

## LAND MANAGER UPDATES

### IMPLEMENTATION OF GREATER HOBART MOUNTAIN BIKE MASTER PLAN

AUGUST 2014

#### City of Hobart (CoH)



**Tip Top Track** – paving work

#### *Immediate works*

- **Radfords Track** – On-ground construction work is complete, except installation of replacement signage. Signage hasn't been installed yet as the WPMT required that their Sign Manual be updated and that all tracks within the Park are difficulty rated. The WPMT have updated their Sign Manual, but they have not organised the time to grade all tracks.
- **Tip Top Track** – On-ground construction work is complete. The track is to be included in the Greater Hobart Trails website.
- **Strickland Falls link** – CoH is hoping to pursue the missing link between Rivulet Track to Middle Island Fire Trail however budget was not provided for this project in 14/15. The funding for the track will be sought in 15/16.
- **Chalet Downhill Track.** Planning work for the proposed Chalet DH Track will recommence following completion of community engagement for the proposed Old Farm Track conversion, which is expected to occur in November 2014.
- **Old Farm Track** – the lower half of the Chalet DH Track concept is to include an alteration of Old Farm Track from its current bi-directional shared use position to a downhill only track for mountain bike riders. The Council is about to commence the community engagement which will inform the recommendation to the Council and to the Trust. It is expected that the result will be known by November 2014.
- **Middle Track (Radfords Track to Reservoir Trail)** – CoH has funding provided in the 14/15 budget to undertake works which will tighten up some sections and help passively manage straight-line speed on this trail as well as works to improve drainage. This is subject to the WPMT undertaking its social values assessment and the provision of a Works Permit from the

WPMT. If the social values assessment is not progressed in the near term, Council will not be able to implement these changes and the funding will be diverted to other projects.

- WPMT has advised that it will consider a shared use trial for this section of Middle Track 'to ascertain social and other impacts', subject to the approval of the Trust. CoH has advised WPMT that approval for a shared use trial, including the scope of such a trial, must be provided by the end of August 2014. CoH has advised that this deadline is necessary so that the Bushland and Reserve Unit has adequate time to redirect the available funding toward alternative projects if the Trust does not allow a trial to proceed.
- **Fern Tree Park to Pillinger Drive** – CoH has funding provided in the 14/15 budget to undertake works which will tighten up some sections and help passively manage straight-line speed on this trail as well as works to improve drainage. This is subject to the WPMT undertaking its social values assessment and the provision of a Works Permit from the WPMT. If the social values assessment is not progressed in the near term, Council will not be able to implement these changes and the funding will be diverted to other projects.
  - WPMT has advised that it will consider a shared use trial for this section Fern Tree Park track 'to ascertain social and other impacts', subject to the approval of the Trust. CoH has advised WPMT that approval for a shared use trial, including the scope of such a trial, must be provided by the end of August 2014. CoH has advised that this deadline is necessary so that the Bushland and Reserve Unit has adequate time to redirect the available funding toward alternative projects if the Trust does not allow a trial to proceed.
- **S56** – CoH had funding provided in the 14/15 budget to undertake work to repair and formalise this track. However the Council has since required that the decking and handrails of the twin bridges on the Pipeline Track be increased to provide for shared use. This has resulted in the funding for the S56 Track being taken to assist in funding that project. The funding for the track will be sought in 15/16.

### **Kingborough Council (KC)**

- **Kingborough MTB Park** – there has been no further work at the MTB park. Council is aware of some simple maintenance requirements, however these are yet to be done. We have been unsuccessful in obtaining funds to build Stage 2.
- **Alum Cliffs Track** - Although the Alum Cliffs Track signage says that it is not a bike trail, there are no actual by laws/council decisions that have brought this on. It is just signage. Council have recently completed the short (but steep) section of the trail from the Taronga Rd end of the track to the Shot tower carpark. This link presents an opportunity to develop the track into a shared use track that has benefits as a commuting route as well as a recreational route. The Greater Hobart MTB Masterplan recommends that investigations be made into the development of the Alum Cliffs Trail into a shared use trail. An option is to identify areas which can be modified for bikes and

undertake a trial. The trail has the potential for family rides and a commuting route – line of sight is the main issue. The Steering Group expressed interest in exploring the issues and opportunities.

## Clarence City Council (CCC)

### *Immediate works*

- **Pilchers Hill** - The Pilchers Hill Circuit Track will be upgraded.
- **Clarence MTB Park** – Weed management is a priority
- **Rosny Hill**. The circuit track around Rosny Hill has been upgraded and completed. This is an easy beginner level track. A submission will be made in the CCC budget to improve the carparking area at the beginning of the track. Signage will be installed shortly.

### *Planning works*

- **Pilchers Hill**. A new track alignment in Pilchers Hill Reserve has been identified which would go from the Geilston Creek Circuit Track to the top of Pilchers Hill. A link track from Pilchers Hill Reserve to the Meehan Skyline has also been identified but will require negotiation with a landowner before the track can be constructed.
- **Tangara Trail** – A Roscommon Recreation Plan is being developed which identifies new trail connections around the perimeter of Roscommon in Lauderdale which would provide improved links between Seven Mile Beach and Lauderdale. Subdivision applications in the Acton area may result in new trail connections to Mt Rumney and Belbins Road from the Tangara Trail in Acton Park. Signage is progressing on the Tangara Trail - drainage and realignment of some sections will be undertaken next financial year.
- **Meehan Range** – An online survey has been carried out with 190 responses. Results are being collated for the Strategic Plan which is being coordinated by Dirt Art. A trail inventory is being done and a report will be prepared. From there concept trail alignments for extended mountain bike opportunities in the area will be developed and presented to stakeholders for feedback.
- **Grass Tree Hill Rivulet Track** – an MTB track has been included in the Reserve Activity Plan.



**Tangara Trail:** Newly constructed switchbacks on the Storm Bay View/Butterfly Track (not officially named yet)

## Glenorchy City Council (GCC)

### *Immediate works*

- **Glenorchy MTB Park – maps and signage**– signage and trail map for Glenorchy MTB Park should be completed before the end of June. Downloadable PDF map, link to Google map/google earth of trails, on ground signage of all trails, 3 recommended loop trails for beginner and intermediate riders. There is now a link available on the GCC website to an interactive map of the Glenorchy MTB park:  
[http://www.gcc.tas.gov.au/content/Glenorchy\\_Mountain\\_Bike\\_Park.GCC?ActiveID=1321](http://www.gcc.tas.gov.au/content/Glenorchy_Mountain_Bike_Park.GCC?ActiveID=1321)
- Upgrade of **Knights trail** to beginner/green circle standard.
- More work scheduled to improve erosion issues on **Green Corps section of NS track**, over the month of April. Riders are asked to take care on this section of track whilst the works are being undertaken.



New Signage at Glenorchy MTB Park

## **Wellington Park Management Trust (WPMT)**

- **West Wellington Multi Day Track** – economic feasibility study released. Further assessment of the recommendation for an “Epic” mountain bike track around Mt Wellington to be undertaken (due Oct 2014).
- **Wellington Park Management Plan 2013** came into effect on 1 January 2014.
- **HCC Works Permit request to convert a number of tracks in Wellington Park to multi-use.** - No progress. Continued frustrations of the committee expressed over the lack of progress on these assessments by the WPMT considering the requests were submitted to them 2-years ago. The CoH has funding allocated to these projects which will be lost/redirected if no action is undertaken.
- **Work on Radfords track to slow bike speeds** – almost complete
- **Strickland Falls link and Chalet Downhill track** – no change
- **Middle Track and Fern Tree Park to Pillinger Drive link** – no progress with social values assessment
- **Ongoing monitoring of shared use and walking tracks** – one instance of a rider on a walking track (Cascade Track) detected since last meeting
- **Illegal trackwork:** Grays Fire Trail-Pipeline. Discovered a steep and hairy Freeride/DH track in November. HCC tracks unit closed it off end November
- **Informal Tracks** – Upper Luge. Close-off works were gradually undone by users, mostly walkers, to the point that bikes were returning. Tracks unit went in again to reinstate close off in December.
- **Communications Strategy in development** – developing a communications plan to educate walkers and riders about Park values and to raise awareness of each other’s activities, needs and wants. Aim is to increase compliance with regulations, ie. stop illegal track building and riding on walking tracks. Various strategies are being considered to help this happen, with ideas coming from talks with HCC planners and the tracks unit, riders and walkers.