

## Painkalac Project Vision

Before developing a management plan we need to decide what we want the valley to be like in the long term.

Below are some ideas that have been suggested. Within each there will be many details to be worked out. For example, do we need fencing, what are the fire control requirements, how will it be maintained, what authorities are involved, what permissions are required, etc. Once we have decided on our concept we can look at the detail and develop a plan to progress.

**Note** that the issue of an oval on the Land has come up again recently. This has been ruled out by many studies over the years including the latest Structure Plan adopted by the Surf Coast Shire council. Consequently it is not an option to be included in our vision.

1. Return the whole area to as close as possible to pre European settlement containing EVCs similar to the adjacent Painkalac reserve. Minimal maintenance required except for weed control.
2. Develop the land as an educational area with emphasis on cultural heritage, plants, bird-watching, fauna, and flora, with specific EVCs identified and labelled. This could involve paths in the area and possibly an information board or centre. Incorporate Aboriginal history, cultural concerns etc.
3. Restore the land as above but incorporate walking paths and/or cycling paths. This could be incorporated into the walking path around the perimeter identified in the SCS 2015 Structure plan
4. Enhance the wetlands by control of water flows, possibly involving weirs. This would provide habitat for water birds and increase the protection of rare wetland species.
5. For all of the above plan to eventually eliminate horse grazing
6. Set aside some areas for controlled horse grazing permanently.
7. Promote the area as a tourist destination. Decide on what developments would facilitate this.
8. Develop Mountain Bike paths through the area to link up with the Distillery Creek area. Mountain biking is a rapidly developing tourist attraction.
9. Incorporate the area as an offshoot of the Surfcoast Walk
10. Develop as a Kangaroo viewing area