



Manly Warringah War Memorial Park

FAQs regarding bike track closures

Friday 12 February 2010

What is happening?

It has come to Warringah Council's attention that parts of the shared track around Manly Dam are not technically approved for bike riding and as such, Council has no choice but to close those stretches of track to riders until the Plan of Management has reviewed bike riding in the park.

There are three stretches of track affected and the stretches of track affect a total of 2.17km of the circuit. Under the current Plan of Management bike riding is restricted to public roads, car parks and fire trails and includes the opportunity to use fire breaks. The narrow stretches of bush track, where riders have previously been asked to dismount when approaching bushwalkers, are not authorised for bike riding by the Plan of Management.

Signs are being installed at each end of the affected sections saying 'bike riding prohibited'. Adhesive stickers will also be added to maps of the Manly Dam, highlighting the sections of track that have been closed to bike riders.

Council regrets the inconvenience to bike riders and Councillors will consider the extent of a review of the Plan of Management at Council's meeting on March 23.

The review process will canvas the views of all stakeholders regarding the appropriate future management of the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park, which is an important environmental and recreational asset for the community. It is anticipated this process will take at least six months.

Why has this happened?

It has come to Council's attention that parts of the recreational track around Manly Dam are not technically approved for bike riding and as such, Council has no choice but to close those stretches of track to riders until the Plan of Management has reviewed bike riding in the park.

When does the ban start?

The ban was effective immediately on Friday February 12, when the announcement was circulated to all the stakeholders involved.

How long will the sections of track be closed for?

The sections of track will be closed to bike riders until the Plan of Management for Manly



Dam has reviewed bike riding in the park. Council regrets the inconvenience to bike riders and Councillors will consider the extent of a review of the Plan of Management at Council's meeting on March 23.

A review of the Plan of Management is a very extensive public engagement exercise involving all interested groups in the community. It is anticipated this process will take at least six months.

Why has this happened now?

It has happened because Council, in considering maintenance issues and reviewing the Plan of Management, has become aware that parts of the recreational track around Manly Dam are not technically approved for bike riding and as such, Council has no choice but to close those stretches of track to riders until the Plan of Management has reviewed bike riding in the park.

The narrow stretches of bush track, where riders have previously been asked to dismount when approaching bushwalkers, are not authorised for bike riding by the Plan of Management.

Will Council be policing the bans and handing out fines?

Council will be monitoring the sections of track closed to bike riders.

Are you expecting bike riders to use the Wakehurst Parkway instead?

We are not in a position to recommend any alternate routes and naturally Council regrets the inconvenience caused to bike riders. Bike riders will have to make arrangements for starting and finishing where the track is no longer connected, similar to other tracks that do not provide a circuit.

Is the track still open to bushwalkers?

Yes it is.

What is a Plan of Management?

A Plan of Management provides a framework for managing public land. It sets a direction which Council and the Community have developed through consultation and research.