

## Wagait Shire Action Plan for Climate Change

#### **Risks Identified - Major (high)**

**Assets and Infrastructure:** Loss of sealed and unsealed road access **Emergency management and extreme climactic events:** damage

from cyclones; significant flooding and storm surge

**Public Health:** Heat related Illness/Aged population very susceptible **Assets and Infrastructure:** Loss of power and water supply; damage

to the jetty; and damaged housing

Risks Identified - Minor (medium-low)

Emergency management and extreme climactic events: damage

from bushfires

Public Health: Mosquito and vector borne disease

Natural Environment and Culture: Salt-water intrusion into

freshwater water ways and billabongs

Local Stakeholders: Wagait Shire Council; LGANT; Wagait Shire Emergency Management Committee; Wagait Beach community residents

Related Authorities/Agencies: Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department Local Government (DLGHCD), Department Infrastructure and Planning (DIPL), Crown Lands Estate Office, Power Water Corporation; NTRM; Environment centre; Topend Coasts, and Land Care/Coast Care

#### **Related Information Sources:**

- Climate Change Risk Assessment and Adaption Planning Report (2010 LGANT Report) <a href="http://wagait.nt.gov.au/publications-2/">http://wagait.nt.gov.au/publications-2/</a>
- Australian Government Climate Change Council <a href="https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/category/climate-impacts/">https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/category/climate-impacts/</a>
- NT Government *Climate Change Response Towards 2050* (2020 NTG Action Plan) <a href="https://denr.nt.gov.au/programs-and-strategies/climate-change-response-towards-2050">https://denr.nt.gov.au/programs-and-strategies/climate-change-response-towards-2050</a>

# Goal: To ensure Wagait Shire prepares, responds and recovers and adapts to issues arising from climate change within the local area

Objective 1: Review the risks identified in the 2010 LGANT report for Wagait Beach community

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Develop small working group to assist review of 2010 LGANT report and re affirm risks and adaption practices	<ul> <li>Council endorsement</li> <li>Seek funding to engage consultant to undertake scientific data collection to update 2010 LGANT report</li> </ul>	CEO	Commence asap	Risks and recommendations are confirmed and updated
Review Council strategic and annual plans to incorporate climate change	Amend Council plans	CEO	Following	Council plan include climate change considerations

### Objective 2: Seek to establish a resident based (voluntary) group to champion the issues

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Establish climate change/coast care group of concerned residents	<ul> <li>Engage with DENR/CLO and other Ngo groups to identify assistance available</li> <li>Discuss with Top end coasts what support may be available</li> <li>Advertise /conduct public meeting</li> </ul>	CEO	Commenced asap	Community group established Relevant contacts made

Objective 3: Develop and deliver community education and awareness to build community resilience

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Develop locally appropriate community information and communications collateral	<ul> <li>WSEMC agenda item</li> <li>Seek funds to develop communications collateral and update website</li> </ul>	CEO	ASAP	Community is educated and prepared
Build community awareness	<ul> <li>Correspond with residents directly affected by sea rise and surge risks</li> <li>Publish the 2014 surge map on council web site</li> <li>Publish RUA information on Council web site and in e-news</li> <li>Develop a welcome brochure for new residents</li> </ul>	CEO	Oct 2020	Residents are aware of current issues and guidelines

#### Objective 4: Incorporate heat wave related illness into education provided by health service

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Health and aged services	Discuss with Belyuen clinic staff	CEO	As required	Older vulnerable residents safe
	<ul> <li>Discuss with aged care service</li> </ul>			
	provider			
	• Identify older residents who may be			
	at risk in high temperature events			
	Put on WSEMC agenda			

#### Objective 5: Understand in all procurement practices the requirements for adaption due to climate change

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Include climate change adaptation in purchasing policy	Review and amend	CEO/Council	As required	Safe work practice
Councils safety and risk policy be reviewed to include identified climate risks	Review and amend	CEO/Council	As required	Ensure community needs are safely met

#### Objective 6: Include climate change considerations in the upgrade, design and development of key community infrastructure

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Road surfaces	<ul> <li>Cox Drive floodway design</li> <li>Green waste track</li> <li>Review previous roads assessment undertaken (2019)</li> </ul>	CEO	ASAP	Community Infrastructure and facilities future proofed
Estate drainage network	<ul> <li>Council audit with assistance from community</li> <li>Desilt drains and remove vegetation (contractors engaged as required)</li> <li>Engage with road specialist eg Ostojic or Kings to develop drainage remediation master-plan</li> <li>Seek assistance to undertake drainage study for the subdivision in particular the outlets on to the coastal foreshore</li> <li>Identify possible funding sources for enclosing Wagait Tower Road drain</li> </ul>	CEO	ASAP Nov 2020	Priority areas are re-affirmed Planning undertaken Funding sourced Drainage issues remediated

Cyclone shelters	<ul> <li>Review and update Cyclone         Management information</li> <li>Review community population and shelter capacity</li> <li>Seek funding for additional shelters</li> </ul>		Emergency networks confirmed Community facilities are upgraded Community is prepared
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#### Objective 7: Ensure the power and water supply for residents will not be affected by the impacts of climate change

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Commence a dialogue with	Substation near jetty	CEO		
PWC regarding the location and vulnerability of key	Water tanks alongside creek			
infrastructure				

#### Objective 8: Sea level rise and increased storm surge impacts are understood and mitigated

Action Area	Action Items	Responsible	Timing	Outcomes
Participate in the Coastal	Engage with Larrakia Rangers	CEO/Community		Beach cleaned
beach clean-up 28	Council staff preparations	Group		
September 2020	• E-news and FB to residents			
Coast Care week 7-13	Engage with DENR regarding possible	Community		Attention on coastal issues
December 2020	activities for Wagait Beach	Group		
RUA protection	Work with DIPL and CLO to develop	CEO/Community Group	Ongoing	RUA
	<ul><li>strategies to protect the RUA</li><li>E-news and letter to residents</li></ul>	Стоир		
	L-news and letter to residents			
Coastal review (coastal and	Engage with DENR to negotiate for	CEO/Community		
marine strategy actions)	coastal spatial mapping of the Cox	Group		
	Peninsula			

	Engage with Water resources to identify water flows and possible salt-water intrusion concerns (bores)		
Ensure coastal habitat and fauna is protected and enhanced	<ul> <li>Engage with DENR to obtain survey data from Conservation commission on turtle breeding sites to be protected</li> <li>Engage with DENR/DIPL/Crown Lands Office to seek approval to establish a weed control program and re-afforest program for the RUA</li> <li>Seek approval to repair or decommission coastal access points</li> <li>Seek to identify means of minimising vehicular access across the dunes and on the beach</li> </ul>	CEO/Community Group	Turtle breeding sites protected  Fire risk on RUA mitigated  Dunes stabilised with local trees  Damage to the dunes minimised

### **Document Version control: Issue, Review and Amendment**

Version	Date	Origin	Description	Check	Approval instrument
Draft 1	04/08/2020	C Tyzack	First draft	CEO	
Draft 2	09/09/2020	CEO	Second draft	СТ	
Final	15/09/2020	WSEMC	Final draft	WSC	Resolution 2020/150
Revised					