA and CWLRA and adjust mapping (if required) | Existing Council staff time ³ Technical advice and consultation activities: \$20,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$20,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme A, Strategy A.8 Theme C, Strategy C.2, C.5 |
| R5.4: Coastal erosion management and adaptation planning for Merimbula Main Beach | Existing Council staff time ³ Repairs to access tracks and recreational assets: \$15,000 per year | \$ST | \$ST (O) \$45,000 | \$ST (O) \$75,000 (O) \$50,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.5 Theme D, Strategy D.5 |

Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing

| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| | Adaptation planning and consultation for Ford Park: \$40,000-\$60,000 | | | | | |
| R5.5: Dune rehabilitation program | Existing Council staff time ³ \$7,500 per annum for materials (chemicals fencing, plants, signage) and contractor | \$ST (O) \$15,000 | \$ST (O) \$22,500 | \$ST (O) \$37,500 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme A, Strategy A.6 Theme C, Strategy C.5 |
| R5.6: Investigation of entrance opening trigger level sustainability (Back Lake) | Existing council staff time ³ Technical Assessment: \$100,000 - \$150,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$125,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R5.7: Analysis and mapping of entrance stability and migration | Existing council staff time ³ Technical assessment: \$10,000-20,000 (Back Lake) ¹ \$5,000-\$15,000 (Merimbula Lake) ¹ | \$ - | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$25,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.5 |
| R6.1a: Replacement of log-key seawall adjacent Spencer Park | Existing Council staff time ³ Repair works: \$10,000 | \$ - | \$ST (C) \$10,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R6.1b: Foreshore revegetation at two private property locations, western side of Merimbula Lake | Existing Council and LLS staff time ³ Revegetation works: \$10,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$15,000 | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| | | | | | MEMS Grant Program | |
| R6.1c: Southern bridge abutment side slope remediation | Existing Council staff time ³ Repair works: \$5,000 | \$ST (O) \$5,000 | \$ - | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R6.1d: Improve foreshore protection along Merimbula Creek backing Henwood Street. | Existing Council Staff Time ³ Foreshore improvement works: \$4,000-\$6,000 Land-owner costs | \$ - | \$ - | \$ST \$5,000 | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R6.1e: Repairs to the Djiringanj Peoples Walk, below Lake St | Existing Council staff time ³ \$15,000 repair works | \$ST (O) \$15,000 | \$ - | \$ - | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1 Theme D, Strategy D.5 |
| R6.2: Beach nourishment and dune stabilisation at Fishpen, Merimbula Lake | Existing Council staff time ³ Design and consultation: \$35,000 Implementation: \$110,000 | \$ - | \$ST (O) \$35,000 | \$ST (O) \$110,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |
| R7.1: Develop and implement maintenance/upgrade plans for recreational assets | Existing Council staff time ³ | \$ - | \$ - | \$ST | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme D, Strategy D.1, D.2, D.3, D.5, D.6 |
| R7.2: Access improvements to Merimbula Lake | Existing Council staff time ³ Access improvement works: | \$ - | \$ST | \$ST | Council | Theme C, Strategy C.1 |

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| | \$15,000 per year for 5 years | | (O) \$45,000 | (O) \$30,000 | NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program Habitat Action Grants | Theme D, Strategy D.3, D.5 |
| R8.1: Engagement and support to community interest group/s | Existing Council staff time ^{2,3} | \$ST | \$ST | \$ST | Council | Theme A, Strategy A.1, A6 Theme E, Strategy E.2 |
| R8.2: Community engagement and information sessions and activities | Existing Council staff time ^{2,3} Engagement and educational materials: \$8,000 per year | (O) \$16,000 \$ST | (O) \$24,000 \$ST | (O) \$40,000 \$ST | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program NSW Environment Trust | Theme A, Strategy A.1, A6 Theme E, Strategy E.2 |
| R8.3 Improved acknowledgement and promotion of Aboriginal cultural values through consultation, contribution to on ground works and implementation of specific projects | Existing Council staff time ^{2,3} Implementation of small projects/initiatives: \$5,000 per year | (O) \$10,000 \$ST | (O) \$15,000 \$ST | (O) \$25,000 \$ST | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program NSW Environment Trust | Theme A, Strategy A.1, A2, A6 Theme C, Strategy C.1, C5 Theme E, Strategy E.2 |
| R8.4: Maintain and update interpretive signage | Existing Council staff time ^{2,3} Signage: \$10,000 | \$ - | (O) \$5,000 \$ST | (O) \$10,000 \$ST | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program NSW Environment Trust | Theme E, Strategy E.2 |
| R8.5: Citizen science initiatives | Existing Council staff time ^{2,3} Implementation of initiatives: \$5,000 per year | (O) \$10,000 \$ST | (O) \$15,000 \$ST | (O) \$25,000 \$ST | Council | Theme A, Strategy A.1, A6 Theme E, Strategy E.2 |

| Table 5.3: CMP Implementation Cost Breakdown and Timing | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| ID and Title of Management Action | Estimated Cost of Action | Short Term Cost Estimate (1-2 Years) | Medium Term Cost Estimate (3-5 Years) | Long Term Cost Estimate (6-10 Years) | Potential Funding Sources | Alignment with IP&R Framework via CSP |
| | | | | | NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program NSW Environment Trust | |
| R8.6: Integration and promotion of walking tracks | Existing Council staff time ³ Signage: \$5,000 Awareness and initiatives: \$10,000 | \$ - | \$ - | (O) \$15,000 \$ST | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme D, Strategy D.1, D.2, D.3, D.5, D.6 |
| Engagement and implementation support for actions R8.1-R8.6 | Partial funding for 1 x new Council Env. Officer: \$30,000 per year ² | (O) \$60,000 | (O) \$90,000 | (O) \$150,000 | Council NSW Coastal and Estuary Grants Program | Theme C, Strategy C.1, C.3, C.5 Theme E, Strategy E.2 |

1. This cost is pro-rated for Merimbula Lake and Back Lake, on the basis that it would be part of a broader shire-wide assessment of hazard/risk areas for multiple estuary entrances. If the assessment is conducted for Merimbula and Back Lake only, then the cost is expected to be higher.

2. An allowance of \$30,000 per year has been included to allow partial funding of a new Environment Officer within Council. It is assumed the position would be partially funded across multiple CMPs, with this cost being the contribution under the Merimbula and Back Lake CMP. This additional position would provide support to implementation of multiple management actions as indicated throughout table.

3. Where the estimated cost includes "existing Council staff time", this has not been budgeted within the cost estimates (shown as \$ -) but is instead assumed to be funded from Councils operational budget for staffing costs.

5.2 Distribution of Costs and Benefits (Public/Private)

The Multi Criteria Assessment of management actions evaluated the effectiveness of each action against various criteria, including stakeholder values for the estuaries (Section 3.1.1). The weighting for these criteria emphasised actions that target specific values, effectively prioritising the values that would benefit most from implementation of the CMP. The values that took the highest priority included ecosystems, water quality, and the physical processes of the estuaries. From this evaluation, many priority actions are therefore intended to directly benefit the natural environment of the estuaries, and indirectly benefit the broader community. Nevertheless, there are also some actions that directly benefit the local and broader community, and will indirectly benefit the environment of the estuaries, including those actions that will enable more informed planning for coastal hazard risk reduction.

While there are some actions that are proposed to be conducted on private properties, these actions target issues and improvements for the benefit of the broader health of the estuaries, not the individual property owners. There are no actions within the CMP that aim to directly benefit private interests. As such, no public-private cost sharing arrangements are envisaged for implementation of actions within the CMP. Implementation costs are intended to be sourced from public funding sources only. Landholder contributions are usually in-kind through assistance with labour and ongoing maintenance.

5.3 Responsibility for CMP Implementation

Bega Valley Shire Council is primarily responsible for coordinating and leading the implementation of the overall CMP, as well as implementation of specific actions within the CMP. This includes responsibility for coordinating budgetary processes within the IP&R framework using existing mechanisms such as Council's *Community Strategic Plan* (BVSC, 2022), *Resourcing Strategy* (BVSC, 2023) as well as Council's *Delivery Program* and *Operational Plan*. Responsibility for monitoring, evaluation and reporting on implementation of the CMP will also primarily sit with BVSC staff, supported by the Coast and Flood Management Committee.

Throughout implementation of the CMP, BVSC will consider how best to implement the identified management actions, in alignment with the community's priorities as identified through the Themes and Strategies of the CSP. This will include allocation, seeking and management of appropriate financial resources, through both internal Council budgetary processes as well as State Government grant programs and other sources, as described in previous sections of the CMP.

The description of CMP actions and implementation plan outlined in Section 3 of the CMP identifies the responsible and supporting organisations for implementation of each specific management action. This is expected to include the provision of technical support, staff resourcing and/or financial support for implementation. The responsible organisation is expected to coordinate and lead the implementation of the management action, while supporting organisations will assist the responsible organisation through relevant technical advice, project management, staff resources, and in some cases financial support. During preparation of the CMP, each agency that is responsible for, or will support, implementation of management actions, have been consulted.

5.4 Alignment with IP&R and Community Aspirations

The *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP* includes 36 tangible management actions within seven different management responses, with each response planned to address the seven identified threats to the estuaries. The CMP also includes an eighth management response which contains a series of cross-cutting actions, primarily centred around community engagement, awareness, and education. The objectives, management responses and specific management actions within the CMP align with the Themes and Strategies of the *Bega Valley Shire Community Strategic Plan 2042* (as identified in Table 5.3), providing direct linkage to the IP&R framework.

The broader public will be integrated into the implementation of the CMP through the various education and engagement actions that have been proposed. The CMP Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting program (Section 7) includes the Coast and Flood Management Committee as an integral part of the process, and various communications platforms will be utilised throughout implementation to keep the community updated.

6 Coastal Zone Emergency Action Subplan, if the CM Act requires that subplan to be prepared

The *Coastal Management Act 2016* (section 15(1)(e)) outlines that a Coastal Zone Emergency Action Subplan (CZEAS) must be included in a Coastal Management Program if the local council's Local Government Area contains land within the Coastal Vulnerability Area (CVA) and beach erosion, coastal inundation or cliff instability is occurring on that land. At this stage, BVSC has no mapped CVA, and therefore a CZEAS will not be prepared for the *Merimbula and Back Lake CMP* at this stage.

There are a series of existing plans in place (Figure 6.1) which detail multi-agency emergency response measures for extreme weather events and natural disasters including floods, storms and tsunamis. The Bega Valley Local Flood Plan sets out the emergency management arrangements for prevention, preparation, response and initial recovery for flooding and includes coastal inundation from elevated sea levels and /or waves (including tsunami). Coastal erosion caused by storm activity is covered within the NSW State Storm Plan.

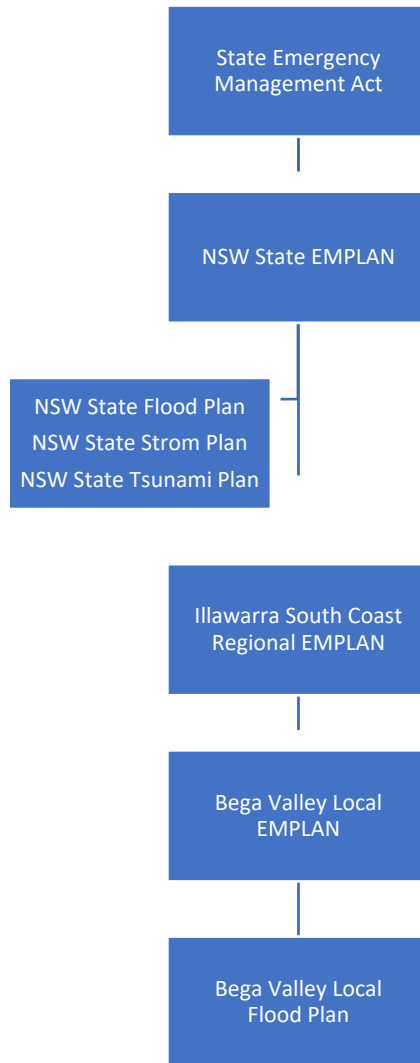


Figure 6.1: Arrangement of Relevant Existing Emergency Management Plans

7 Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Program

7.1 Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting of CMP Implementation

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER) program for the Merimbula and Back Lake CMP provides a pragmatic mechanism to gauge implementation progress, and outlines the process for transparent reporting against the CMP targets. Importantly, the MER program goes further than this by also setting out a process to monitor the effectiveness of the CMP toward progressive achievement of the aspirations defined by the community and stakeholders, and defines opportunities for strategic review and re-alignment of the CMP priorities, if needed to achieve the overarching CMP objectives.

The MER program measures the progress of the CMP through a layered monitoring approach as shown in Figure 7.1, and includes the following three reporting products:

1. Annual Progress Reporting (APR) to monitor and present implementation progress of CMP actions as set out in the CMP Implementation Plan;
2. Mid-Term Review (MTR) that considers both the high-level effectiveness of the CMP toward achievement of community and stakeholder aspirations, as well as implementation progress of management actions;
3. Terminal Evaluation Report (TER) that reviews the overall effectiveness of the CMP, documents the achievements and impact of the CMP on resolving management issues, and sets out a pathway for future management of the estuaries.

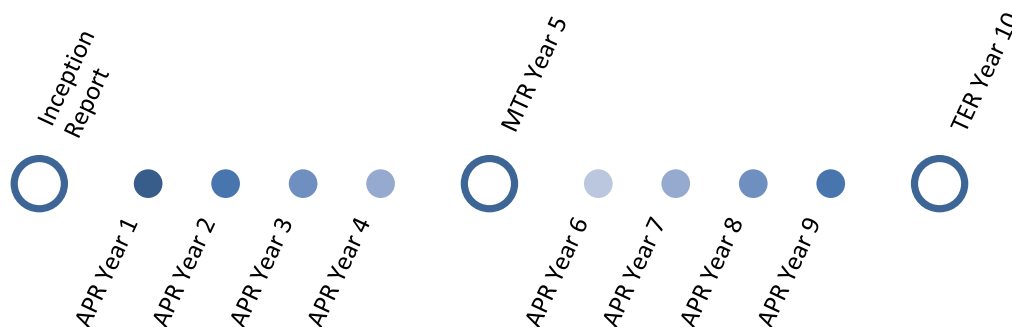


Figure 7.1: MER Program Schedule

7.1.1 Annual Progress Reporting (APR)

Annual Progress Reporting will be completed by the CMP manager and provided to Council's Coast and Flood Management Committee to inform an annual progress review of CMP implementation. The Coast and Flood Management Committee includes Council staff, representatives from relevant state government agencies, Councillors and community members. Targeted staff from additional Council departments can also be invited to

participate in the annual review via participation in this committee, or invited as observers to the review process.

The primary focus of the Annual Progress Reporting is to monitor implementation of management actions against the *CMP Implementation Plan* as set out in Section 3.4. A pragmatic set of implementation progress indicators have been defined for each management action in Table 3.14, and will be used in the Annual Progress Reporting to quantify implementation progress of the CMP against targets.

The Annual Progress Reporting will also serve as a platform to document and discuss major achievements under the CMP, as well as barriers to effective implementation of the CMP. Through the APR mechanism, the Coast and Flood Management Committee will be able to give direction to the CMP manager, action any assistance required to reduce implementation challenges, and assist in overcoming implementation barriers (such as financial or resource constraints).

Lastly, the APR will update the CMP Implementation Plan for the upcoming 12-month period. The outcomes of each APR and updated Implementation Plan will feed directly into the annual review of the CMP Business Plan (Section 5), to ensure that the Business Plan accurately reflects the budget and resourcing requirements for CMP implementation in the upcoming year.

In parallel with the APR, annual progress report cards will also be produced throughout the CMP implementation period, and shared with the community via newsletter, social media platforms and website. This will provide an opportunity for the community to remain up to date with CMP implementation progress, and to identify opportunities to actively engage in CMP activities.

7.1.2 Mid-Term Review (MTR)

A Mid-Term Review of the CMP will be completed after the first five years of implementation, and presented to both the Coast and Flood Management Committee as well as Council. The objective of the MTR is two-fold:

1. To provide a review of implementation progress at the mid-point of the CMP;
2. To provide a high-level review of the effectiveness of the CMP at achieving the aspirations of the community and stakeholders, as well as the objectives of effective coastal management as defined in the NSW Coastal Management Framework.

The implementation progress review (section 1 of the MTR) will consider the APRs completed up to that point, with a focus on progress of the CMP implementation against targets. This review will consider how well barriers have been identified and overcome, and provide recommendations to strengthen implementation where needed. This section of the MTR will also review the CMP Implementation Plan and Business Plan for the remaining five years, and recommend any adjustments to ensure that the plans remain achievable.

The high-level review (section 2 of the MTR) will consider the effectiveness of the CMP in reducing threats to the estuaries and resolving management issues. The review will provide strategic direction and update the priorities of the CMP to re-align the program as-needed. The high-level review will draw on the community values and aspirations for coastal management as set out in Section 1.6 of this CMP, as well as the objectives for coastal management as defined in the Coastal Management Act and set out in Section 1.3, as indicators of effectiveness of the CMP. The review will also evaluate the effectiveness of

implemented management actions in reducing the risk rating of threats identified in the CMP Threats and Pressures report (BVSC, 2024b), and whether any new threats require consideration within the remaining five years of CMP implementation.

The MTR will include community consultation, with feedback from the community to be incorporated within the high-level review. Council will identify the most appropriate form of community engagement at the time of the MTR.

7.1.3 Terminal Evaluation Report (TER)

A Terminal Evaluation Report (TER) will be completed after ten years of CMP implementation. The primary focus of the TER is to check the effectiveness of the implemented CMP management actions in achieving tangible improvements in estuary health, reduction in risks and improved community satisfaction. The TER will report on implementation challenges and document learnings from implementation of the CMP, to strengthen future coastal management activities for Merimbula Lake and Back Lake. The TER will also evaluate and document remaining estuary management needs, as a precursor to planning future coastal and estuary management activities.

The TER will include community consultation, with feedback from the community to be incorporated within the high-level review. Council will identify the most appropriate form of community engagement at the time of the TER.

7.2 Estuary Health Monitoring Program

To provide consistent and informative updates of the overall health of Merimbula Lake and Back Lake, an estuary health monitoring program has been included within the CMP, and primarily occurs through action R4.1. The objectives of the estuary health monitoring program include:

- Tracking water quality and overall health of the estuaries;
- Tracking the effectiveness of the CMP to achieve measurable improvements in estuarine health (i.e. linking cause and effect with regards to management actions and improvements in estuary health) and community satisfaction with the estuaries and their management;
- Identify persistent and/or emerging estuarine health issues.

The estuary health monitoring program will incorporate three streams of monitoring as illustrated in Figure 7.2.

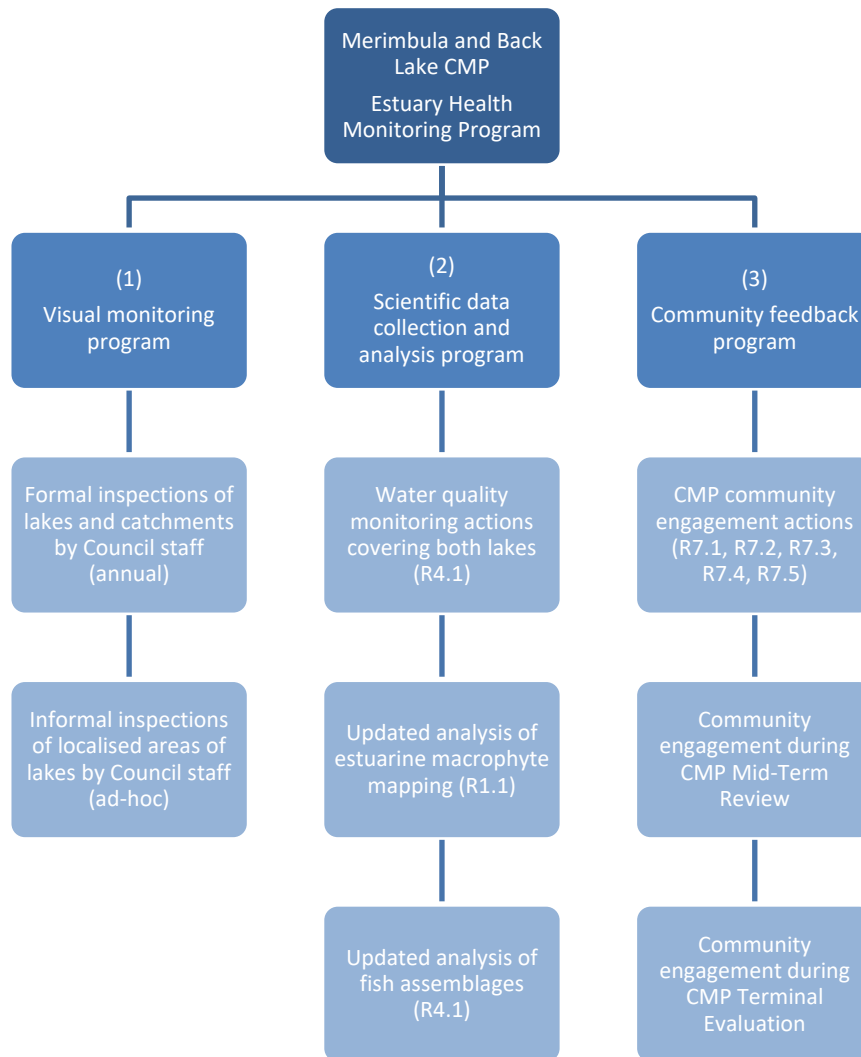


Figure 7.2: Estuary Health Monitoring Program

7.2.1 Visual Monitoring Program

With regular work activities on and around the estuaries, Council staff provide the “eyes on the ground” to regularly track the health of the estuaries, evolution and monitoring of existing management issues, and the identification of emerging issues. As part of the CMP monitoring and evaluation, Council staff will perform an annual visual inspection of the lakes and lower-catchment areas, documenting implementation of the CMP including the progress and effectiveness of management actions, status of known issues, and identification of emerging issues. The annual visual inspection will be reported as part of the CMP Annual Progress Reporting (Section 7.1.1).

Ad-hoc inspections will also be completed for localised areas of the estuaries throughout each year as CMP activities are completed. Some actions and threats may reach a threshold where an alternative management action will be required. Actions where this is relevant are detailed below in Table 7.1.

| Table 7.1: Thresholds for Relevant Actions and Threats | | |
|--|--|--|
| Action or threat | Threshold | Additional Action Required |
| R1.1: Review and respond to trends in aquatic habitat change | Analysis of updated aquatic vegetation mapping shows measurable impacts from moorings | Evaluate the cost/benefit of implementing Environmentally Friendly Mooring program |
| R 4.1: Estuary health data collection program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant variations in relation to historical data and/or water quality guidelines; or • Significant event in catchment that may impact estuarine health such as a bushfire, major flood or significant catchment intervention. | Re-prioritisation of actions to address issue/s Additional monitoring |
| R5.1: Adaptation planning for low lying assets | Increase in incidents and/or complaints of coastal and/or tidal inundation that results in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacted functionality of infrastructure • Increase in frequency of sewer spills from inundation • Measurable or more frequent economic losses (such as aquaculture harvest closures). | Increase prioritisation of adaptation |
| R5.4: Coastal erosion management and adaptation planning for Merimbula Main Beach R5.5: Dune rehabilitation program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >75% loss of dune width due to erosion; or • Recreational assets threatened by coastal hazards. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional/targeted dune rehabilitation and revegetation works; • Prioritise and restore foreshore access tracks and recreational infrastructure on a priority basis • Accelerate implementation of phased adaptation plans to respond to coastal hazards, as determined in R5.4 |

7.2.2 Scientific Data Collection and Analysis

The health of Merimbula Lake and Back Lake varies in response to climate and weather fluctuations, catchment inputs and for Back Lake, the state of the lake entrance. A targeted scientific data collection program is proposed across several management actions, to further understand changes in estuary health and, in particular, how this is evolving over the longer term following management interventions and large scale events within the catchment such as significant property developments.

High priority data collection for the Merimbula and Back Lake Estuary Health Monitoring Program will include:

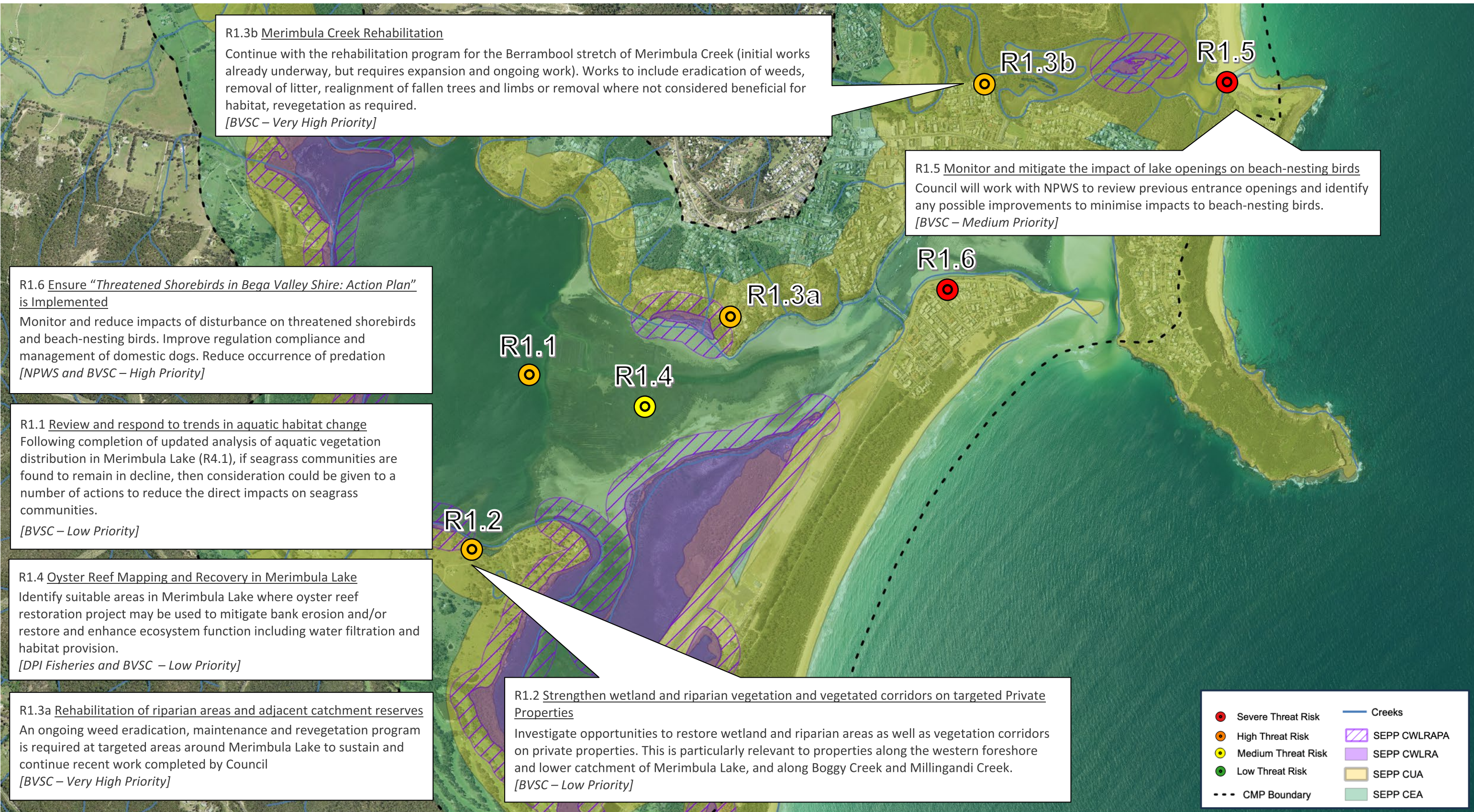
- Regular monitoring of environmental water quality parameters (nutrients, chlorophyll-a, turbidity as a minimum, preferably also DO, salinity, FC and enterococci) that covers periods of both entrance open and closed conditions (for Back Lake), and includes monitoring sites in the main lake bays as well as the major tributaries. This data collection should assist in further identifying drivers of fluctuations in water quality of the lake and basins.
- Collection and analysis of data sets for other key estuary health indicators. This will include updated mapping (Back Lake) and analysis (both lakes) of estuarine macrophytes to provide a contemporary understanding of changes in coverage and distribution of vegetation communities that have occurred over the past 20 years, and assist in further targeting management responses. Updated analysis of fish assemblages will also be conducted as part of the long-term monitoring of the overall estuarine health.

7.2.3 Community Feedback

Key objectives for management of coastal areas in NSW, as well as indicators within Council's *Community Strategic Plan 2042*, relate to the social, cultural and economic aspects of the coastal zone. The way that people use, enjoy, value and benefit from natural coastal assets such as Merimbula Lake and Back Lake, is an important performance indicator of the CMP. Capturing the evolving views and aspirations of the community with regards to management of lakes is therefore an important way for Council to "check-in" on the effectiveness of the CMP to meet the expectations and aspirations of the community.

Capturing community feedback during implementation of the CMP will occur as part of the Mid-Term Review and Terminal Evaluation Report, as well as informally via the range of community engagement, education and awareness actions that are part of the cross-cutting management responses proposed within the CMP.

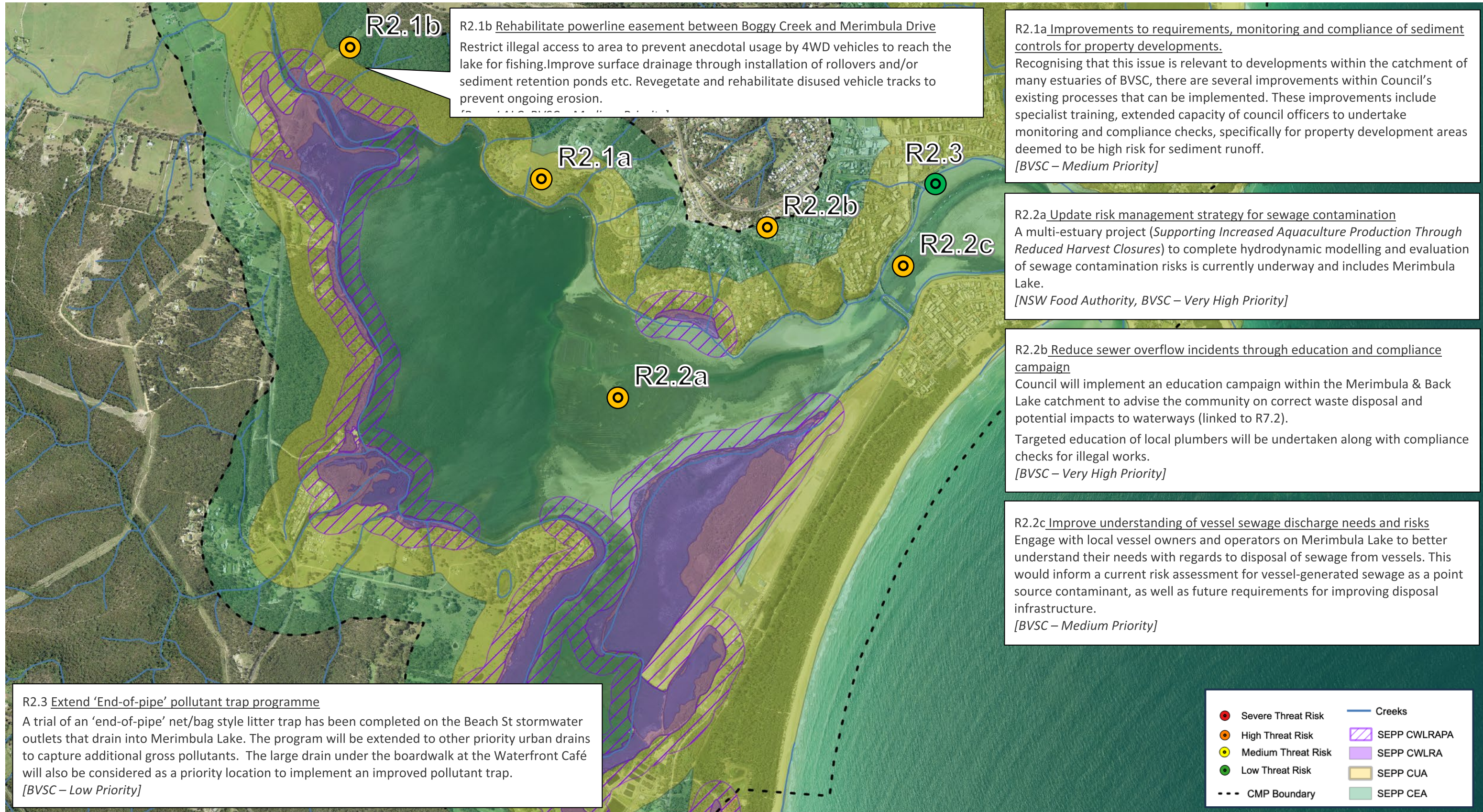
8 Maps




Merimbula and Back Lake
Coastal Management Program

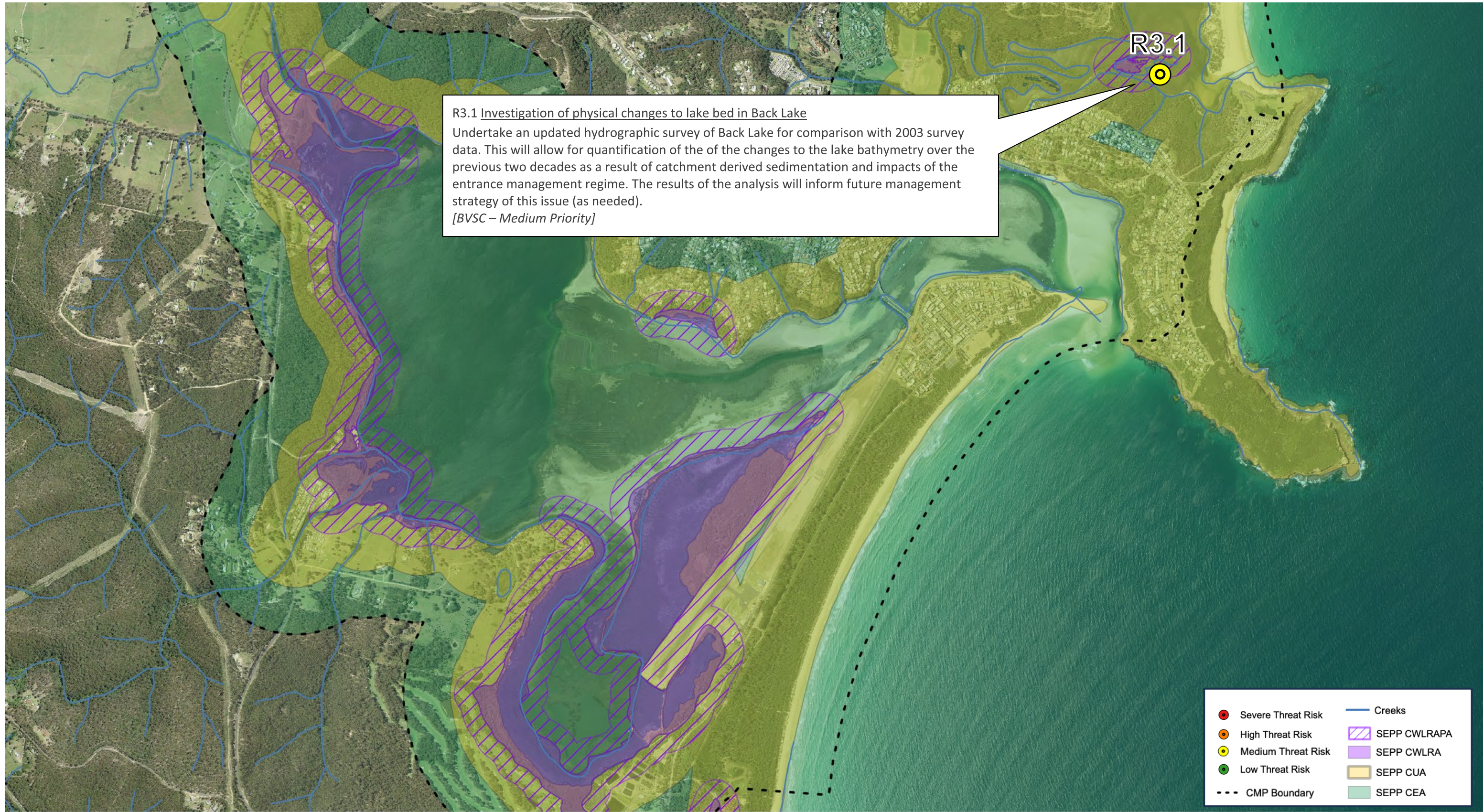
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| Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake | |
| Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 1 - Decline in Ecological Health and Diversity | |
| Map: 8.1 | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |





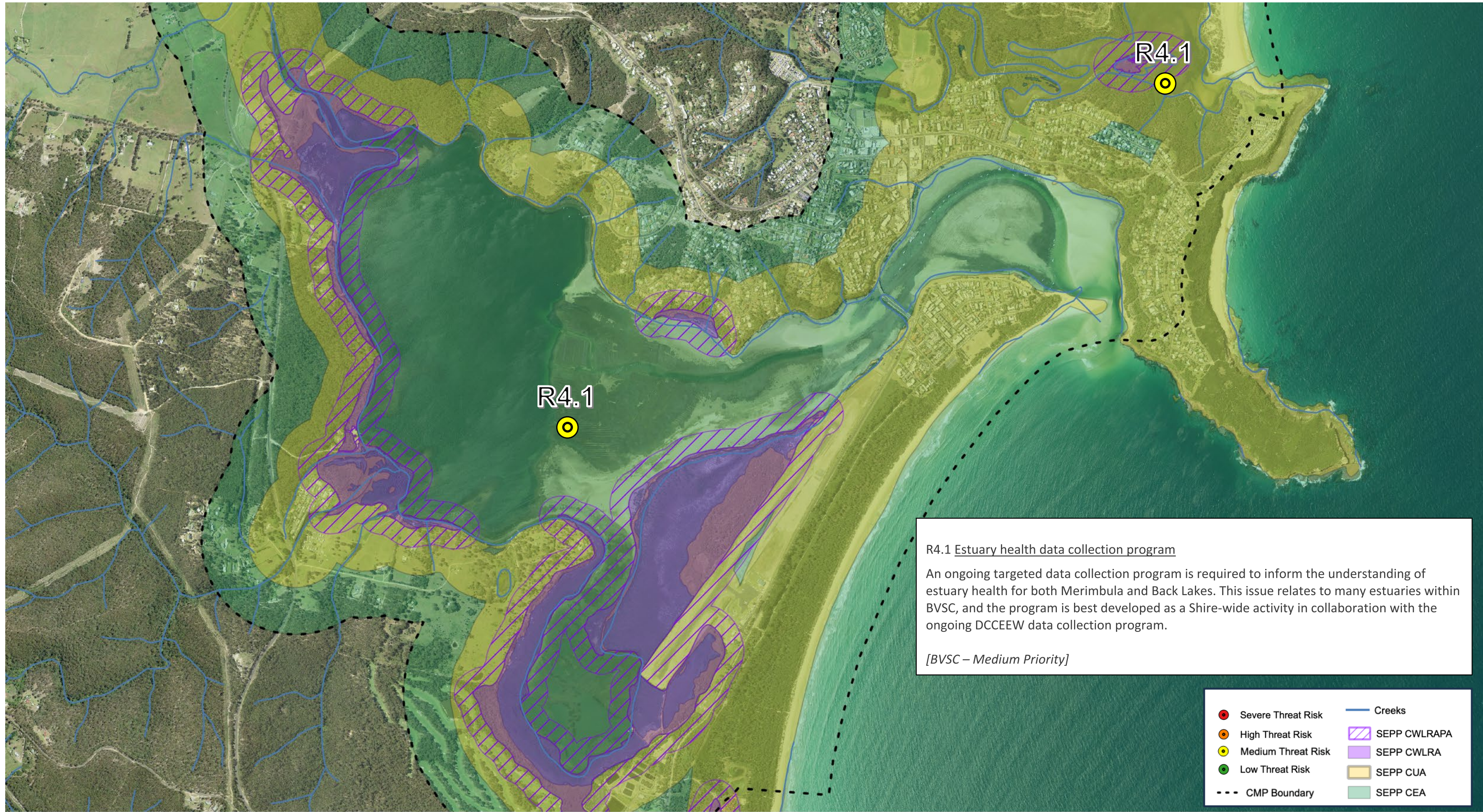
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| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake | |
| | Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 2 - Catchment Runoff and Urban Pollutants | |
| | Map: 8.2 | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |





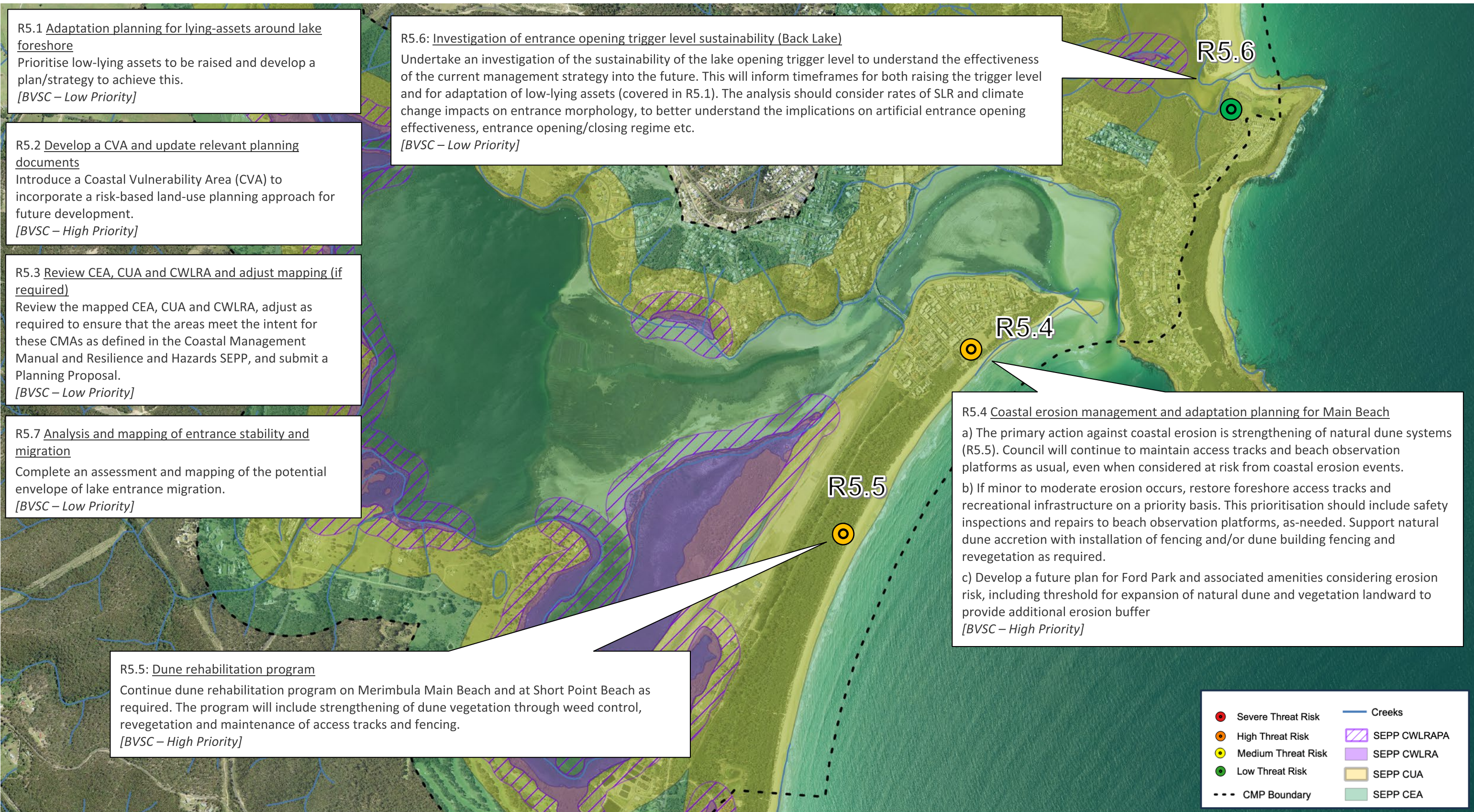
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| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake |
| | Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 3 - Structure and Function of Lake (Back Lake) |
| | Map: 8.3 |
| | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |





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| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake |
| | Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 4 – Lack of Knowledge of Estuary Health and Condition |
| | Map: 8.4 |
| | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |





R5.1 Adaptation planning for lying-assets around lake foreshore
 Prioritise low-lying assets to be raised and develop a plan/strategy to achieve this.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R5.2 Develop a CVA and update relevant planning documents
 Introduce a Coastal Vulnerability Area (CVA) to incorporate a risk-based land-use planning approach for future development.
[BVSC – High Priority]

R5.3 Review CEA, CUA and CWLRA and adjust mapping (if required)
 Review the mapped CEA, CUA and CWLRA, adjust as required to ensure that the areas meet the intent for these CMAs as defined in the Coastal Management Manual and Resilience and Hazards SEPP, and submit a Planning Proposal.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R5.7 Analysis and mapping of entrance stability and migration
 Complete an assessment and mapping of the potential envelope of lake entrance migration.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R5.6: Investigation of entrance opening trigger level sustainability (Back Lake)
 Undertake an investigation of the sustainability of the lake opening trigger level to understand the effectiveness of the current management strategy into the future. This will inform timeframes for both raising the trigger level and for adaptation of low-lying assets (covered in R5.1). The analysis should consider rates of SLR and climate change impacts on entrance morphology, to better understand the implications on artificial entrance opening effectiveness, entrance opening/closing regime etc.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

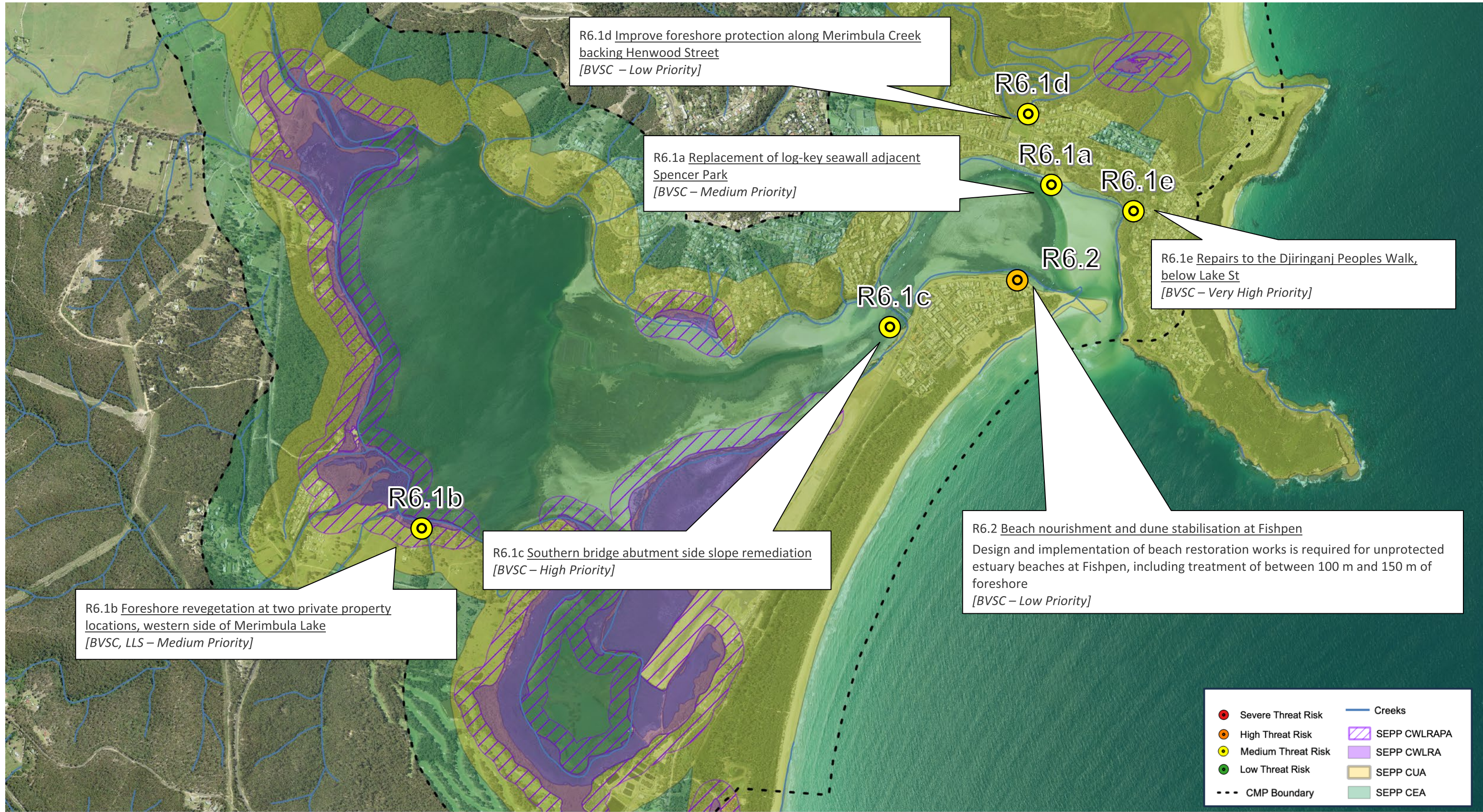
R5.4 Coastal erosion management and adaptation planning for Main Beach
 a) The primary action against coastal erosion is strengthening of natural dune systems (R5.5). Council will continue to maintain access tracks and beach observation platforms as usual, even when considered at risk from coastal erosion events.
 b) If minor to moderate erosion occurs, restore foreshore access tracks and recreational infrastructure on a priority basis. This prioritisation should include safety inspections and repairs to beach observation platforms, as-needed. Support natural dune accretion with installation of fencing and/or dune building fencing and revegetation as required.
 c) Develop a future plan for Ford Park and associated amenities considering erosion risk, including threshold for expansion of natural dune and vegetation landward to provide additional erosion buffer
[BVSC – High Priority]

R5.5: Dune rehabilitation program
 Continue dune rehabilitation program on Merimbula Main Beach and at Short Point Beach as required. The program will include strengthening of dune vegetation through weed control, revegetation and maintenance of access tracks and fencing.
[BVSC – High Priority]

- Severe Threat Risk
- High Threat Risk
- Medium Threat Risk
- Low Threat Risk
- - - CMP Boundary
- Creeks
- ▨ SEPP CWLRAPA
- ▨ SEPP CWLRA
- ▨ SEPP CUA
- ▨ SEPP CEA

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake | |
| | Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 5 – Coastal Hazards | |
| | Map: 8.5 | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |





Merimbula and Back Lake
Coastal Management Program

Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake

Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 6 – Degradation of Foreshore and Beach Integrity

Map: 8.6

Date: 23/07/2024
Rev: 1



R7.1 Develop and implement maintenance/upgrade plans for recreational assets

Council will review recreational assets, ensure key assets are identified in asset management plans and future funding pathways for maintenance and improvements of are identified. This will include recreational infrastructure such as walking trails, observation platforms, accessibility and picnicking facilities. The plans would acknowledge and balance the community aspirations for the area, the environmental values of the estuaries, the coastal hazard risk profile and the existing plans of management that are in place.
 [BVSC – Medium Priority]



R7.2 Access Improvements to Merimbula Lake

Council will explore opportunities to improve accessibility to Merimbula Lake, in particular where informal access is currently resulting in environmental issues. Example locations identified include improved access for launching personal water craft from the boat ramp car parking area, controlled pedestrian access to estuary beaches at the Fishpen area, improved/direct access to Golf Course Lagoon for fishing boats.
 [BVSC – Medium Priority]

- Severe Threat Risk
- High Threat Risk
- Medium Threat Risk
- Low Threat Risk
- - - CMP Boundary
- Creeks
- SEPP CWRAPA
- SEPP CWLRA
- SEPP CUA
- SEPP CEA

| | | |
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| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lakes | |
| | Map Title: Management Responses - Threat 7 – Reduced Amenity, Recreational Value and Community Satisfaction | |
| | Map: 8.7 | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |



R8.1 Engagement and support to community interest group/s
 Engage and support activities in partnership with community interest group/s for the rehabilitation and preservation of reserves surrounding both Merimbula and Back Lake and tributaries.
 Engage, support and partner with oyster growers on Merimbula Lake with regards to community engagement and environmental management initiatives, such as work under R2.2b and the 'Love our Lakes' program for example.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

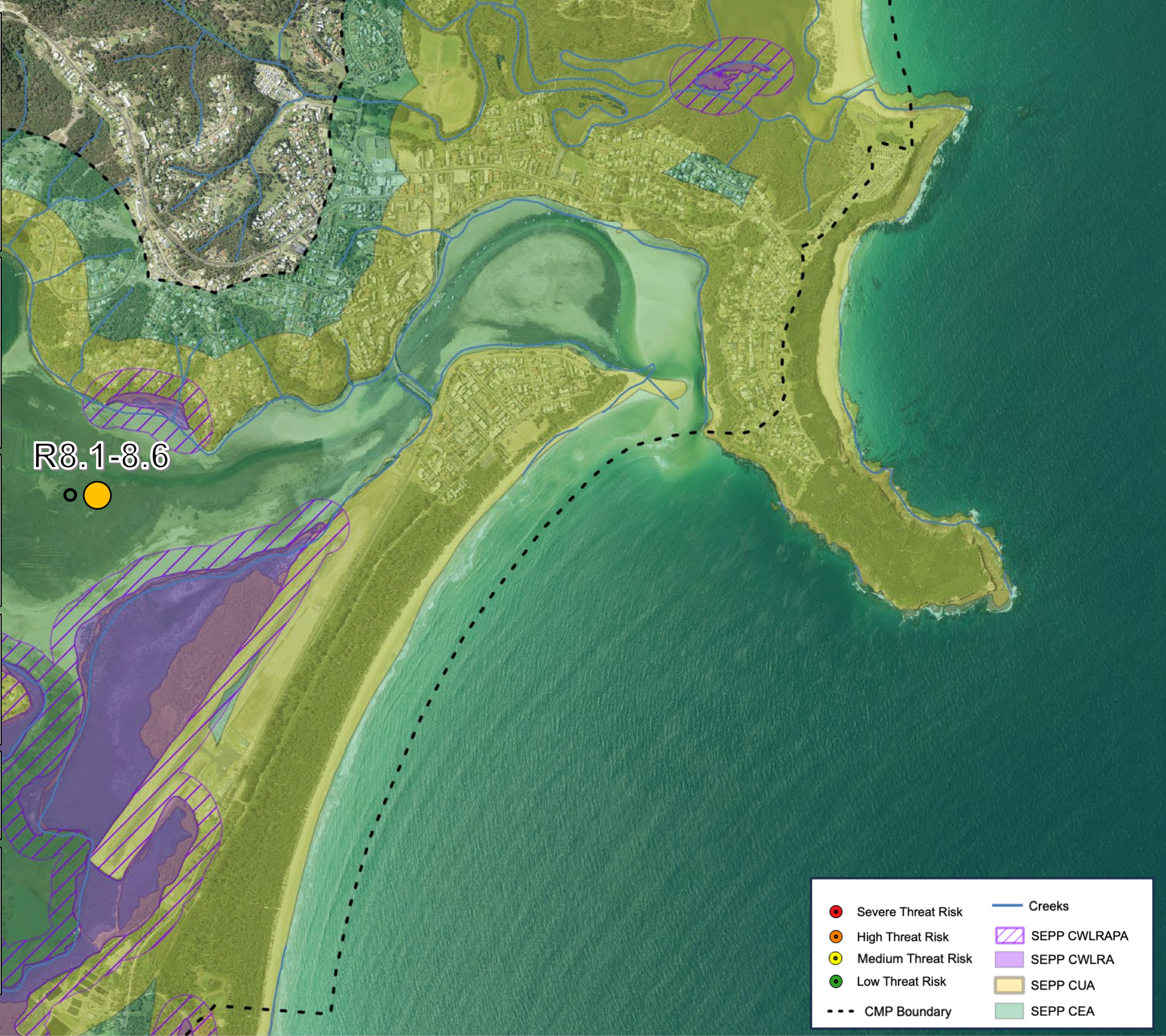
R8.2 Access Improvements to Merimbula Lake
 An ongoing and pro-active program of community engagement initiatives is required, aimed at improving awareness of the lakes and their natural processes, as well as their role as environmental, recreational and commercial assets to our local community. Activities and initiatives could be undertaken as an extension to the successful existing programme "Love our Lakes", or under a refreshed initiative.
[BVSC – Medium Priority]

R8.3 Improved acknowledgement and promotion of Aboriginal cultural values through consultation, contribution to on ground works and implementation of specific projects
 Ongoing consultation with local indigenous community members and leaders to acknowledge, highlight and implement Aboriginal cultural values within estuary and coastal management activities.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R8.4 Maintain and update interpretive signage
 Maintain existing network of interpretive signage around both lakes, and where relevant, install new signage covering additional aspects such as Aboriginal heritage; natural processes and ecology.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R8.5 Citizen science initiatives
 Trial citizen science initiatives at both lakes as opportunities arise.
[BVSC – Low Priority]

R8.6 Integration and promotion of walking tracks
 Both lakes have extensive and highly valued walking tracks around the foreshore and within the catchments. The experiences gained from the walking tracks varies greatly from scenic lake views on Merimbula Lake to wildlife and bush around Back Lake.
[BVSC – Low Priority]



- Severe Threat Risk
- High Threat Risk
- Medium Threat Risk
- Low Threat Risk
- CMP Boundary
- Creeks
- ▨ SEPP CWLRAPA
- ▨ SEPP CWLRA
- ▨ SEPP CUA
- ▨ SEPP CEA

| | | |
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| Merimbula and Back Lake Coastal Management Program | Map Location: Merimbula Lake and Back Lake | |
| | Map Title: Cross-Cutting Management Response – Community Engagement, Education and Participation | |
| | Map: 8.8 | Date: 23/07/2024 Rev: 1 |



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