

Recreation User Stakeholder Group (RUSG)

MEETING MINUTES

14 July 2020

5:00pm – 6:00pm

Via Webex (Teleconference)

Chair	Justin Foley	Executive Branch Manager, ACT Parks and Conservation Service (PCS), EPSDD
	Rebecca Kelley	Executive Branch Manager, Sport and Recreation, CMTEDD
	Stephen Alegria	Executive Branch Manager, City Presentation, TCCS
	Sue Marriage	Senior Director, Place Management
	Heather Anderson	Assistant Director, Community and Visitor Programs, PCS
	Sophie Clement	Director, PCS Projects, PCS
	Peter Langdon	Manager Forests, Fire Forests and Roads, PCS
Secretariat	Elle Greet	Project Officer, Sport and Recreation CMTEDD

Recreation Users Group Representatives

Adam Horner	YMCA
Craig Johns	ACT Triathlon
Diana Terry	Canberra Bushwalking Club
John Reed	N/A
Zac Zaharias	Canberra Climbing Association
Brenden Wood	Skateboarding
Stephen Goggs	Orienteering ACT & Rogaining ACT
Graham Scully	National Parks Association
Christine Lawrence	ACT Equestrian Association
Peter Dalton	Brindabella Bushwalking Club
Ken Gordon	ACT Masters Athletics Association
Ian Ross	Pedal Power ACT

1. Actions from previous meeting:

- Parkrun now running every Saturday on a course that incorporates Bicentennial Trail which is impacting other user groups. Who gives approval and how are Government ensuring this does not impact other user groups? – ACT Equestrian Association - Daniel to notify Stephen Alegria and the TCCS Licensing and Compliance team

ACTION:

- *TCCS to follow up, item has not been resolved. Signs used did not provide a solution. ACT Masters Athletics Association (Ken Gordon) would like further consultation with ACT Equestrian and ACT Government on this matter*

2. Key activities from Government:

I. Parks, Conservation and Recreation (PCS)

- COVID-19 social distancing has restricted bush fire recovery works
- Large spike in visitation during COVID-19, as well as, work being carried out to educate users on parks etiquette
- Kangaroo cull across 9 reserves in progress (15 June - 1 August 2020)
- Bush fire recovery is the immediate priority, taking a significant amount of resources - environmental, water quantity, heritage, amenity and facilities.
- Northern Namadgi is open for recreational activities, PCS to gradually open other precincts as works are completed using the Parks Opening Strategy (in progress)
- Landscape Classification System: community consultation complete, with information resources and planning decisions underway. Classification will assist parks in making the right decisions, stepping away from reactive decisions. A five-year futures map will include prioritised projects, currently being approved
- Reminder: feedback on Commercial Tourism Framework Feasibility Project from key stakeholders *COB 14 July*
- Mountain Bike Trail Project: DRAFT report delayed due to COVID-19. Release scheduled in August 2020. PCS are undergoing engagement with a trail design consultant (noted in recent report). Trails will link from Stromlo to Casuarina Sands, shared use trails at the Cotter. Stephen Goggs from Orienteering ACT happy to help with changing trails and mapping

II. Sport and Recreation

- COVID-19 has significantly impacted sport and recreation-based organisations and their activities. Sport and Recreation have been supporting organisations with return to safe environment plans - creating safe environments for community. For more information visit <https://www.sport.act.gov.au/home>
- Rebecca Kelley advised organisations seeking support and clarification on COVID-19 related matters to [contact the S&R team](#) to assist.
- 2020/2021 grants are now available
- Australian Adventure Activity Standards Project ran from 2016-2019. The voluntary framework includes good practice guides and serves as a reference to ensure effective, responsible, sustainable and safe delivery of adventure activities to dependant participants. Visit: <https://australianaas.org.au/about/contact/>

III. National Parks Association of the ACT: Nature Play interest

- Upcoming events:
 - Guided nature walks around the perimeter of Parliament house
 - Guided overnight bushwalk - targeting families and children 7-13 years
 - National tree day 2 August – ecologist talking about the trees at Mt Majura

ACTION:

- Sport and Recreation/Nature Play CBR (Elle Greet) to contact Graham Scully to promote events

3. Issues and opportunities

I. RUSG meetings moving forward:

- Agreed frequency – triannual
- Continue email distribution list for smaller and more frequent communications
- Provide representatives opportunity to shape agenda before meeting
- Look for synergistic relationships by connecting RUSG with other stakeholder groups
- How will meetings work in the future? Proposed online for convenience and increased attendance?

ACTION:

- ACT Government to refresh RUSG stakeholder list
- Send out survey to stakeholders regarding meeting preferences
- Discuss communication methods between Govt and stakeholders

DRAFT