



# State of the Environment Snapshot 2016-17

A State of the Environment (SoE) Report is an important management tool which aims to provide the community and Local Council with information on the condition of the environment in the local area to assist in decision-making.

Since 2007, the Councils of the Greater Central West Region of NSW (see map) have joined to produce Regional SoE Reports as part of Council reporting requirements.

Changes to NSW legislation mean that Councils are no longer required to produce SoE Reports each year, but only once every four years, in the year of the Council election. However, the participating Councils have decided to continue reporting on an annual basis so that they can provide a detailed Regional SoE report that covers trends in the intervening years.

This is a brief snapshot of data for the Cabonne Local Government Area in 2016-17 across a range of environmental indicators as shown in the tables below. The tables provide an understanding of trends by comparing this year's data with an average of previous years. The Council snapshot report should be read in conjunction with the 2016-17 Regional SoE report.

## 2016-17 Highlights

- ⬇ There was an increase in the number of landuse conflict complaints to Council compared with last year.
- ⬆ In 2016-17, there was a significant decline in the number of Erosion and Sediment Control complaints received by Council compared with 2015-16.
- ⬆ The level of town water use was at its lowest level in the last four years.
- ⬇ There was a decrease in the number of hours that environmental volunteers worked on public open space compared with previous years.
- ⬆ The annual electricity consumption for Council controlled facilities was at its lowest level for the past four years.

## Land

Issue	Indicator	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Trend
Contamination	Contaminated land sites - Contaminated Land Register (Number)	2	2	2	2	➡
	Contaminated land sites - potentially contaminated sites (Number)	8	8	8	8	➡
	Contaminated sites rehabilitated (Number)	0	1	0	0	➡
Erosion	Erosion affected land rehabilitated (ha)			0	0	➡
Land use planning and management	Number of development consents and building approvals	370	353	219	248	⬆
	Landuse conflict complaints (Number)			2	12	⬇
	Loss of primary agricultural land through rezoning (ha)	0	25	0	95	⬇
Minerals & Petroleum	Number of mining and exploration titles	84	84	88	97	⬇
	Area covered by mining and exploration titles (ha)	204,000		178,000	300,000	⬇



improvement



no or little change



worsening trend

Note - the trend is based on comparing the average of the previous three years of reporting with 2016-17

# Biodiversity

Issue	Indicator	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Trend
Habitat Loss	Total Area in the National Parks Estate (ha)		38,726	38,678	38,867	→
	Total Area of State Forests (ha)		14,450	14,431	14,517	→
	Total Area Protected in Wildlife Refuges (Ha)	8,888	8,888	8,888	8,888	→
	Area protected in conservation reserves & under voluntary conservation agreements (ha)	450	450	450	450	→
	Extent of Traveling Stock Reserves in LGA (ha)			661	661	→
	Proportion of Council reserves that is bushland/remnant vegetation	0%	0%	0%	0%	→
	Habitat areas revegetated (ha)	40	5	20	20	↓
	Roadside vegetation management plan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	→
	Roadside vegetation rehabilitated (ha)		30	1	20	↑
Threatened Species	Threatened species actions implemented (e.g. PAS, recovery plans) (Number)	0	0	1	0	↓
	Fish restocking activities: native species (Number)	21,591	21,565	6,306	2,520	↓
Noxious weeds and feral animals	Fish restocking activities: non-native species (Number)	17,000	12,000	14,000	16,000	↓
	Number of declared noxious weeds (Number)	113	126	126	95	↑
	Invasive species (listed noxious or WONS) under active management (Number)	31	31	31	31	→

# Towards Sustainability

Issue	Indicator	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Trend
Waste Generation	Total waste entombed at primary landfill (tonnes)	1,174	1,442	1,422	2,029	↓
	Total waste entombed at other landfills (exc recyclables) (tonnes)	3,867	4,024	3,823	3,676	↑
	Average total waste generated per person (tonnes)	0.37	0.40	0.38	0.42	↓
	Average cost of waste service per residential household		\$312	\$320	\$330	↓
Hazardous/Liquid Waste	DrumMuster collections (number of drums)	5,828	0	1,576	9,687	↑
	Household Hazardous Wastes collected (kg)	746	481	1,757	1,372	↑
Reduce	Organics collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)	867	64	219	248	↓
	E-Waste collected (diverted from landfill) (tonnes)	0	16	0	0	↓
Recycle	Volume of material recycled (tonnes)	263	719	761	1,753	↑
	Volume of material recycled per person (kg)	19	52	55	128	↑
Littering and illegal dumping	Number of illegal waste disposal complaints to Council		8	8	9	↓
Engineering, Infrastructure and Civil Works	New road construction (km)	0	0	0	0	→
	Road upgrades (km)	93	263	157	148	↑
Risk Management	Flood management plans/ flood mapping - increase in area covered (ha)			0	0	→
	Hazard reduction burns (Number)	0	0	0	0	→
Climate Change Mitigation	Office paper used by Council (A4 & A3 reams)	1,071	898	690	713	↑
	Council sustainability initiatives (Number)	6	7	7	2	↓
	Council mitigation initiatives (Number)		0	0	3	→
Council Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Annual electricity consumption for Council controlled facilities (MWh)	2,239	2,392	2,386	2,108	↑
	Annual natural gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (Gj)	0	0	0	0	→
	Annual bottled gas consumption for Council controlled facilities (L)	8,216	5,307	3,909	2,612	↑
	Total fuel consumption (KL)	653	652	729	723	↓
	Proportion of Council's electrical energy demand met from council-owned renewable energy infrastructure	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	→
	Council total operational greenhouse gas emissions (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e/year)	7,080	6,526	7,739	7,144	↓
Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions	Small scale renewable energy uptake (kW installed) – data collected 30 July 2017	706	726	758	494	↓
	Number of solar water heaters and heat pumps installed	17	22	18	9	↓

# Water and Waterways

Issue	Indicator	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Trend
Surface & Ground Water Quality	Average salinity levels in selected streams (EC)	461	523	558		
	E.coli remote from wastewater treatment plants (per 100ml)		700	800	414	⬆️
	Average Total Nitrogen in selected streams (mg/L)	0.71	0.49	0.34		
	Average Total Phosphorus in selected streams (mg/L)	0.03	0.03	0.03		
	Average Turbidity in selected streams (NTU)	13	11	6		
Riparian	Riparian vegetation recovery actions (Number)	3	3	4	4	⬆️
	Riparian vegetation recovery area (ha)	86	100	130	130	⬆️
Industrial/ Agricultural Pollution	Load Based Licencing Volume (kg)	4,591	4,913	4,707	7,519	⬆️
	Exceedances of license discharge consent recorded (Number)	3	3	7	3	⬆️
	Erosion & Sediment Control complaints received by Council (Number)	40	7	18	6	⬆️
Stormwater Pollution	Number of gross pollutant traps installed	1	1	1	1	➡️
	Total catchment area of GPTs (ha)	0	0	0	0	➡️
	Water pollution complaints (number)	0	0	0	0	➡️
Town Water Quality	Number of instances drinking water guidelines not met	0	0	0	0	➡️
	Number of drinking water complaints	0	0	0	0	➡️
Water extraction	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from surface water sources	394	394	364	360	⬆️
	Volume of surface water permissible for extraction under licences (GL)	38	37	38	37	⬆️
	Number of Water Supply Work Approvals from groundwater resources	2,732	2,653	2,745	2,785	➡️
	Volume of groundwater permissible for extraction under licences (GL)	23	23	23	24	⬆️
	Actual volume extracted through groundwater licences (GL)		2.2	3.1		
Council water consumption	Area of irrigated Council managed parks, sportsgrounds, public open space (ha)	40	40	40	40	➡️
	Water used by Council for irrigation (including treated and untreated) (ML)	2	110	3.9	17	⬆️
Town water consumption	Annual metered supply (ML)	218	206	266	231	⬆️
	Annual consumption (Total from WTP) (ML)	231	163	224	210	⬆️
	Average annual household mains potable water usage (kL)	171.0	163.3	201.9	155.8	⬆️
	Average level of water restrictions implemented	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	➡️
	Water conservation programs (Number)	1	1	1	1	➡️

# People and Communities

Issue	Indicator	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Trend
Active community involvement	Environmental volunteers working on public open space (hrs)	25	5	5	0	⬆️
	Number of environmental community engagement programs	1	1	1	0	⬆️
	Number of growers markets/local food retailers specialising in local food	50	70	70	85	⬆️
Indigenous Heritage	Number of Indigenous sites on AHIMS register	325	395	397	348	⬆️
	Inclusion in DCPs & rural strategies	No	No	No	No	➡️
	Extent of liaison with Indigenous communities (self-assessed from 0 = none to 3 = High)	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	⬆️
	Development approvals on listed Indigenous sites (Number)	0	0	0	0	➡️
	Number of Indigenous heritage management actions/responses	0	0	0	2	➡️
Non-Indigenous Heritage	NSW Heritage Items (Number)	6	5	6	5	⬆️
	Locally listed heritage items (Number)	317	317	317	317	➡️
	Actions to protect non-Indigenous heritage (including management plans) (Number)	6	2	2	2	⬆️
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists demolished/degraded in past year (Number)	0	1	1	0	⬆️
	Heritage buildings on statutory heritage lists renovated/improved in past year (Number)	6	2	2	5	⬆️





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