

Land manager updates

Implementation of Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan

April 2012

Hobart City Council (HCC)

Immediate works

- **North South Track** completed and opened; some minor maintenance works are being undertaken to gravel sections either side of the boulder-field and a section at the Glenorchy end.
- **Pipeline Track.** Bikes to be permitted from Fern Tree to Waterworks Reserve (i.e. Fern Tree Shop to Chimney Pot Hill Road, and Chimney Pot Road to Gentle Annie Falls / McDermott's Saddle, then down the Fire Trail into Waterworks Reserve). New signage is currently being arranged.
- **Domain.** The full Joggers Loop will be opened to bikes
- **Houn Rd to Waterworks.** Existing trail from near HCC depot on Huon Road that runs down to the Waterworks Reserve will be opened to bikes.

Planning works

- **Hunters Track Downhill.** HCC noted a downhill shuttle track is a high priority and that the Hunters route is number one on that list, with planning works commencing. Stages of works likely to be:
 - South fork of Old Farm Fire Trail to be signed as MTB only (downhill trail) with walkers directed to adjacent Myrtle Gully Track.
 - Upgrading and re-opening the original historic walking track from Junction Cabin to Chalet (i.e. Hunters Track alternative for walkers)
 - Close Hunters Track to walkers and upgrade/open for bikes
- **Tip Top / Slides.** HCC noted this route/upgrade is also being planned as a priority, with some re-routing and rebuilding required.
- **Track volunteer engagement process/register** is being established at HCC. This will set out a register for the coordination of volunteer resources for both designing and building tracks. Volunteer policy to be adhered to and an experienced track worker will be employed to oversee volunteers, manage quality, risk and sign-off on the work.
- **Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan.** It was noted that the HCC endorsed the master plan in February.

Kingborough Council (KC)

Immediate works

- **Kingborough Mountain Bike Park.** First stage of works almost completed including approximately 2.5 km of intermediate and beginner trails, a short children's/beginner loop, and dirt jumps.

Future stage to include a skills development area, a more advanced trail section and a pump track, which will be progressed when funding allows.

Planning works

- Updating **Kingborough Tracks and Trails Action Plan** to include the mountain biking elements within the master plan.
- **Hobart to Dover Regional Trail.** Continuing to investigate potential linkages, particularly section from Kingborough Sports Centre to Margate.
- **Westringia Trail.** Initiating investigations into formalising this route (requires private landowner permission). KC noted this could be an important route linking key riding area of Mt Wellington to Kingston and coming out very close to the location of the Kingborough Mountain Bike Park that is under construction.
- **Nierinna Creek Trail.** Fixing up promotions that currently advise no-bikes. Noting trail provides connection to popular mountain bike route on Kaoota Tramway Trail.
- **Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan.** It was noted that the KC endorsed the master plan in March/April.

Clarence City Council (CCC)

Immediate works

- **Clarence Mountain Bike Park.** A formal Caretaker Program has commenced at the park being overseen by Simon French at Dirt Art. Current works focused on trail maintenance/drainage and weeding. 4-Cross course also to be converted into a flow trail.
- Clint also reported that he is in the final stages of the formalising a **volunteer trail care group for the greater Meehan Range** with Parks and Wildlife Service. The group will initially focus on trail maintenance in and around the Belbins Road area and begin works on the Skyline Link Trail.

Planning works

- **Tangara Trail.** CCC noted that the Tangara Trail Management Plan is under development and will soon go up to council for endorsement. Whole of Tangara Trail to be promoted as multi-use including mountain bikes.

Following endorsement of plan the initial focus of works will be installing the overarching Tangara Trail signage. This will be followed by naming and signing discrete sections within the trail over the longer term, as well as securing extensions (e.g. via subdivisions).

- **Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan.** CCC noted that the endorsement of the master plan will follow the endorsement of the Tangara Trail Plan as the two are interlinked. CCC also noted they expect no issues with endorsing the MTB masterplan.

Glenorchy City Council (GCC)

Immediate works

- **North South Track** recently opened and completed. Some additional works are soon to commence on upgrading the existing bike park cross country climb and descent that feeds into the NS Track. Additional signage is also about to be installed.
- **Fire Trails.** GCC noted that many of the fire trails in the area have recently been upgraded including Priest Fire Trail (the downhill access fire trail).
- **Care Taker Program – Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.** It was noted that a formal caretaker program has commenced at the park and is being overseen by Simon French at Dirt Art. Initial focus includes reshaping and resurfacing the dirt jumps, maintenance and drainage on the lower section of the downhill trail, and general tidying up and trail maintenance.

Planning works

- Planning works have commenced on the **moderate-difficulty downhill trail** that will ultimately serve as the NS down route (adjacent the extreme downhill trail).
- Support to initiate investigations into a **Big Bend down-gradient, all-mountain route** from Big Bend to bike park. Noting focus likely to include utilising majority of existing Big Bend and Knights Creeks Trails, with short off shoots around the worst areas and to provide interesting sections. Given financial challenges of both council and state this simpler route is seen as having a more realistic chance of being progressed.

Wellington Park Management Trust (WPMT)

- Refer to notes under relevant land manager agency (i.e. Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils)
- **Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan.** It was noted that the WPMT endorsed the master plan in February and has amended the Wellington Park Bike Strategy 2005 to include the relevant section of the plan.
- The WPMT is currently reviewing the **Wellington Park Management Plan 2005**. The outcomes of this review are unlikely to have a direct effect on mountain bike access given the delegation of bike access issues to the Bike Strategy.