



# Cottlesloe Coastcare

# Our aim

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- Our aim is to create a more robust and diverse ecosystem for Cottesloe's foreshore and natural areas
- We do this by implementing the Town of Cottesloe's Natural Areas Management Plan



# Why natural areas?

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- The value the community places on natural areas and public open space is increasing
- As urban density increases the value to the community of natural areas will increase
- Cottesloe only has 15.5 hectares of natural areas remaining
- Most of this is along the coast, the most visited part of Cottesloe

*We need to protect and conserve Cottesloe's natural areas for the future*



# The challenge

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- The coast is a tough, erosive environment
- The dunes provide protection for important infrastructure on the Cottesloe coast



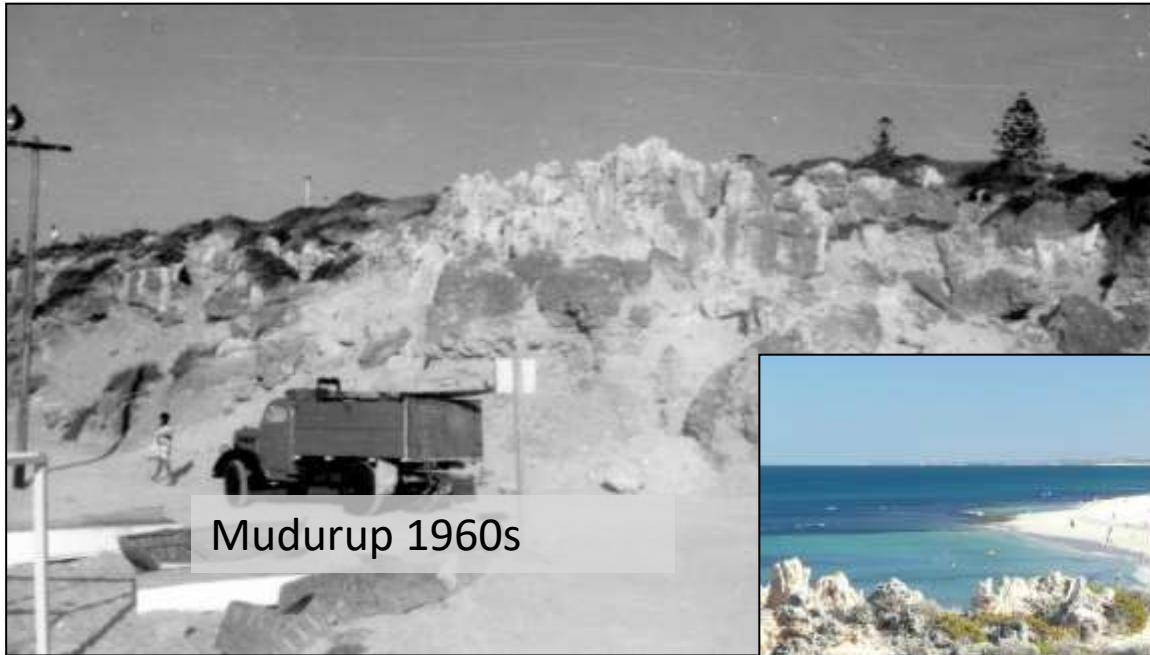
# Before Coastcare

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# Then and now

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Mudurup 1960s



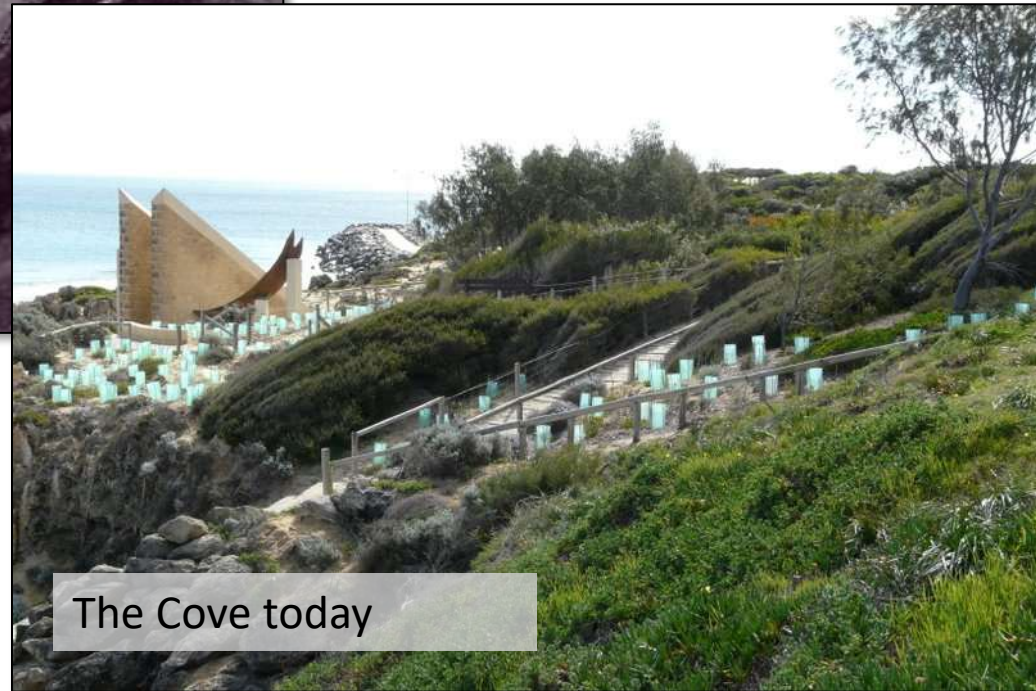
Mudurup today

# Then and now

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The Cove 1960s



The Cove today



# Planning Context

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## State

### **WA Department of Planning**

- State Planning Policy 2.6. State Coastal Planning
- Coastal Management Manual:  
“Vegetation is essential for long-term stability of the coast”

## Local

### **Town of Cottesloe**

- Beach Policy:  
“The remnant dunes bordering the Marine Parade road pavement are stabilised and protected using native vegetation as far as possible”
- Natural Areas Management Plan



# Planning Context

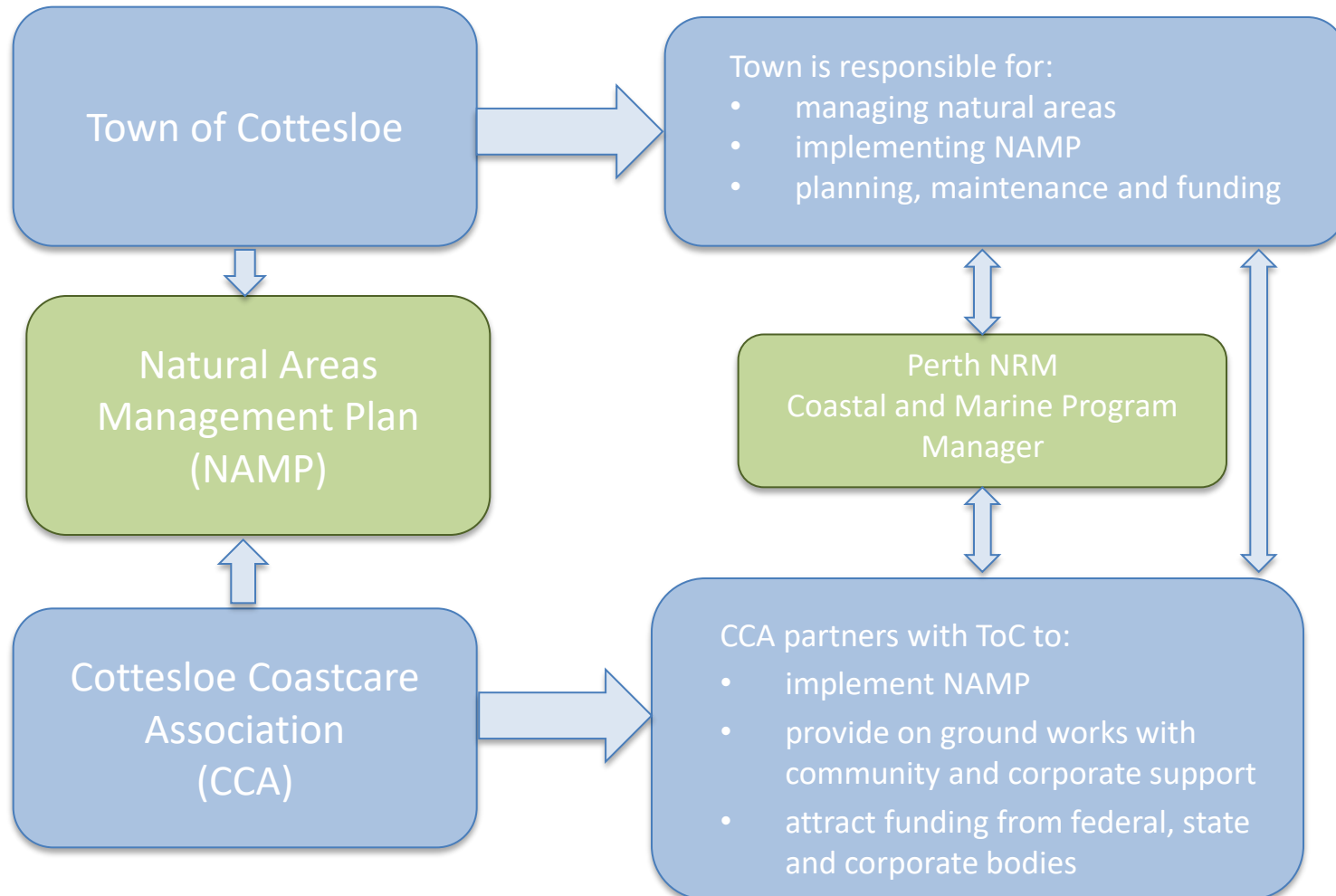
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## Visual Landscape Planning in WA (WA Department of Planning)

- Coastal landscapes are probably **more highly valued** by the community than any other broad type of landscape in WA
- 2005 survey:
  - Coast is the most likely place that residents would **take visitors**
  - Coast is a major part of the **character of Perth** (77%)
  - Important that the coast offers a '**place to experience the natural environment**' (82%)
  - Cottlesloe was the location most frequently identified as a place that should definitely retain its existing character

# Roles

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# Funding

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As a community group CCA is able to attract funding from:

Federal and State  
governments



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy

Corporate groups

Recent supporters include:



RioTinto



# Funding

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**\$500,000**

is the value of grants and volunteer labour that  
Cottesloe Coastcare has contributed to  
our natural areas over the last 20 years



# Who is CCA?

All volunteers, mostly locals



Corporates

Partnerships with:



Universities



Schools

# What do we do?

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Collect seeds, grow plants



Prepare site



Plant, weed, water



# Why protect natural areas?

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Scientific studies have shown that natural environments can have remarkable benefits for human health.

Natural environments are more likely to promote positive emotions, and viewing and walking in nature have been associated with heightened physical and mental energy.

Alan Logan. Speaker at NaturePlayWA Conference, Fremantle, August 2016.

Cottesloe has only 15.5 hectares of natural areas left and these are mainly on the coast, the most visited part of Cottesloe.





# Why local plants?

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## Attractive

- Sense of place. The native vegetation is a significant part of the landscape that gives Cottesloe its special nature as a place by the sea
- It provides shelter and frames the views
- It is an interesting, diverse and changing environment that provides “food for the soul”





# Why local plants?

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## Functional

- Trap sand, prevent erosion and sand drift and protect infrastructure
- Act as a water filter
- Act as seed bank for the propagation of new plants
- Provide habitat and food for local fauna and act as greenways



# Why local plants?

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## Sustainable

- Superbly adapted to the harsh environment
- Economically sustainable
- Protecting existing vegetation is the cheapest option
- Once established native plants require little maintenance and no water



# How are we doing?

## Independent NAMP review 2015

The only vegetation that  
is “good to very good”  
(green) is on the sites  
where CCA has worked

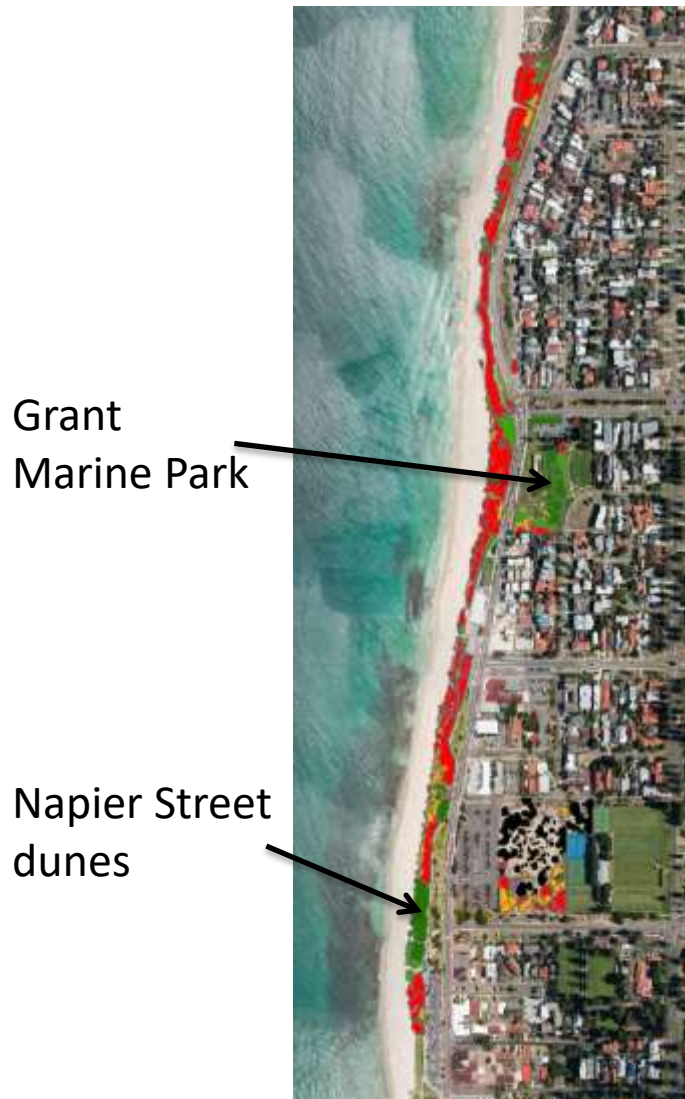
Image: Syrinx Environmental. Review of NAMP 2015





# How are we doing? Northern zone

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Images: Syrinx Environmental. Review of  
NAMP 2015



# How are we doing? Central zone

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Images: Syrinx Environmental.  
Review of NAMP 2015

# How are we doing? Southern zone

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Dutch Inn

Sydney St

Vlamingh



Images: Syrinx Environmental.  
Review of NAMP 2015

# Where to next?

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- Protect and maintain what we have achieved
- Work strategically with the Town to Cottesloe to continue to improve the natural areas of Cottesloe

# Where to next?

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## Opportunities:

- Town of Cottesloe recently increased funding for natural areas
- better understanding in the community of the value of natural areas
- CCA now has 20 years of local, on ground experience

## Risks:

- funding from State and Federal governments decreasing
- support from Perth NRM has dropped by 60%
- traditional community volunteer ethos is changing
- Town of Cottesloe has no in-house expertise in managing natural areas





## Cottesloe Coastcare Association 2016

[www.cottesloecoastcare.org](http://www.cottesloecoastcare.org)

### References:

WA Department of Planning

State Planning Policy 2.6. State Coastal Planning

<http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/1168.asp>

Coastal Management Manual

<http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/768.asp>

Visual Landscape Planning in WA

<http://www.planning.wa.gov.au/publications/1205.asp>

Town of Cottesloe

Natural Areas Management Plan 2008 Ecoscape

<http://bit.ly/2cbdNCa>

Natural Areas Management Plan Addendum 1 2015 Syrinx Environmental

<http://bit.ly/2cyVGyZ>

### Photos:

Robyn Benken

Town of Cottesloe Collection



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