

# Lake Ainsworth Coastal Management Program

## Community Survey Results



**Final Report**

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Front cover photo: Lake Ainsworth Diving Tower 1964 (Source: Lennox Head Heritage Committee)

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**18-009 LAKE AINSWORTH COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
STAGE 2: COMMUNITY SURVEY**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Lake Ainsworth Community Survey received an excellent response with some 477 completed questionnaires received over the 12 week survey period. This comprised 327 surveys completed online, and 150 completed paper copies. The results of the survey provide a good snapshot of community opinion about the Lake including: popular activities and locations of access; current issues; perceptions about Lake health; management priorities; and the community's vision for the future of the Lake.

Key themes arising from the survey responses were:

- The Lake is highly valued for its natural scenic beauty and as a place for relaxation and recreation.
- This natural setting provides an important recreational opportunity with swimming and picnicking/BBQs being the most popular activities followed by paddling activities (canoeing/kayaking/boarding etc.), walking, a place for children/kids parties and wildlife watching/nature appreciation.
- Most survey respondents indicated they used multiple access points to the Lake although the majority of people are most likely to access the Lake in the south east corner and the southern end of the eastern road. Access via the Sport and Recreation Centre and western side of the Lake were the least likely access points, however approximately 1 in 5 survey respondents indicated they were still likely to access the Lake from these locations at some time.
- The Lake is visited year-round at varying degrees with summer unsurprisingly being the most popular season, followed by spring and autumn. While winter was the least popular time, 38% (97) of respondents said they still visited the Lake either every day or a few times a week at this time of year.
- When asked to rate the overall health of the Lake, the community gave an average score of 54 out of 100, equating to just slightly better than “neither healthy or unhealthy” on the provided rating scale. The major factors believed to be affecting Lake health were: blue green algae, water quality problems, overcrowding, sunscreen pollution, dogs, rubbish and litter, foreshore erosion and runoff. Many respondents noted that water quality issues and algal blooms were only a problem during summer when overcrowding/overuse and hot weather contributed to poor health.
- There are concerns about a number of issues that need to be managed to ensure the health and amenity of the Lake into the future. In order of greatest concern, the issues were: algal blooms, foreshore erosion, litter, habitat loss, poor water quality, and overcrowding. Over three-quarters of the community provided details of “Other” concerns for management consideration including: increased use of western side into the future; dogs; low levels of understanding and respect for the lake ecosystem and Aboriginal heritage; lack of education and effective signage; impact of catchment land use; caravan park tenants using Lake-side public parking; anti-social behaviour; not enough garbage bins; population growth pressures; lack of management action; concerns about future changes to the Lake's natural beauty etc.
- Management priorities matched the main issues perceived by the community with the highest priorities being (in order of priority): Improving water quality; protecting/improving natural habitats/wildlife; better public education about protection of the Lake's sensitive ecosystem; addressing foreshore erosion; stormwater treatment; and reducing amount of litter/rubbish. Of slightly lower priority were: improving vegetation/weed removal (on land), reducing aquatic weeds, and improving amenity value. Improving public access, improving parking, improving recreational facilities and planning for climate change/sea level rise threats were considered of lowest priority.
- When asked to imagine the Lake in 10 years' time, survey respondents overwhelmingly (89%) expressed a strong desire for good water quality (no blue green algae, no surface scums/ safe to

swim). Stable foreshore (no erosion) (50%), healthy vegetation (47%), scenic beauty (45%) and abundant wildlife (40%) were also highly desirable. Built infrastructure aspects were less important with improved public facilities (22%), and improved access (21%) scoring much less than natural attributes. More space/ less crowding and more active water-based recreation features were the least selected attributes with (19% and 14% assigned respectively).

- Over half of the survey respondents (278) provided their vision for the Lake in 10 years' in their own words. There were a wide range of responses provided, with the most frequently mentioned aspects being related to maintaining and preserving the natural beauty of the Lake; improved water quality; no erosion; and having a safe, clean and family friendly place accessible to all to enjoy nature in peace. Many respondents expressed a desire for the Lake to remain as close to nature as possible without major changes to the current aesthetics and feel of the area. There was a desire for improvements to enhance the natural attributes and address key issues (e.g. water quality, foreshore erosion, algal blooms etc.). There was a broad spectrum of visions for the Lake with regard to future access from those wanting to see access increased with more parking; to those wanting no change or reduced parking to help control overcrowding and negative social and environmental impacts. Others envisioned encouragement of alternative transport options such as cycling, walking and shuttle bus services to reduce congestion.
- Many survey questions gave the opportunity for the community to provide open-ended responses. Over 1,600 open-ended responses were collected across the survey, equating to over 30,000 words. The feedback varied broadly, with many issues or concerns raised, some relating stories and memories of the Lake in the past and others providing suggestions and ideas for management of issues. The high level of community input is testament to the significance of this much-loved Lake in the everyday lives of the community.
- Certain demographic patterns emerged from the survey that may assist in tailoring management actions to key user groups:
  - Younger people (aged <40) were more likely to use the Lake primarily for swimming and picnicking/ BBQs, while older respondents were more likely to select a broader range of activities;
  - Unsurprisingly, respondents who lived in Lennox Head were far more likely to visit the Lake more often and throughout the year than people who lived elsewhere. Older respondents were more likely to visit the Lake in all seasons but particularly in the Winter and Autumn compared to younger demographics;
  - Respondents who lived in Lennox Head tended to rate Lake health lower than respondents living further away which was attributed to more frequent use, expose to range of conditions and closer connection to the Lake than visitors; and
  - The older age groups (>40) tended to be more concerned about foreshore erosion, access difficulties as well as aquatic weeds and habitat degradation compared to younger age groups. Algal blooms and water quality were of high concern across all age groups but were of greatest concern to younger age groups (<40) compared to other issues.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background and Objectives

Hydrosphere Consulting conducted a short on-line and identical paper-based survey on behalf of Ballina Shire Council and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, as part of the Lake Ainsworth Coastal Management Program (CMP).

Specifically, the research sought to:

1. Understand what the community values about Lake Ainsworth;
2. Measure level of engagement with the Lake, and popular uses;
3. Measure where the community uses/accesses the Lake;
4. Measure awareness and perceptions around Lake health;
5. Understand what the community perceives to be the issues or problems for the Lake;
6. Assist in prioritising future resource allocation for Lake management;
7. Understand community aspirations for the Lake to assist in creating a long-term vision statement for the CMP; and
8. Understand how the above vary by selected demographics – e.g. age, gender, address.

### 1.2 Methodology

An opt-in online survey was conducted for 12 weeks from 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 - 18<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The survey was developed in consultation with the Lake Ainsworth CMP Steering Committee and consisted of a total of 21 questions comprising 7 demographic questions (e.g.name, age, address etc.) and 14 questions aimed to full fill the survey objectives outlined above.

The on-line platform SurveyMonkey was utilised to publish and host the survey. The online survey link was available on the project webpage and the webpage link was published in media releases, social media and on posters which were distributed in libraries and community centres. Emails regarding the online survey were sent to various Council stakeholder lists inviting participation. The survey was also promoted via Community Connect (Council's newsletter), advertisements in local newspapers, Council webpage and at the Lennox markets.

In addition to the on-line option, the survey was also made available as a self-complete paper version with identical questions to ensure inclusiveness, but for simplicity the survey in total is referred to in this report as the 'online survey'. A copy of the paper version is provided as Attachment 1.

#### 1.2.1 Data Quality

By survey completion deadline, some 477 surveys had been completed - 327 online and 150 by paper.

Although a small number of online surveys were completed from the same IP address, raising the possibility of deliberate duplication to unfairly influence results, the degree of duplication was deemed minimal. When individual responses were examined, only three responses were determined to be duplicates and these were removed from the dataset. All other cases of matching IP addresses were found to have varied responses often with unique personal information provided such as name of email address and were determined to be "legitimate" responses (e.g. where responses were completed by a husband and wife, or from a public library terminal).



While the survey completion rate was high, it should be noted that due to the nature of the survey, not all respondents answered every question. The number of respondents answering each question is shown in the data tables as number “Answered” and number “Skipped”. Caution should be applied in analysing some questions due to the small sample size.

### 1.2.2 Sampling error

Due to the self-selecting (i.e. “opt-in”) nature of the online survey, and the fact that it was more likely to be completed by those with strong views and/or a high level of interest in the Lake, random sampling error cannot be readily applied to the results. This in turn means that the findings cannot be extrapolated to the wider Lennox Head/ Ballina Shire population. As results are representative only of those who chose to take part, they should instead be interpreted as a snapshot of community opinion. These views may or may not represent those of the wider community.

### 1.2.3 Data Analysis

Responses provided by the community for each question were collated and analysed with reference to the survey objectives provided in Section 1.1. Section 2 presents the results of this analysis as charts and in tabular format, providing the number of responses, percentage tallies and weighted scores where relevant.

The weighted score provides a means to assess the overall community perception of particular aspects. This was generated for questions that asked the respondent to rate some aspect according to a scale. This related to survey questions such as those seeking to rank community concerns (e.g. from “not at all concerned” to “very concerned”) and determine priorities for management (e.g. from very low priority to very high priority”).

Many questions also gave the opportunity for the community to provide open-ended responses. Over 1,600 open-ended responses were collected across the survey, equating to over 30,000 words. These responses have been reviewed and general summaries of the range of responses provided in this report. ‘Word Clouds’ have been generated for some open-ended questions providing visualization of words used by the community, highlighting popular or trending terms based on frequency of use in the survey. The full open-ended responses have been provided for each applicable question verbatim as Attachment 2. All personal information or comments of a personal or derogatory nature have been removed from responses published in this report to protect the privacy of respondents but otherwise are quoted verbatim.

Survey responses have also been cross-tabulated with selected demographics (e.g. age, gender, address) to assist understanding of how community opinion varies according to these factors.

## 2. SURVEY RESULTS

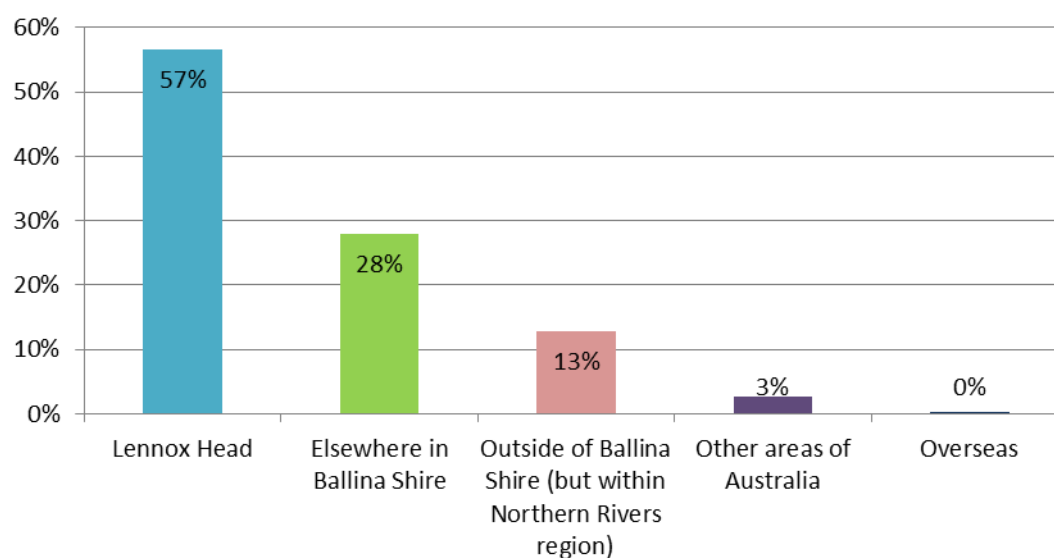
Survey results are presented below in tabular and chart form. Percentages quoted are rounded for clarity and therefore may not add up exactly to 100%.

### 2.1 Sample characteristics

The following breaks down the survey sample by demographic characteristics:

**Table 1: Survey sample by address**

Answer Choices	Responses	
Lennox Head	57%	262
Elsewhere in Ballina Shire	28%	129
Outside of Ballina Shire (but within Northern Rivers region)	13%	59
Other areas of Australia	3%	12
Overseas	0 (0.22%)	1
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>463</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>14</b>

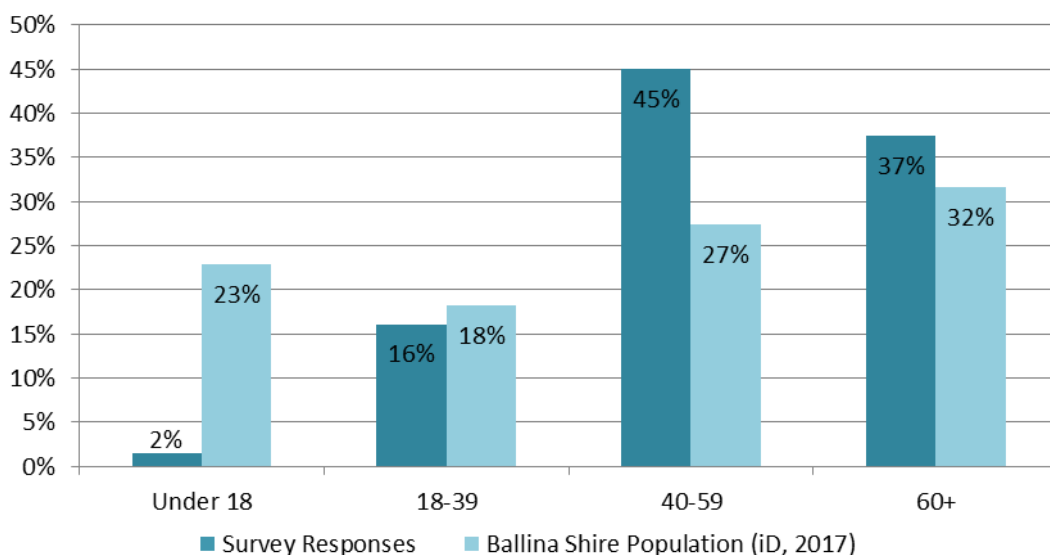


**Figure 1: Survey sample by address**

The majority of survey respondents lived in Lennox Head (57%), while 28% lived elsewhere in the Ballina Shire and 13% lived outside Ballina Shire but in the Northern Rivers Region. Twelve respondents (3%) came from other areas of Australia and just 1 respondent was from overseas.

**Table 2: Survey sample by age, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

Answer Choices	Survey Responses		Ballina Shire Population (iD, 2017)
Under 18	2%	7	23%
18-39	16%	74	18%
40-59	45%	207	27%
60+	37%	172	32%
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>460</b>	100%
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>17</b>	

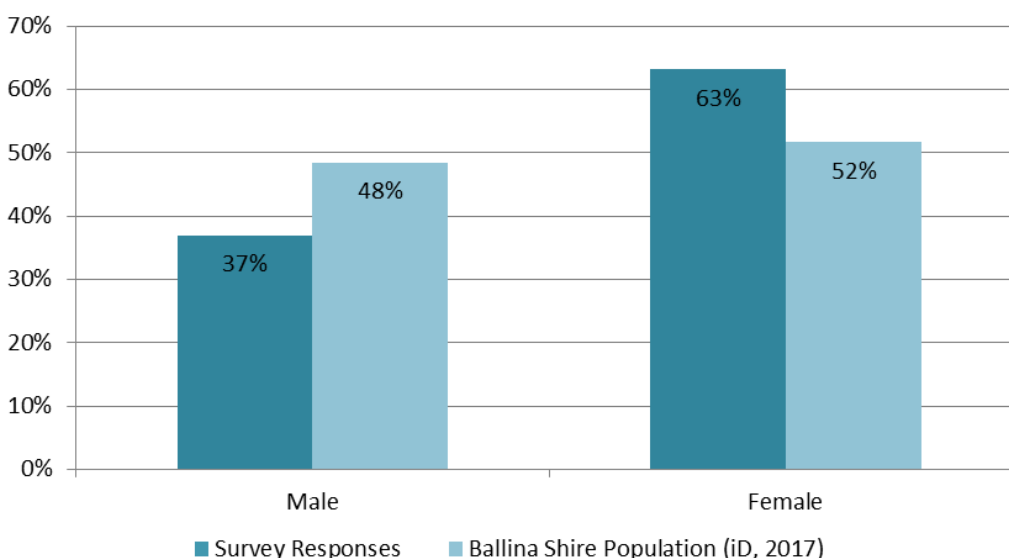


**Figure 2: Survey sample by age, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

When comparing the age demographics of survey respondents with the latest population figures for Ballina Shire it is clear that the survey over-represents the older demographic with those aged 40-59 and 60+ over-represented and those aged 18-39 and Under 18 under-represented. This is despite efforts to target younger residents using social media and posters put up in local schools and pre-schools.

**Table 3: Survey sample by gender, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

Answer Choices	Survey Responses		Ballina Shire Population (iD, 2017)
Male	37%	156	48%
Female	63%	267	52%
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>423</b>	100%
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>54</b>	

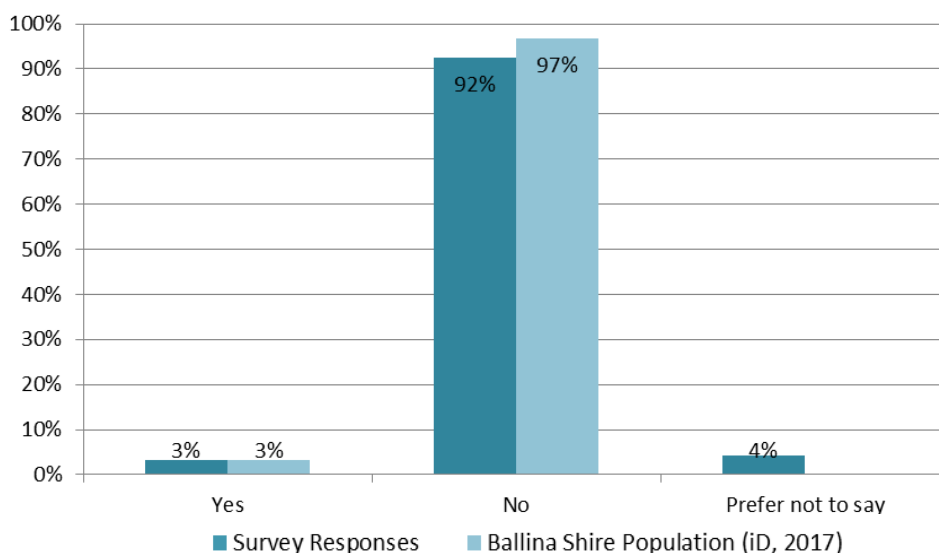


**Figure 3: Survey sample by gender, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

The survey was skewed towards females (63%) compared to males (37%).

**Table 4: Survey sample by indigenous vs. non-indigenous, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

Answer Choices	Responses		Ballina Shire Population (iD, 2017)
	Yes	3%	15
No	92%	426	97%
Prefer not to say	4%	20	
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>461</b>	
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>16</b>	

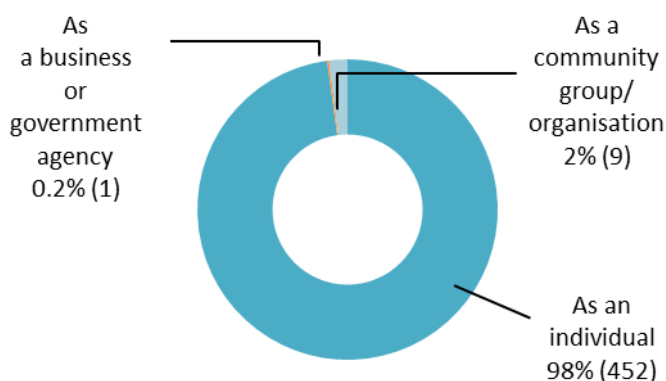


**Figure 4: Survey sample by indigenous vs. non-indigenous, compared to Ballina Shire population statistics.**

Just over three per cent (15) of the survey respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. This compares with 3.3% of the Ballina Shire population identifying as such in the ABS 2016 Census.

**Table 5: Survey sample by capacity**

Answer Choices	Responses	
	As an individual	98%
As a business or government agency	0%	1
As a community group/organisation	2%	9
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>462</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>15</b>



**Figure 5: Survey sample by capacity**

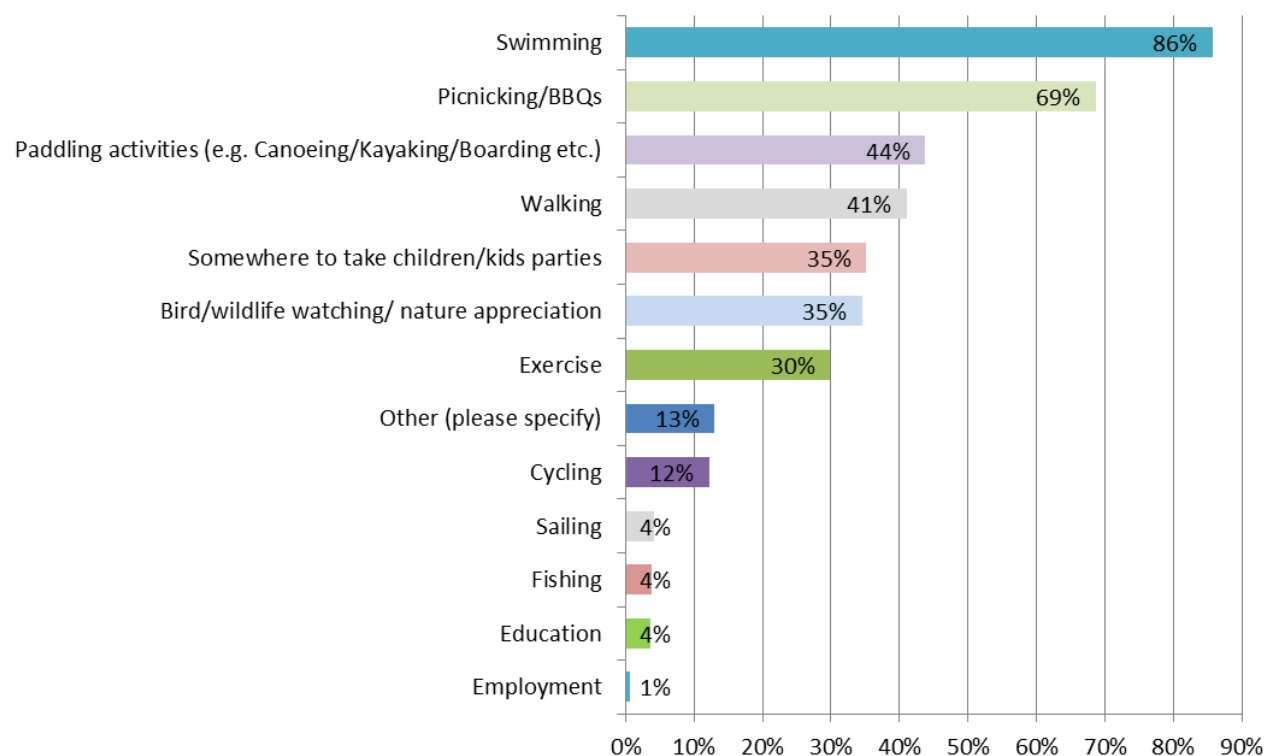
The vast majority of survey respondents (98%) were completing the survey as individuals. Nine community groups/organisations submitted responses and one government agency.

## 2.2 Use of Lake Ainsworth

The survey commenced with a series of questions designed to understand current use of Lake Ainsworth. These included types of activities, location of access, and seasonal use of the Lake.

**Table 6: What are your primary activities at Lake Ainsworth? (tick all that apply)**

Answer Choices	Responses	
Swimming	86%	407
Picnicking/BBQs	69%	326
Paddling activities (e.g. Canoeing/Kayaking/Boarding etc.)	44%	208
Walking	41%	195
Somewhere to take children/kids parties	35%	167
Bird/wildlife watching/ nature appreciation	35%	164
Exercise	30%	142
Other (please specify)	13%	62
Cycling	12%	58
Sailing	4%	20
Fishing	4%	18
Education	4%	17
Employment	1%	3
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>475</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>2</b>

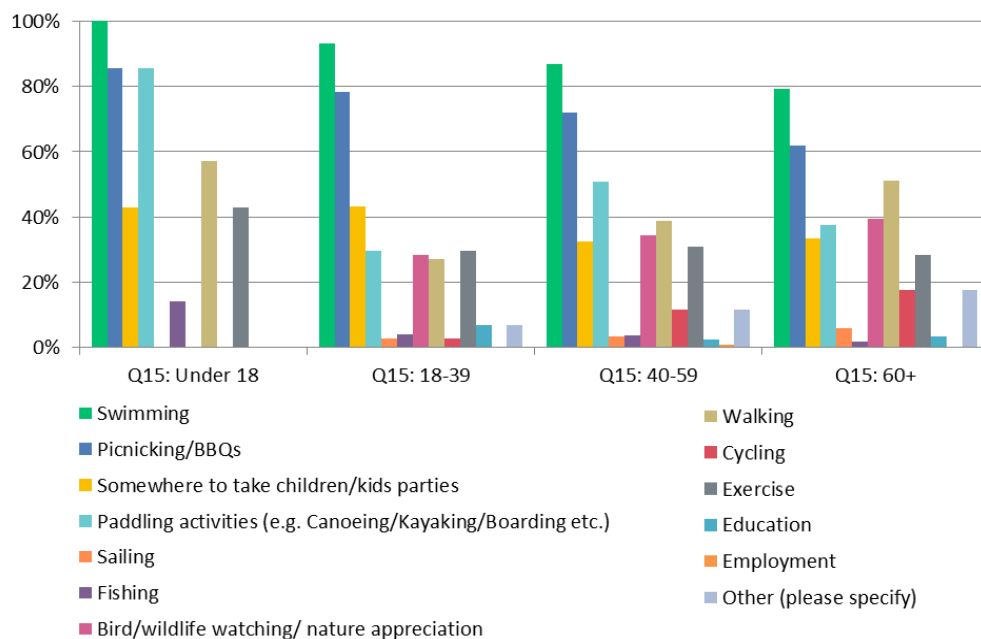


**Figure 6: Popular activities at Lake Ainsworth**

Swimming was by far the most frequently chosen water-based activity with 86% of online respondents undertaking this activity. This was followed by picnicking/BBQs (69%), paddling activities (44%), and walking (41%).

"Other" included a diverse range of activities such as yoga, meditation, Landcare activities, dragon boating, Surf Life Saving Club training, photography, Aboriginal cultural activities, dog walking, camping and relaxation (see Table 14 Attachment 2 for full list of "other" responses).

Figure 7 presents the results of cross-tabulating primary activity selections with age demographic.



**Figure 7: Cross-tabulation of Question 1 with age demographics**

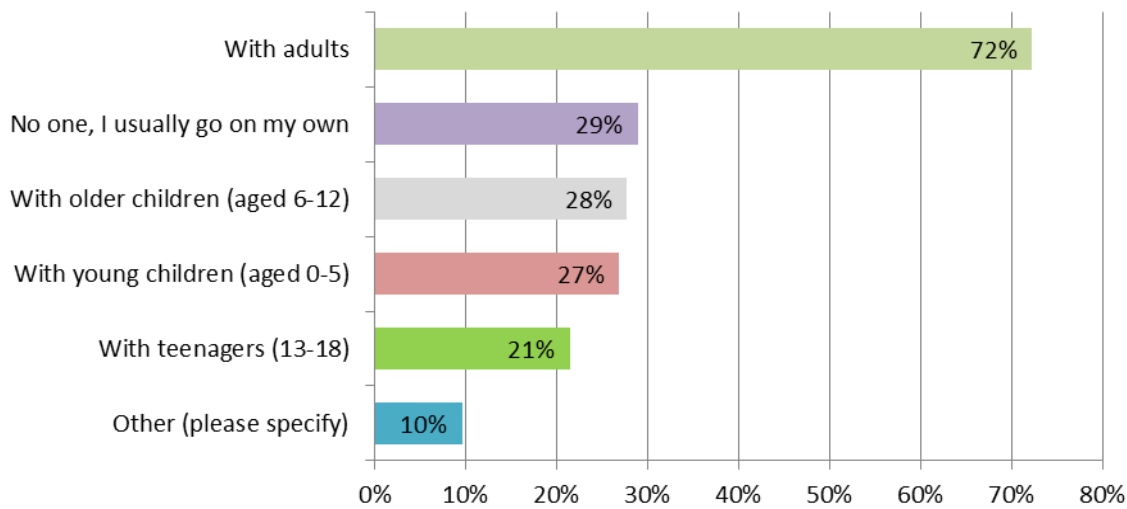
Swimming and picnicking/BBQs were popular across all age groups however; it was apparent that younger respondents tended to select these as primary activities compared to older respondents who were more likely to select a range of activities. The Under 18 age group also selected paddling activities, walking, exercise and fishing more than any other age group. The older respondents tended to select a broader range of activities and the over 60's group provided the greatest number of "other" responses to this question. The older the respondent was the more likely they were to select bird watching/nature appreciation cycling and walking as primary activities (with the exception of the under 18 group who had the highest selection of walking).

Cross-tabulation with other data revealed that those respondents who lived in Lennox Head were more likely to go walking or undertake paddling activities at the Lake compared to respondents from other areas. While responses were similar between males and females, male respondents were slightly more likely to go sailing and fishing; and female respondents were more likely to go swimming, have picnics/BBQs, undertake birdwatching and nature appreciation and go walking at the Lake.

Respondents were next asked who they would usually go with to the Lake:

**Table 7: When you visit the Lake, who do you usually go with?**

Answer Choices	Responses	
With adults	72%	344
No one, I usually go on my own	29%	138
With older children (aged 6-12)	28%	132
With young children (aged 0-5)	27%	128
With teenagers (13-18)	21%	102
Other (please specify)	10%	46
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>476</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>1</b>



**Figure 8: When you visit the Lake, who do you usually go with?**

The majority of survey respondents visited the Lake with adults (72%), followed by people going to the Lake alone (29%), with older children (28%) and younger children (27%) and teenagers (21%). Forty-six respondents (10%) chose “other” and this included a range of answers including groups of mixed ages, various clubs, people with disabilities, dogs, and visitors.



**Plate 1: Lake visitors**

Respondents were next presented with a map showing typical access points to the Lake (Figure 9) and asked where they were most likely to access the Lake:



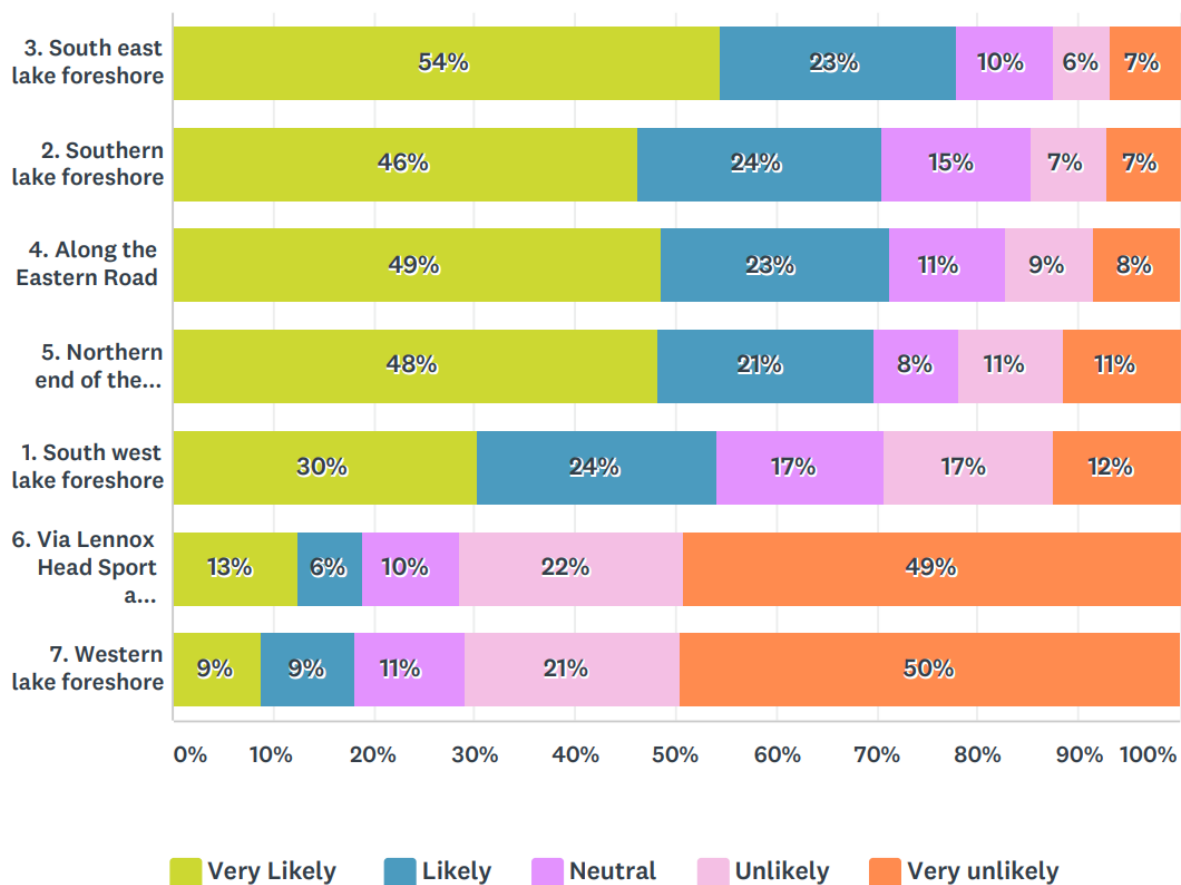
1.	South west lake foreshore
2.	Southern lake foreshore
3.	South east lake foreshore
4.	Along the Eastern Road
5.	Northern end of the Eastern Road
6.	Via Lennox Head Sport and Recreation Centre
7.	Western lake foreshore

Figure 9: Access location map provided in survey

Table 8: Lake Ainsworth can be accessed from several locations indicated on the map and list below. Please tell us how likely you are to access the Lake from these locations (weighted)

	Very Likely		Likely		Neutral		Unlikely		Very unlikely		Total	Weighted Average
3. South east lake foreshore	54%	241	23%	104	10%	43	6%	25	7%	30	443	7.92
2. Southern lake foreshore	46%	199	24%	105	15%	64	7%	32	7%	31	431	7.46
4. Along the Eastern Road	49%	212	23%	99	11%	50	9%	38	8%	37	436	7.43
5. Northern end of the Eastern Road	48%	206	22%	92	8%	36	11%	45	11%	49	428	7.16
1. South west lake foreshore	30%	127	24%	99	17%	70	17%	71	12%	52	419	6.1
6. Via Lennox Head Sport and Recreation Centre	13%	51	6%	26	10%	39	22%	91	49%	200	407	2.69
7. Western lake foreshore	9%	36	9%	38	11%	45	21%	87	50%	202	408	2.61
									<b>Answered</b>		<b>469</b>	
									<b>Skipped</b>		<b>8</b>	





**Figure 10: Comparison of access point usage**

Currently, the majority of people are most likely to access the Lake from access points located in the south east corner of the Lake. In order of preference the sites most likely to be used were: the south-east corner (Site 3 – 77% very likely or likely), followed by the southern foreshore (Site 2 - 68% very likely or likely) and along the eastern road (Site 4- 72% very likely or likely; and Site 5 - 70% very likely or likely). As the south-east corner currently contains the majority of facilities (toilets, BBQs, picnic tables) and parking, this finding is not surprising. The south west lake foreshore (Site 1) was less likely to be accessed (54% very likely or likely) or than the southern and eastern sides. The least likely access points were the western side (18% very likely or likely) and access via the Sport and Recreation Camp (19% very likely or likely). It was interesting to note that even at the less preferred access sites, such as the western side, approximately 1 in 5 respondents said they were very likely or likely to use this access at some time.

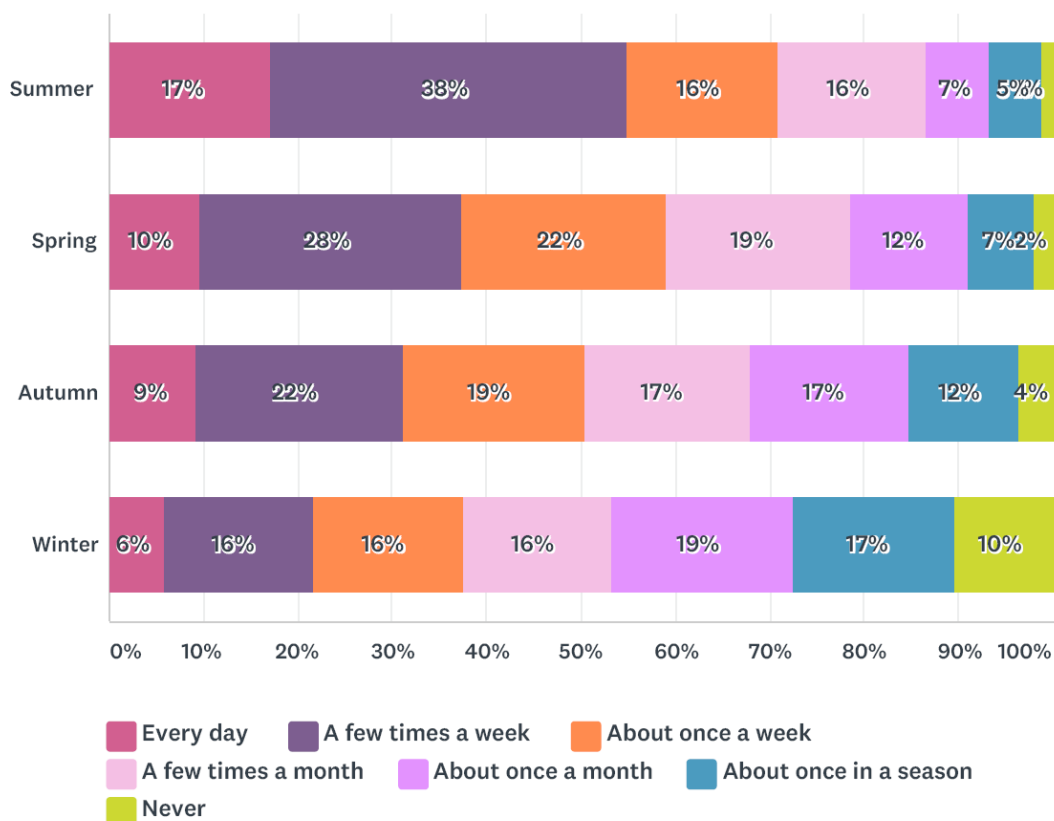
Most respondents nominated multiple access points, suggesting that the location of use varies and could be due to factors such as time of day, wind direction, numbers of people at the Lake, parking availability etc.

The location of access did not appear to be affected by population demographics (e.g. age, gender or address). Respondents who selected sailing as a primary activity were more likely to access the Lake via the Sport and Recreation Centre where these activities are staged. No other primary activities appeared to be aligned with particular access points.

Respondents were next asked how often they visited the Lake in each season:

**Table 9: On average, how often do you visit Lake Ainsworth in each season? (weighted)**

	Summer	Spring	Autumn	Winter
Every day	17%	10%	9%	6%
	81	44	42	26
A few times a week	38%	28%	22%	16%
	178	128	98	71
About once a week	16%	22%	19%	16%
	76	100	87	71
A few times a month	16%	19%	17%	16%
	74	89	78	70
About once a month	7%	12%	17%	19%
	32	57	76	87
About once in a season	6%	7%	12%	17%
	26	33	53	76
Never	1%	2%	4%	10%
	6	9	16	47
Total	473	460	450	448
Weighted Average	4.21	3.73	3.4	2.8
			<b>Answered</b>	<b>Skipped</b>
			<b>474</b>	<b>3</b>



**Figure 11: Seasonal use of Lake Ainsworth**

Responses to the seasonal use question revealed that the Lake is visited year-round at varying degrees. Unsurprisingly, respondents were more likely to visit the Lake during hot weather in Summer, where 17% of respondents visited the Lake every day and 54% visited from once to a few times a week. Higher numbers

in Summer would also be related to school holidays occurring in that season and higher visitor numbers staying at the Caravan Park. Spring also showed high visitation rates with 10% saying they visited every day and 50% visiting from once to a few times a week. Autumn use was slightly less than Spring with 9% of respondents visiting the Lake every day and 41% visiting from once to a few times a week. Winter had the lowest visitation and yet 6% (26) respondents said they still visited the Lake every day and 32% visited from once to a few times a week on average.

Unsurprisingly, respondents who lived in Lennox Head were far more likely to visit the Lake more often and throughout the year than people who lived elsewhere. Older respondents were more likely to visit the Lake in all seasons but particularly in the Winter and Autumn compared to younger demographics.

### 2.3 Value placed on Lake Ainsworth

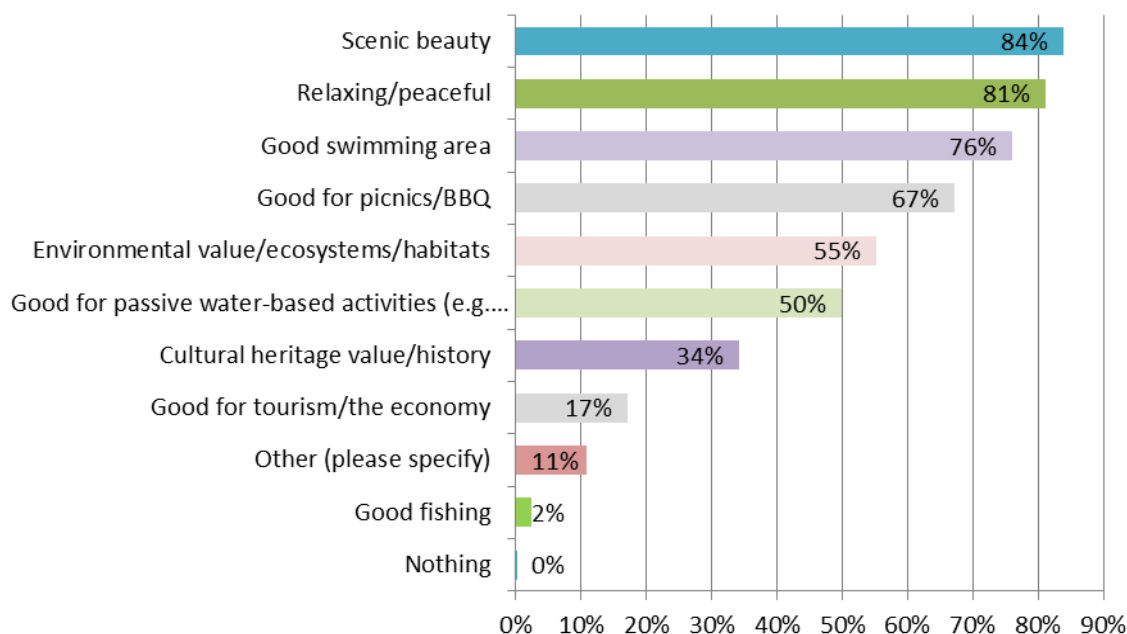
Residents were next asked a series of questions designed to understand the aspects that they valued most about the Lake, and how healthy they felt the Lake was in its current state:

**Table 10: Is there anything in particular you like or value about Lake Ainsworth? (tick any that apply)**

Answer Choices	Responses	
Scenic beauty	84%	398
Relaxing/peaceful	81%	385
Good swimming area	76%	361
Good for picnics/BBQ	67%	319
Environmental value/ecosystems/habitats	55%	262
Good for passive water-based activities (e.g. sailing, canoeing, kayaking, boarding)	50%	237
Cultural heritage value/history	34%	162
Good for tourism/the economy	17%	81
Other (please specify)	11%	52
Good fishing	2%	11
Nothing	0% (0.2%)	1
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>475</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>2</b>



**Plate 2: Lake Ainsworth is highly valued for its scenic beauty (Source: Hydrosphere Consulting, 2018)**

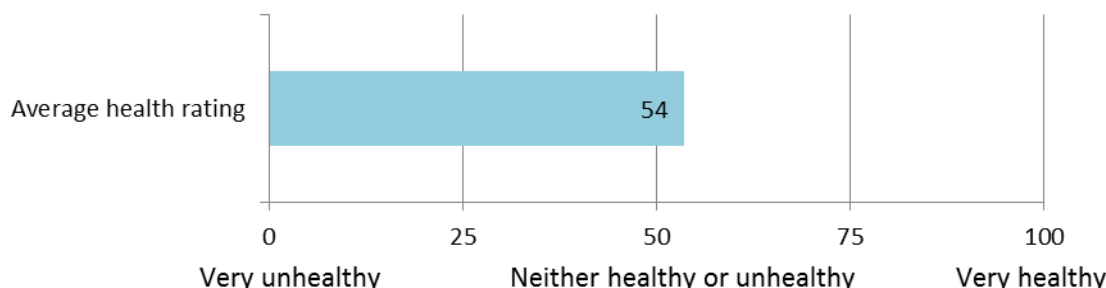


**Figure 12: Community Values of Lake Ainsworth**

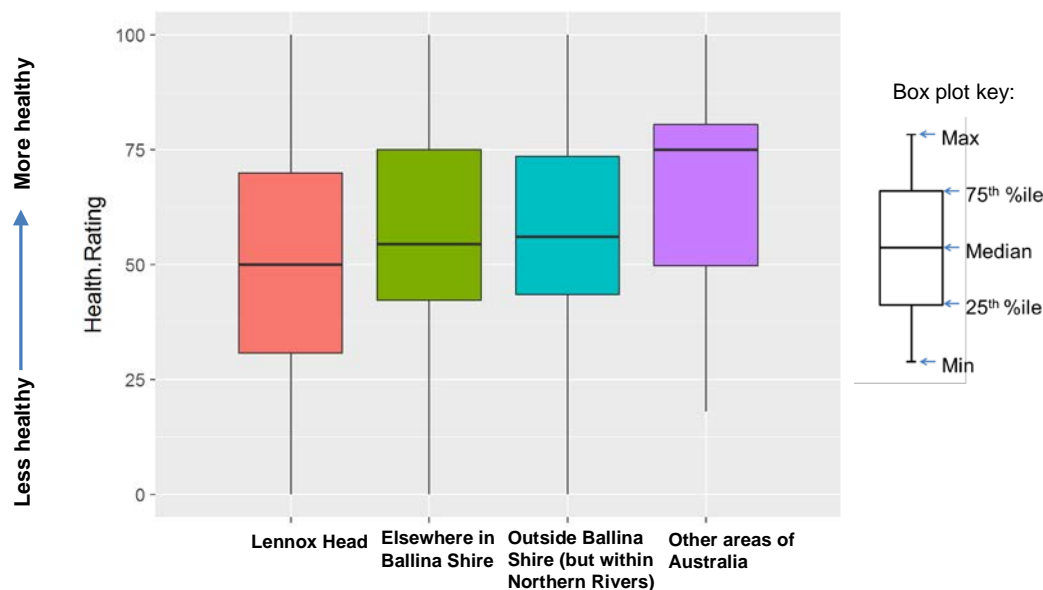
Scenic beauty of the Lake was the most frequently mentioned aspect liked or valued (84%), followed by relaxing/peaceful value (81%); good swimming area (76%); and good for picnics/BBQs (67%). Environmental value was selected by 55% of respondents and 50% selected “good for passive water-based activities (e.g. sailing, kayaking)”. Cultural heritage value/history was selected by 34% of survey respondents, while 17% valued the Lake for contributing to tourism and the local economy. “Good Fishing” was the least selected value (2%) and only one respondent said there was “nothing” they liked or valued about the Lake. “Other” aspects provided by the community were varied and specific and included: nostalgia/happy memories, good meeting place, Aboriginal heritage, tree climbing, rope swings, shade, protected from wind, health benefits of tea tree infused water for skin and hair, freshwater, easy access to the beach, vehicle access and parking close to the water, excellent disabled access (see Table 16 Attachment 2 for the full list of responses).

Respondents who lived in Lennox Head were more likely to note the value of a range of attributes for the Lake compared to respondents who lived elsewhere. This suggests a correlation with more frequent use and closer connection with the Lake for people in Lennox Head compared to people from elsewhere visiting the Lake less frequently. Females also typically placed higher value on all attributes especially, environmental, peaceful/relaxing and scenic beauty compared to male respondents. Good fishing was valued more by male respondents than females. There did not appear to be any difference in values according to age.

Respondents were next asked to rate the health of Lake Ainsworth:



**Figure 13: Lake Ainsworth overall average health rating score from survey respondents (Answered: 470; Skipped: 7)**



**Figure 14: Box plot showing range of health scores provided by respondent address.**

Overall, the average health rating calculated from all respondents was 54 out of 100. The box plot above shows that there were a range of scores provided from 0 to 100, and the closer respondents lived to the Lake the more likely they were to give a poorer health rating compared to those who lived further away (e.g. Lennox Head average score was 50; compared to 56 for Ballina Shire; 58 for the Northern Rivers; and 64 for visitors from other parts of Australia). This is likely to be correlated to more frequent use by Lennox Head residents and therefore more exposure to the range of conditions occurring at the Lake and greater understanding of the issues. There was also a broader range of health scores provided from respondents living in Lennox Head, indicating there is a broad range of perceptions about Lake health.

Respondents aged between 18 and 59 perceived the Lake to be less healthy (average health score 51) than both the youngest (<18) and oldest (>60) age groups (average health score 56). Overall, female respondents (average health score 52) perceived Lake health as less healthy than male respondents (average health score 55).

In an open-ended question respondents were next asked why they gave that score. There was a wide range of responses provided, with the most frequently mentioned aspects being blue green algae and algal blooms, water quality problems, overcrowding, sunscreen pollution, dogs, rubbish and litter, foreshore erosion and runoff. Many respondents noted that water quality issues and algal blooms were only a problem during summer when overcrowding/overuse and hot weather contributed to poor health. Some respondents felt that in general the health of the Lake was acceptable, while at the other end of the spectrum other respondents noted that they had restricted their activities (not putting head under water) or stopped swimming in the Lake altogether due to concerns about poor health. Table 17, Attachment 2 provides the full list of open-ended responses.

Figure 15 below is a 'word cloud' which has been generated from the 449 responses received to this question. Words which were used more frequently in responses are more prominent in the graphic.

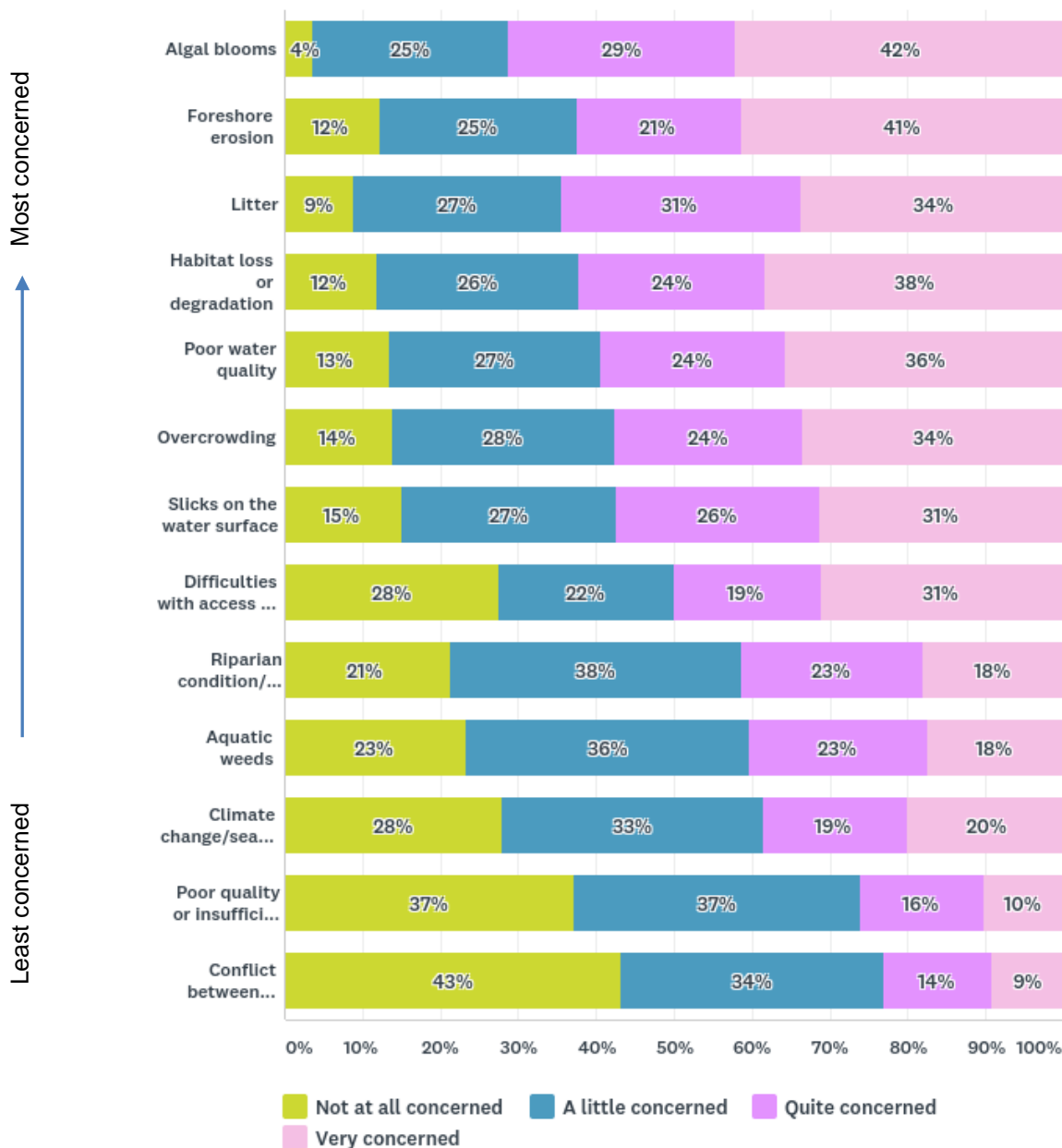


**Table 11: How concerned are you about the following aspects of the lake?**

	Not at all concerned		A little concerned		Quite concerned		Very concerned		Total	Weighted Average
	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count		
Algal blooms	4%	17	25%	115	29%	135	42%	194	461	3.1
Foreshore erosion	12%	56	25%	116	21%	97	41%	189	458	2.91
Litter	9%	40	27%	122	31%	141	34%	154	457	2.89
Habitat loss or degradation	12%	54	26%	117	24%	108	38%	173	452	2.88
Poor water quality	13%	61	27%	124	24%	108	36%	163	456	2.82
Overcrowding	14%	62	28%	127	24%	108	34%	150	447	2.77
Slicks on the water surface	15%	67	27%	122	26%	117	31%	139	445	2.74
Difficulties with access to the Lake (e.g. parking, walking tracks, watercraft launching, disabled access etc.)	28%	125	22%	102	19%	86	31%	141	454	2.54
Riparian condition/ weeds	21%	95	38%	168	23%	104	18%	81	448	2.38
Aquatic weeds	23%	105	36%	163	23%	103	18%	79	450	2.35
Climate change/sea level rise threats	28%	125	33%	150	19%	83	20%	90	448	2.31
Poor quality or insufficient recreational facilities (e.g. BBQs, tables etc.)	37%	169	37%	168	16%	72	10%	47	456	1.99
Conflict between different activities (e.g. swimming and water craft)	43%	195	34%	153	14%	62	9%	42	452	1.89
									<b>Answered</b>	<b>470</b>
									<b>Skipped</b>	<b>7</b>



**Plate 3: Blue green algae bloom Jan 2019 causing the Lake to be closed (Source: BSC, 2019)**



**Figure 16: Level of concern for different issues at Lake Ainsworth**

Algal blooms were of the highest concern (with 71% concerned). Foreshore erosion, litter and habitat loss or degradation were also of high concern (with 62%, 65% and 62% concerned respectively). Poor quality or insufficient recreational facilities and conflict between different activities were of lowest concern (with 26% and 23% respectively expressing concern about these issues).

While the main concerns regarding water quality and algal blooms were spread evenly across different ages, some issues appeared to have a higher level of concerns for certain age groups. The older age groups (>40) tended to be more concerned about foreshore erosion, access difficulties as well as aquatic weeds and habitat degradation compared to younger age groups. Algal blooms and water quality were of greatest concern to younger age groups (<40) compared to other issues. Lennox Head residents were more likely to be concerned about algal blooms, slicks on water surface and foreshore erosion compared to respondents from other areas. Female respondents were typically slightly more concerned about all issues compared to male respondents except for access difficulties.



Respondents were then asked, in an unprompted (i.e. open-ended) question, whether they believed there to be any other current issues or problems with Lake Ainsworth. Just over three-quarters of those surveyed (76%) provided a response. These have been collated in Table 19 (Attachment 2).

There was a wide range of responses which have been summarised as follows:

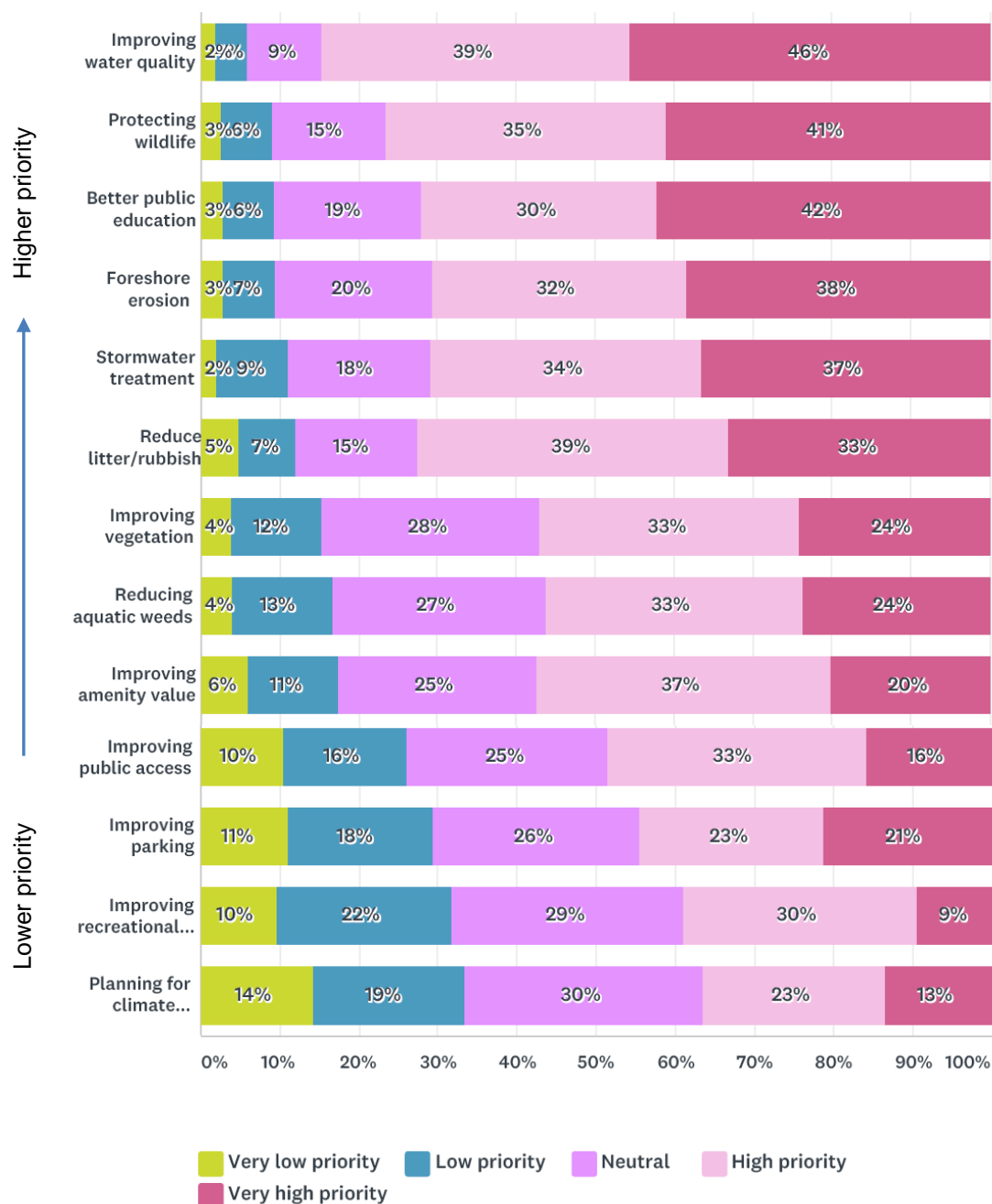
- Comments relating to the planned closure of the eastern road (both for and against). Those who advocated road closure mentioned concerns about the current unacceptable safety risk to pedestrians due to the road being too close to the Lake foreshore, negative environmental and visual impacts; fumes from car exhausts; need for more open space which is currently taken up by the road etc. Those that were against the road closure raised concerns about lack of parking, emergency vehicle access, access for disabled and elderly people, longer time taken to get to the Sport and Recreation Camp, difficulties posed by having to walk to picnic areas on eastern side carrying equipment and concerns about the potential for an increase in anti-social behaviour if road removed and areas are more isolated etc.;
- Concern about the level of community conflict generated by the foreshore improvement works and especially the road closure. *“Just wish people would work together and not fight about the lake”*;
- Concerns about current access to the western side causing environmental degradation (e.g. trampling vegetation damage, litter etc.);
- Concerns about increased traffic and people to the western side of the Lake (with proposed road changes and population increase) causing impacts to this relatively untouched ecosystem;
- Dogs being allowed off-leash in leash-only areas and to swim in the Lake despite signage, monitoring by rangers not sufficient, people wash dogs off in the Lake after being at the beach, dog urine and faeces;
- Lack of management initiative and action on the part of public authorities to address issues (e.g. foreshore erosion, parking etc.);
- Overuse/overcrowding, and need to assess the Lake’s carrying capacity so that negative environmental impacts are minimised. The Lake is being *“loved to death”*;
- Low level of respect and appreciation of the Lake, its sensitive ecosystem and cultural values. *“It is not a public pool, it is a natural asset that should be conserved...”*;
- Lack of education and effective signage. *“There is no one significant entry point with signage”*;
- Poor access due to erosion. *“You can’t even get into it now because of tree roots erosion etc”*;
- No access to launch a sailboat;
- Concerns about destroying the natural beauty of the area with concrete and bitumen and *“Gold Coast-style parklands”*;
- Impact of catchment land use on water quality (e.g. Caravan Park, Sport and Rec, road runoff and stormwater etc.);
- Caravan Park customers parking for extended periods along southern road, taking up public parking spaces and exacerbating parking issues at the Lake;
- Vandalism;
- Toilet block needs upgrade and having to cross the road to get to toilets is a deterrent to many;
- Lake being used as a toilet;
- No Aboriginal cultural heritage management plan;

- Illegal stocking of fish (e.g. Bass and redclaw etc.) which wouldn't naturally occur here and may interfere with native fauna ecology and/or water quality issues;
- Fishing in the Lake not acceptable due to too many hooks and line entanglement with wildlife;
- No sediment management being undertaken;
- Realignment of access tracks needed to reduce erosion from runoff;
- Need designated area for dragon boat shed;
- Safety issues between swimming and sailing craft;
- Aquatic weed issues (e.g. Water Hyacinth and Salvinia) are unknown to majority of community as they are kept in check by local volunteer Landcare group and biological control. This issue needs ongoing management;
- More taps and rubbish bins to assist volunteers to water plantings and clean up rubbish;
- Anti-social behaviour/drinking alcohol particularly in Summer;
- No recycling bins and not enough general waste bins;
- Litter and waste being left behind including takeaway food containers/cups, bottles, cigarette butts, bags of dog faeces and nappies;
- Powered watercraft in Lake not suitable;
- Illegal camping (e.g. western side);
- Exposed tea tree roots due to erosion/undercutting, trampling etc. make access difficult and dangerous for many;
- Sunscreen slicks on water surface affecting water quality and appearance of Lake;
- Submerged hazards a risk to sailing;
- Removal of rope swings has decreased fun and enjoyment of Lake;
- Lack of flushing with sea;
- Lack of grass, dirty sand;
- Requests for Lake to be left alone, just as it is; and
- Population growth and increasing pressures.

Respondents were then presented with a list of potential management areas to be addressed and asked to rate the level of priority of each one as either: Very low Priority; Low Priority; Neutral; High priority; or Very High Priority.

**Table 12: Effectively managing Lake Ainsworth involves allocating funds between different issues. How much of a priority do you think each of the following are?**

	Very low priority		Low priority		Neutral		High priority		Very high priority		Total	Weighted Average
Improving water quality (e.g. reducing nutrients /algal blooms)	2%	8	4%	19	9%	43	39%	179	46%	208	457	4.23
Protecting/improving natural habitats/wildlife	3%	12	6%	29	15%	66	35%	161	41%	186	454	4.06
Better public education about protection of the Lake's sensitive ecosystem	3%	13	6%	29	19%	86	30%	136	42%	193	457	4.02
Addressing foreshore erosion	3%	13	7%	30	20%	90	32%	147	38%	174	454	3.97
Stormwater treatment	2%	9	9%	41	18%	83	34%	156	37%	167	456	3.95
Reducing amount of litter/rubbish	5%	22	7%	33	15%	70	39%	179	33%	151	455	3.89
Improving riparian vegetation/weed removal (on land)	4%	17	12%	52	28%	125	33%	149	24%	109	452	3.62
Reducing aquatic weeds	4%	18	13%	57	27%	123	33%	147	24%	107	452	3.59
Improving amenity value (e.g. grassed areas, vegetation )	6%	27	11%	51	25%	113	37%	168	20%	90	449	3.54
Improving public access (e.g. walking tracks, watercraft launching, disabled access etc.)	10%	47	16%	71	25%	114	33%	148	16%	72	452	3.28
Improving parking	11%	50	18%	82	26%	117	23%	105	21%	96	450	3.26
Improving recreational facilities (e.g. lighting, BBQs, toilets, tables etc.)	10%	44	22%	101	29%	134	30%	135	9%	43	457	3.07
Planning for climate change/sea level rise threats	14%	64	19%	85	30%	135	23%	104	13%	60	448	3.02
									<b>Answered</b>		<b>464</b>	
									<b>Skipped</b>		<b>13</b>	



**Figure 17: Community priorities for management at Lake Ainsworth**

Of the thirteen specified potential Lake priorities, improving water quality, protecting/improving natural habitats/wildlife, and public education were considered of highest priority (with 85%, 76% and 72% ratings for High and Very High Priority respectively). Addressing foreshore erosion, stormwater treatment and reducing litter/rubbish were considered of slightly lower priority (with still high 71%, 71% and 72% importance ratings respectively).

Improving vegetation/weed removal (on land), reducing aquatic weeds, and improving amenity value (e.g. grassed areas, vegetation) were considered to be lower priority (with 57%, 56% and 57% ratings respectively). Improving public access, improving parking, improving recreational facilities and planning for climate change/sea level rise threats were considered of lowest priority (with 49%, 45%, 39% and 37% ratings respectively).

The older respondent groups (>40) tended to rank most issues as having higher priority than younger respondents but particularly issues relating to public access, addressing erosion, improving amenity value, improving recreational facilities and reducing aquatic weeds. Under 18 respondents tended to rank priorities lower across the board compared to other age groups except for protecting/improving natural habitats/wildlife which was a high priority for this group (67% said it was a very high priority). Female respondents tended to rank most issues as higher priority than male respondents. There were no clear trends for priorities based on where respondents lived.

Respondents were then asked if there were *"any other management issues you feel are important and should be prioritised for funding that have not been mentioned?"*. Almost half of respondents (230) took the opportunity to provide additional comment. While the feedback was predictably varied, a number of themes emerged. These are summarised below (full responses provided in Table 19, Attachment 2):

- Comments relating to closure of the eastern road (both for and against);
- Welfare of native animals once traffic diverted to western road and road is sealed (speeding, road kill etc.);
- Management strategies needed for likely increased usage of western side (eg. parking, access, watercraft landings) to prevent degradation of this relatively pristine environment;
- Education (e.g. signage: name plates on trees, explanations of what makes a healthy lake and environment). *"Make it positive"*. Education in local schools about how valuable the lake is and how to protect it. Tourist education in all accommodation;
- Nature walks to encourage people to value the Lake and look after it, potentially along western side of Lake which is in a mostly natural state;
- Aesthetics of built environment needs to be in keeping with local area – *"Timber, basalt, granite, neutral colours best to allow the natural beauty to shine"*; *"Make sensible infrastructure decisions that are built in harmony with our modest Lennox lifestyle"*; *"not excessive concrete or metallic metal furnishings"*; and *"Keep the area as natural as possible"*;
- Measures to address Caravan Park customers parking for extended periods along southern road, taking up public parking spaces and exacerbating parking issues at the Lake;
- Control dogs (e.g. remove off-leash area on adjacent beach, more rangers, fines, education);
- Study the impact of dogs on the Lake;
- Create dog-friendly area around the Lake;
- Cane toad management;
- WSUD treatment of stormwater;
- Bring back rope swings;
- More bins;
- Parking and amenities signage: If parking is full, give directions to other parking areas;
- Extra requirements on Caravan Park and Sport and Recreation (e.g. funding contribution to Lake management, stormwater management, environmental protection, vegetation plans etc.);
- Return markets to the Lake;
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage;
- Eliminate fishing in the Lake;

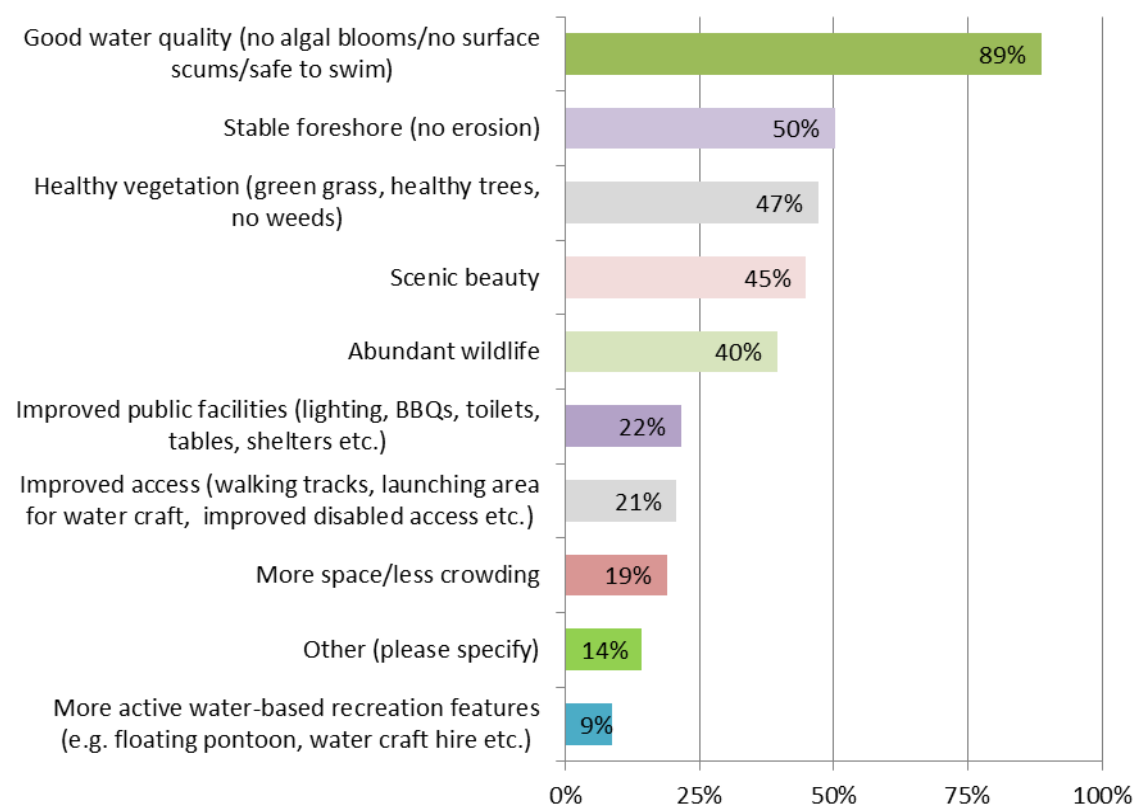
- Address farm runoff on the western side;
- Assess/manage wastewater from Sport and Recreation Centre;
- Restore beaches/fix erosion by dredging sand from the Lake and placing on foreshores (*"like what happened in the past"*);
- Test areas that contribute runoff to the Lake (e.g. cane fields, caravan park, Sport and Rec);
- Maintain current natural setting – leave as is;
- Adopt NPWS-type strategies – charge entry, remove bins and make people take rubbish with them;
- Ideas for minimising sunscreen use (e.g. education, provide shaded swimming areas, encourage rashies, ban sunscreen altogether etc.);
- Bicycle racks to encourage riding to the Lake instead of driving;
- More stringent development controls in the catchment;
- Open the Lake to the sea and make it tidal;
- Make Lake non-smoking and no alcohol area;
- No plastic takeaway containers from nearby café/kiosk;
- Shuttle bus from the Point to the Lake to reduce cars;
- Create defined zones for different uses. Separate watercraft from swimming areas and create quiet zones for nature appreciation;
- Add yellow-belly and bass fingerlings for better fishing;
- Boardwalks on lakes edge to reduce erosion;
- Swimming pontoons;
- More community involvement in management decisions; and
- Limit amenities/parking to limit overcrowding.

## 2.5 Community Vision for Lake Ainsworth

Residents were next asked questions designed to capture the community's vision for the Lake, i.e. how they would like it to be in the future. The first question asked respondents to imagine the Lake in 10 years' time and select the three most important attributes. The number of responses was deliberately restricted to three, to force respondents to choose only the most important aspects to them. While we acknowledge that many respondents would have chosen more aspects if permitted, this allowed for clear community preferences to be established which will help better direct management efforts.

**Table 13: Imagine Lake Ainsworth as you'd like to see it 10 years from now. What are the three most important attributes?**

Answer Choices	Responses	
	Percentage	Count
Good water quality (no algal blooms/no surface scums/safe to swim)	89%	419
Stable foreshore (no erosion)	50%	237
Healthy vegetation (green grass, healthy trees, no weeds)	47%	223
Scenic beauty	45%	212
Abundant wildlife	40%	187
Improved public facilities (lighting, BBQs, toilets, tables, shelters etc.)	22%	102
Improved access (walking tracks, launching area for water craft, improved disabled access etc.)	21%	98
More space/less crowding	19%	90
Other (please specify)	14%	67
More active water-based recreation features (e.g. floating pontoon, water craft hire etc.)	9%	41
	<b>Answered</b>	<b>472</b>
	<b>Skipped</b>	<b>5</b>



**Figure 18: Most important attributes of the desired future state of Lake Ainsworth**

Overwhelmingly (89%), the community expressed a strong desire for good water quality (no blue green algae, no surface scums/ safe to swim) when they imagined the Lake in 10 years' time. Stable foreshore (no erosion) (50%), healthy vegetation (47%) and scenic beauty (45%) and abundant wildlife (40%) were also highly desirable. Built infrastructure aspects were less important with improved public facilities (22%), and improved access (21%) scoring much less than natural attributes. More space/ less crowding and more active water-based recreation features were the least selected attributes with (19% and 14% assigned respectively). A large number (67) of survey respondents provided "Other" attributes including aspects such as: more cultural heritage information; healthy tea trees; easy access; road closed; road open; no change





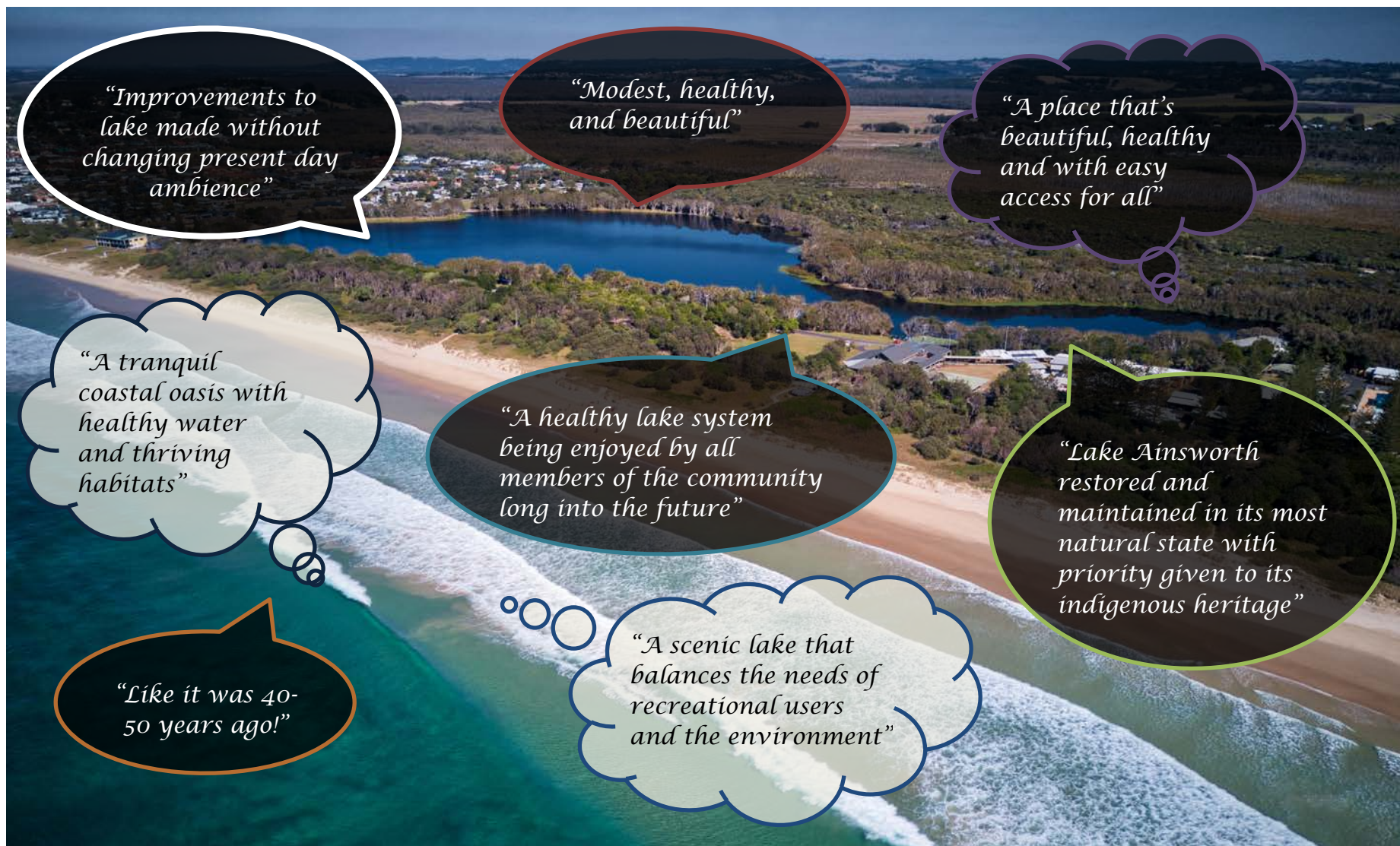


Figure 20: Examples of vision statements provided by the community for Question 13 (All responses provided in Table 21, Attachment 2)

## 2.6 Additional Information

At the conclusion of the survey, respondents were asked if there was "*any other information you would like to provide to the study team?*". Approximately one quarter (120) of survey respondents gave additional comment. The feedback varied broadly, with many re-iterating issues or concerns already mentioned, some relating stories and memories of the Lake in the past and others providing suggestions/ideas for management of issues. Aspects of interest that have not been mentioned previously in this report include:

- The size of Australian Bass populations in the Lake should be assessed and their likely contribution to nutrient levels;
- Clear information about disability access should be provided once road is closed as some community members think there won't be any;
- Suggest the appointment of a full-time ranger for the Lake to enforce rules/issue fines and educate people about protection of the Lake;
- A high-profile "keep the Lake clean" campaign needed;
- Due to climate change and sea level rise, whatever we do in developing or conserving the Lake, it is for a limited time only; and
- Showers would be an advantage, and signage encouraging sun safe swimwear rather than sunscreen during periods of high use.

## REFERENCES

iD (2017). Ballina Shire Community Profile. <https://profile.id.com.au/ballina/five-year-age-groups> - accessed January 2019.

**Appendix 1. LAKE AINSWORTH COMMUNITY SURVEY (PAPER  
VERSION)**

# Lake Ainsworth Survey

Hydrosphere Consulting is currently conducting a survey on behalf of Ballina Shire Council and the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, as part of developing the Lake Ainsworth Coastal Management Program (CMP). The goal of the CMP is to provide a long-term strategy for the management of this much-loved water body.

Council has recently approved foreshore improvement works at the Lake. This work will be underway in the coming months. This survey aims to understand community opinion about all aspects of management of the Lake and the best way forward from here.

The survey takes 12-15 minutes to complete and all responses are confidential. We appreciate your time in helping us to better understand community values and opinions on the future management of the Lake.

You can complete the survey online at: [www.hydrosphere.com.au/lakeainsworth](http://www.hydrosphere.com.au/lakeainsworth) or complete the paper version below.

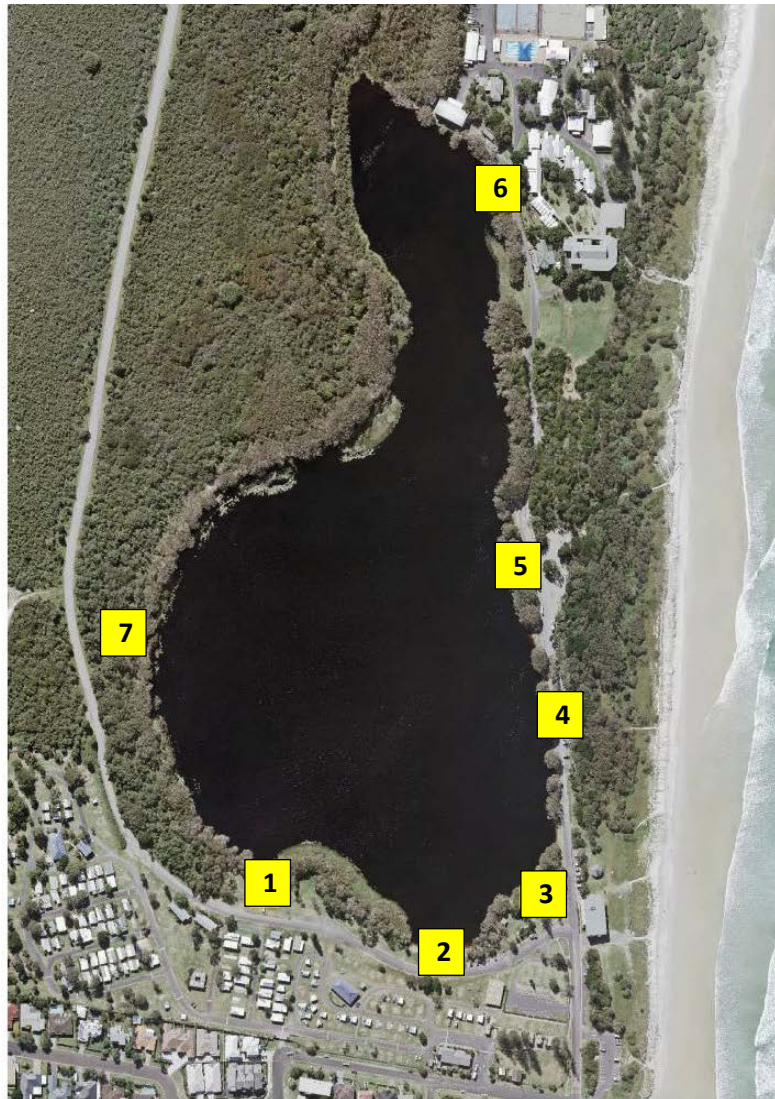
## 1. What are your primary activities at Lake Ainsworth? (tick all that apply)

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sailing    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking/BBQs  | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhere to take children/kids parties                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paddling activities (e.g. Canoeing/Kayaking/Boarding etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercise   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird/wildlife watching/nature appreciation                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Education  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____                               |                                     |

## 2. When you visit the Lake, who do you usually go with? (tick any that apply)

- No one, I usually go on my own
- With young children (aged 0-5)
- With older children (aged 6-12)
- With teenagers (13-18)
- With adults
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Lake Ainsworth can be accessed from several locations indicated on the map and list below. Please tell us how likely you are to access the Lake from these locations.



	Very Likely	Likely	Neutral	Unlikely	Very unlikely
1. South west lake foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Southern lake foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. South east lake foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Along the Eastern Road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Northern end of the Eastern Road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Via Lennox Head Sport and Recreation Centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Western lake foreshore	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



**8. How concerned are you about the following aspects of the lake?**

	Not at all concerned	A little concerned	Quite concerned	Very concerned
Poor water quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Algal blooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slicks on the water surface	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Foreshore erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate change/sea level rise threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Habitat loss or degradation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Difficulties with access to the Lake (e.g parking, walking tracks, watercraft launching, disabled access etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Riparian condition/ weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overcrowding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conflict between different activities (e.g. swimming and water craft)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor quality or insufficient recreational facilities (e.g. BBQs, tables etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**9. Based on your observations, do you believe there are any other issues or problems with Lake Ainsworth? (please limit to 100 words or less)**

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**10. Effectively managing Lake Ainsworth involves allocating funds between different issues. How much of a priority do you think each of the following are?**

	Very low priority	Low priority	Neutral	High priority	Very high priority
Improving water quality (e.g. reducing nutrients /algal blooms)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving public access (e.g. parking, walking tracks, watercraft launching, disabled access etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving recreational facilities (e.g. lighting, BBQs, toilets, tables etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning for climate change/sea level rise threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving amenity value (e.g. grassed areas, vegetation )	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting/improving natural habitats/wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Addressing foreshore erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing amount of litter/rubbish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving riparian vegetation/weed removal (on land)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing aquatic weeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stormwater treatment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Better public education about protection of the Lake's sensitive ecosystem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**11. Are there any other management issues you feel are important and should be prioritised for funding that have not been mentioned? (please limit to 100 words or less)**

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## Lake Ainsworth Vision

As part of developing the Coastal Management Program, the study team would like to capture the community's vision for the Lake. Please help us by telling us in the next two questions how you would like to see the Lake in 10 years from now.

**12. Imagine Lake Ainsworth as you'd like to see it 10 years from now. What are the three most important attributes? (Select only 3 attributes)**

- Good water quality (no algal blooms/no surface scums/safe to swim)
- Improved access (walking tracks, launching area for water craft, improved disabled access etc.)
- Stable foreshore (no erosion)
- Improved public facilities (lighting, BBQs, toilets, tables, shelters etc.)
- Scenic beauty
- Abundant wildlife
- More active water-based recreation features (e.g. floating pontoon, water craft hire etc.)
- More space/less crowding
- Healthy vegetation (green grass, healthy trees, no weeds)
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**13. If you would like to use your own words, please describe your vision of Lake Ainsworth as you would like to see it in 10 years (please limit to 50 words or less)**

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## About You

The following demographic questions will help us ensure we have a broad range of community views.

### 14. Many people visit Lake Ainsworth. Where do you live?

- Lennox Head
- Elsewhere in Ballina Shire
- Outside of Ballina Shire (but within Northern Rivers region)
- Other areas of Australia
- Overseas

### 15. Age

- Under 18
- 18-39
- 40-59
- 60+

### 16. Gender

- Male
- Female

### 17. Do you identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

### 18. In what capacity are you completing this survey? (Optional)

- As an individual
- As a business or government agency
- As a community group/organisation

### 19. Name of individual, business or community group (Optional)

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### 20. Contact details (Optional. We may contact you to discuss your responses)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



## Appendix 2. OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES (AS PROVIDED)

Note: All responses are quoted verbatim except for offensive language or comments of a personal or derogatory nature. Instances with edits are marked by square parentheses [...].

**Table 14: Open-ended responses provided for Question 1: What are your primary activities at Lake Ainsworth?**

No.	“Other” responses provided
1	Volunteering at Sailability
2	stretching i.e yoga
3	dont really swim
4	rope swings
5	Physiotherapy rehabilitation in water
6	assisting Lennox Landcare
7	group outings
8	rope swings- bring them back!!
9	A place to read,relax
10	Enjoying the lake's natural beauty
11	Going to nearby cafe at surf club
12	Quiet relaxation by water
13	Camping
14	Access to the dog off lead area on Seven Mile Beach
15	Walk my dog
16	Easy access for walking on dog beach
17	dog walking
18	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage protection and promotion
19	sunset and cloud watching
20	Access entry to leash free dog beach.
21	Riparian zonevrepair and restoration
22	Car Parking
23	Accessing the Dog Off Leash Beach
24	Sunset photography
25	social dog walking on beach
26	Photography
27	I used to love swimming in the lake but not anymore. Especially with the summer crowds, it's just too filthy now.
28	I drive a small bus to take elderly and handicapped people to enjoy the beauty of the lake
29	Staring
30	Photography
31	Cooling down on hot summer nights. Parking near the beach.
32	Aboriginal Cultural significance
33	Taking photographs
34	Volunteering, lake hyacinth cleaning fortnightly
35	running
36	meditation
37	painting
38	sit in cool shade under sheltering trees on soft strong lawn or sand or bench
39	to be outdoors
40	clean up rubbish
41	Dragon Boat Club - Paddling

No.	"Other" responses provided
42	Dragonboating
43	Training for nippers, conducting wedding ceremonies
44	Rope swings, tree climbing
45	i run sailability which introduces and teaches people with a disability to sail in a safe location
46	reading
47	Silent pee (seriously now...tranquil connections, socially and more!)
48	reading
49	Dragonboat club
50	Access to dog beach
51	Relaxing
52	Memories
53	Landcare ie weeding and occasional planting
54	Dragon boating
55	Alternative chill out place when beach too windy
56	Relaxing under the beautiful paper barks
57	Ukelele playing with group
58	Surf Life Saving Club Training
59	Weeding
60	meditation
61	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage & Flora and Fauna Protection
62	Training for Surf Club

**Table 15: Open-ended responses provided for Question 2: When you visit the Lake, who do you usually go with?**

No.	"Other" responses provided
1	Saliability group fortnightly
2	visitors
3	small groups
4	Landcare
5	25-30 residents
6	I am a grandmother and can use this lake safely with 3 young children - safe from sun and easy to monitor them in the water
7	take clients for lunch
8	But have taken my children and nieces and nephews as young, older and teenagers throughout the last 26 years.
9	with friends and relatives occasionally
10	We drive past Lake Ainsworth as seniors , unable to walk to the off leash area
11	with the dog because of shade
12	Jali LALC Membership 335 Adults, Local Aboriginal People
13	elderly
14	Social group
15	Adults with limited mobility
16	My Dog
17	Go with people to easily access lake
18	with the dog to walk on the beach but have to lock her in car whilst swimming in lake
19	elderly and handicapped people
20	Family gatherings
21	Visitors from other regions
22	with my husband
23	Mixed ages for picnics, etc

No.	“Other” responses provided
24	People with disabilities
25	with disability/elderly family with push walker or walking stick and the family dog on lead to sit and walk
26	family
27	Family members travel from Tamworth, Brisbane and Kyogle each year to Lennox Head because they like the Lake for their children to swim in a safe place
28	on the way to dog beach
29	Rainbow Region Dragon Boat Club
30	Sailability
31	With special needs people
32	With friends and family
33	Mostly alone.
34	our sailability club caters for all ages
35	family and friends - its romantic, scenic and tranquil
36	walk the dog
37	Wimith 2 80 year olds who find it now too hard to have a beach swim
38	Elderly
39	All of the above boxes
40	Spouse
41	visitors to the area
42	My dog (to the beach)
43	with visitors and/or walking my dogs on lead.
44	My dog
45	JaliJali Local Aboriginal Land Council Directors, Members and Government Agents and their consultants
46	Surf Club active patrolling members

**Table 16: Open-ended responses provided for Question 5: Is there anything in particular you like or value about Lake Ainsworth?**

No.	“Other” responses provided
1	Observing the seabirds flying on a windy day
2	Having vehicle access for elderly and kids especially picnics and access #4 and 5
3	tree climbing
4	the cafe
5	walking dogs on nearby beach
6	rope swingsss!!!
7	Shady place to play - alternative to beach when it's rough etc.
8	rope swings
9	All these things but above all it is a place right in/edge town where you can feel in touch with nature, wilderness and wildness. I value highly the natural aesthetic using natural materials with minimal visual impact e.g. simple timber benches and picnic tables(prefer than aluminium)
10	you have no interest in receiving any constructive comment from the public . you are on the public record for ignoring it. I trust you will pay for your actions at the ballot box
11	Road access east rd and informal parking
12	as we are older we can park on the eastern road
13	Local Aboriginal Social and Cultural heritage
14	Relaxing especially early morning
15	a safe place to swim after dark. this we have felt safe for decades along the eastern road to park in the dark as police or other cars drive through intermittently. we are very concerned about our safety when this road is not car accessed as it is likely to draw unsavoury characters to loiture down there as it will be a deadend for hiding and hanging. th e southern end of the lake is very shallow and that means we would have to swim quite a way out. on the eastern road it slides into deeper water quicker and thus the water can be cooler and cleaner quicker. it is also a better area to view sunsets and the moon over the lake.

No.	“Other” responses provided
16	Good access to leash free dog beach. Leave it alone!
17	Fresh water swim after a dip in the sea
18	Safety aspects
19	Good parking
20	Easy acces by vehicles on east and and southern side to get wick access. This is great access for disabled, families and aged people. If eastern road closed access will be discriminated against mentioned groups
21	the social dog walking community
22	Safe swimming when beaches too dangerous or windy
23	Lovely and shady, easy to get a park close to water,
24	Easy to park and swim distances
25	It was good, but now unable to park beside the lake on Eastern side. I'm unable to walk to the lake now.
26	Being able to park right next to where we can swim.
27	the view accross to the tree canopys tree trunks from each side the shade on hot days
28	shade
29	Nice walk, not suitable for swimming
30	The local markets were just beautiful to visit when set up along the lake road!
31	Children playing in the trees, rope swings and other adventures activities as well as photography
32	Wish we could take dogs
33	Access to both the beach and fresh water (swim)
34	Good meeting place
35	quiet
36	nostalgia, happy memories
37	Out of wind/freshwater
38	Bird watching
39	Protected from the wind. Northerlies specifically
40	As i have young kids, i like that there is toilet facilities, grassed area, food available and safe swimming.
41	Particularly the natural area to the West of the Lake
42	Tea tree infused water is beneficial for health
43	the serenity of it all---so beautiful early morning and sun set
44	Easy to get away from crowds, other people; there's plenty of space
45	Safe fresh water
46	The unique fresh tea tree water on my skin
47	Surf Club Training & Events
48	Walking & nature
49	Prefer the northern and western extremities becuase they're not as crowded as the SE corner
50	East rd access - uncomplicated informal parking
51	Excellent access for disabled from eastern shore
52	Educational value (use by students at SCU)

**Table 17: Open-ended responses provided for Question 7: Can you briefly explain why you gave this score? (please limit to 100 words or less). Following Question 6: How healthy or unhealthy do you think Lake Ainsworth is?**

No.	Responses
1	I don't think the water quality is good or bad for you. So long as there's no blue green algae - then I wouldn't use the lake
2	Too much rubbish in lake, too many dogs swimming
3	Generally it is healthy but there are many variables. Seasonal rainfall and climate, tourist numbers and activities? the current algal bloom problems that have caused BSC to close the lake..for human health reasons (18/1/2019)
4	Clean foreshores for the most part. Abundant wildlife
5	seems pretty clean most times -peak times in summer with lots of kids sometimes not

No.	Responses
6	think the eastern and southern erosion adds to an unhealthy environment for the lake
7	would suspect nutrient pollution and possibly other pollutants from products such as sunscreen insect repellent etc. Increased water temp in hotter months impacting on water quality
8	Never had health issues over 12 years of using the lake with family friends or visitors
9	in normal rainfall year better quality overuse at xmas only
10	The rains and tea trees keep the lake healthy including the pumps in the center that keep it aerated
11	It all seems clean and well cared for
12	Foreshore vegetation is degraded therefore health affected. Poor riparian zone especially on eastern foreshore because of road
13	Public lack of care not to wear sunscreen in the lake, not to pee in lake. Often see dogs. Lake has erosion. Water quality can be poor
14	concerned about: proximity of road and oil runoff, dog in lake, people drinking alcohol in lake, urination and frequent reports of gastro in summer
15	all could be better
16	based on readings I've done
17	more urban runoff and poo from kids playing in the lake than ideal. Erosion also not ideal
18	I am looking at not just water. Positive: Aquatic species still there - turtles, fish, water dragons. Water quality varies declines at end of tourist season and I feel related to long periods without rain. Some riparian vegetation still present. Negative: Ever present blue green algae. Runoff from caravan park e.g. new large drain southern side . Summer very high visitation numbers. Salvinia water hyacinth etc. Redclaw
19	Even when the lake is not closed due to the presence of blue green algae it is still in the water somewhere around the lake depending on the wind direction. Continued outbreaks of water hyacinth are concerning
20	sometimes it is dirty. Too much sunscreen on water surface
21	predisposition to algae blooms in warm weather. Condition of large foreshore trees needs attention
22	Quite a few species of birds use the lake. There hasn't been any algae blooms for a while. Some weed incursion around western lake foreshore but high vegetation cover surrounding lake to improve runoff quality into lake
23	most of the time it is clean and clear
24	Lived right near the lake for 62 years and only seldom do we have algae and we swim all the time
25	periodic algal blooms
26	There is a lot of aquatic life existing in the lake. The lake is impacted by things such as sunscreen
27	Not sure what the blue green algae situation is or how good the drainage is
28	algae blooms are concerning
29	occasional blue green algae suggests it is not very healthy
30	Very healthy most of the year...just a bit dodgy over the Christmas, New Year period -due to extra usage!
31	because sometimes in warmer months there is algae
32	because of frequent algal blooms
33	I know it has been subject to algal blooms and there is runoff. This would indicate that it is not very healthy, but the fact we can swim in it would indicate that is not very unhealthy
34	because its rarely closed
35	Lake ainsworth has been the same for 60 years I have known it. With all the subdivisions we do not have the water table we used to. It needs cleaner drainage into the lake from stormwater. There is nothing wrong with the lake just needs the foreshores cleaned up! No more trees all we do is trip over roots!
36	During summer the lake is much busier in particular with tourists who do not know how to care for the lake as locals do. I have seen people allow their dogs to swim, children to go to the toilet, litter, destruct, wear sunscreen, wash up etc.etc. all in these summer months
37	Turtles and ducks show it is healthy but i sometimes feel unwell after swimming
38	"-too much rubbish left behind
39	-oil slick appearance on surface
40	-extreme amount of use of peak periods"
41	The appealing appearance of the lake and foreshore, no recent algae blooms I have been aware of. I have not looked into the scientific data regarding water quality or concerns about the runoff from farm chemicals used on the canefields, although I realise those things are being monitored.
42	Although the lake is a closed system my understanding is that long term water quality is acceptable (based on media / word of mouth from lake users). I do believe that there would be event based water quality issues typically triggered by stormwater in



No.	Responses
	flows, and around high use periods (i.e. waste left along foreshores). I understand that there are periodic outbreaks of blue-green algae. I think the key issues is managing any future development in the catchment, implemented WSUD for both new and existing development, and ensuring adequate facilities in public open space (i.e bins)
43	regular algae outbreaks. sunscreen film on surface of lake. Fewer frogs than when i remember lake to have
44	When we have had good rain and in the quieter seasons it is clean, when it gets low with no rain and lots of people especially wearing sunscreen it gets dirty
45	unsure
46	It depends on the season and rainfall
47	keep finding dead turtles and bass
48	Aware of nutrient rich runoff into the lake potentially causing algal blooms. Development nearby likely to contribute sediment to the lake
49	Fluctuation because of environmental conditions - weather - amount of people using the lake
50	Lake Ainsworth is surrounded by beautiful nature the water is very good for your skin and healthy for but the only downfall is rubbish. I have seen some pretty disgusting things happen around lake Ainsworth
51	Just blue green algae sometimes
52	worried about blue green algae reports
53	The surrounds and water are pretty good compared to most places, esp as it is so close to town. But I think it gets dirty water over Christmas with so many people and higher temps
54	I swim in the lake quite a bit and it's mainly good except at christmas when there is a lot more people. The sunscreen puts a scum on the water, so the aerators could be used a lot more to circulate the water which are not on very often. The Council should be able to control the algae, specially when most of the people are visitors from other parts of the state. The water is very nice to swim in.
55	no
56	due to algae
57	wonder how well lake recovers from quantity of visits in summer
58	the nature seems healthy and the water seems great, no rubbish around . A few fish and other aquatic animals
59	blue green algae
60	I still feel it is healthy enough to swim in usually, but am concerned with its catchment and its heavy usage. I believe educating users to respect the lake and its wellbeing, particularly about it being a relatively closed system and importance of pollutants/appropriate waterproof nappies for toddlers etc.
61	Lake closed several times during the year
62	Lake Ainsworth is very healthy for swimming, relaxing etc. except when subject to blue green algal contamination. Future overuse could produce problems e.g. many developments are planned around Lennox Head
63	It seems from time to time, ear and throat problems arise in younger children - certainly when our children were young 30-35 years ago this was the case. There is often a slick on the water when it's crowded. Perhaps sunscreen is affecting lake health. There are still occasions when dogs are at waters edge. Small children in nappies or naked?!
64	From my own observations, from the studies I read during community consultation period in early 2018, from study I have done at SCU (currently studying Env. Science), from Council/DPI notifications re. Blue-Green Algae levels, and from other community members (eg. Landcare), who have helped form this opinion.
65	Blue green algae issue; visible scum on surface; members of public using shampoos and other chemical based products with long history of same; dogs urinating/defaecating in or on edge of lake; inadequate number of rubbish bins available so garbage is frequently found in and around the lake
66	Blue-green algae problem, also crowding & cars along eastern bank
67	"south & east foreshores are degraded, un-natural, vegetation unhealthy, eastern road = negative impacts on environment + dangerous.
68	overcrowding - Council should encourage use of other waterways nearby + fix them up too"
69	Swim there a lot and never had any problems
70	Most of the time, the lake is clear and clean but as soon as it warms up the algae starts to appear.
71	In the summer the lake suffers from Blue Green Algae
72	I have read published reports concerning water quality
73	your photo shows how the sand eroded from the eastern shoreline has formed a sandbank under water. it needs to be pulled up and the shoreline repaired.your proposals in no way go to rectify this level of deterioration
74	There are sometimes problems with blue green algae but mostly it's fine.
75	Scum on the water from sun screens and oils... more small refuse around the shoreline and on the grass...
76	"too much phosphate

No.	Responses
77	environmental weeds and diseases
78	poor stormwater management
79	ignorant community behaviour eg urinating, litter, sunscreen use, driving and parking on foreshore"
80	Too many people urinate in the lake and we've had no rain
81	Flushes with seasonal rain
82	I have been swimming in the lake for almost 70yrs the water quality has not changed greatly. There is more pollution from sunscreen than there will ever be from vehicles
83	"I have used lake for 50 years water quality has not changed.
84	With air ration and testing council can monitor water quality to safeguard any seasonal chances."
85	WE use it all the year round. rarely does it have the toxic bloom
86	In general & most of the time the lake is very healthy...occasionally there is algae bloom but unfortunately the main issue (isn't vehicle traffic) its people not being careful about whats going into the lake...like allowing kids to poo/wee in it.
87	Just lovely swimming after the surf
88	i have been coming to the lake since 1963 it seems no different except council has not maintained any of it. there are no beaches anymore.
89	Healthy until January when hot weather and high volume use cause sunscreen slick and blue green algae blooms.
90	My family have been swimming in the lake for many years and there have not been any serious health concerns from this activity.
91	green Algae and lake closures at the end of summer last two years
92	"The lake has no natural in/out flow.
93	No strategies is in place to manage sediment.
94	Outdated plan of management.
95	No Aboriginal cultural heritage management plan "
96	The blue-green algae is evidence of ill-health. When it is thick around the edges, I am loth to even put my boat in. I don't put my head under water, as is the case with many residents and I find that scratches become easily infected. The infestations of salvinia and water hyacinth are not indicative of good health.
97	it depends the time of year and the rain. in summer there is more people especially children and people using sunscreen etc that contaminates the lake. having swum in the lake for over 40 years, i am used to feeling how the water feels... it is different after the rain and different after many people in it. it generally bounces back relatively quickly. we tend to avoid the sides of the lake and swim towards the deeper sections where it can feel different. we can notice its feel from day to day.
98	The area is over-used and under-managed. The result is degradation of the areas most used.
99	it is very popular and human impact is high
100	Blue green algae, and at times when there is no blue green algae still get occasional illness after being at the lake.
101	Inappropriate use, lack of understanding by users about its fragility.
102	Been visiting this lake for 50 years - same now as it was long ago - leave it alone!
103	no egress to the ocean so no flushing of water and any contaminants. I know Council test the water but how frequently and is it really safe? we would love to swim there bit we dont anymore. cannot it be connected to the ocean?
104	Vehicular impact on eastern road - upsets the natural workings of the sand dunes. Would be better to close the road & have access for people only
105	I read local info.
106	Pollution from vehicles and overcrowded in summer
107	Actually, there is nothing wrong with the lake
108	Seepage from road, sunscreen residue, backpackers washing dishes and bbq plates in lake.
109	I am aware of the nutrient issues and algal blooms and it is a high use area which I assume would lead to ecological impacts that affect the health of the lake.
110	A mixture of environmental water quality issues such as phosphate load and public health water quality issues such as blue-green algae blooms
111	Dont swim in it, too many ear infections, rashes, very concerned about blue-green algae and likely associated motor neurones disease risk as documented in recent scientific studies.
112	I see the lake as having a blue green algae problem mainly which I believe is weather dependant.
113	So many people coming to visit and swim in the lake. Rubbish, sunscreen & human body fluids/waste entering the lake
114	Greatly concerned at the water quality and extremely concerned tourists are loving the lake to death!

No.	Responses
115	There are too many people swimming in there, especially in summer. There's often an oil slick on the surface. My Dr told my not to take my son who has eczema and prone to skin infections in the lake in summer as she often sees patients that have ear or eye infections and gastro from swimming in the lake.
116	"I got a sinus infection from lake after swimming. Also children wee and poo in the lake. Toxic sunscreen ie chemicals worn in lake
117	"
118	"The amount of people who swim in it.
119	We often see a slick of sunscreen on the surface of the water in peak times, and avoid swimming when we do.
120	Also there is often visible faeces during peak time, another reason we avoid.
121	The algae blooms are another reason I rate it unhealthy, and the amounts of E. coli present.
122	"
123	I know so many children, including ours, who have caught gastro there. Dr's and chemists in the area report the same. No filtration system
124	Sometimes it is a bit smelly. I've never gotten sick from swimming there but I do people who have. The algae is a bother too.
125	people do not understand how fragile this environment is. it is not a place to wash your dog, camp, drink alcohol, dump rubbish, park on shore edge. it needs more respect
126	My own observations and use of the lake.
127	Media reports of unclean or unhealthy water quality
128	"During busy times the lake is obviously polluted with rubbish. This has lasting effects on the lake.
129	"
130	Like anything the lake has good and bad days with so many variables affecting it ie weather crowds etc
131	I have heard that during certain times people contract gastroenteritis and skin infections. I often see people taking their dogs into the lake.
132	Worried about the many cases of vomiting and diarrhoea caused by swimming in the lake. Also worried there is no signage to let everyone know about the lake. ie. The damage sunscreen can do
133	tea tree oils and the flushing from the ocean
134	Sometime we are made aware of the Blue Green Algae bloom by Ballina Shire Council and avoid getting water on our drink bottles in our eyes or enter any cuts/wounds
135	The Lake sometimes in winter is closed because of Algee
136	From articles in the paper & the look of it sometimes.
137	The more people in town the more people swim in the lake, overload of chemicals (sunscreens, moisturisers, perfumes etc, sick kids spreading germs. Also shag droppings, blue green algae. Summer - ear infections, conjunctivitis, gastro.
138	NA
139	"At the time of completing this survey it is December school holidays.
140	The lake is inundated with people and cars from people using the lake and overflow of cars from people staying at the caravan park. Rubbish bins are overflowing, human faeces have been regularly seen floating in the Lake and rubbish left by people utilising the lake are impacting on the health of our lake
141	"
142	Compared to Shaw's bay this water is a lot healthier
143	Water quality often bad with a generally poor understanding of what leads to this and how to improve it
144	Just appears to be reasonably healthy. Aware of the occasional outbreaks of algae but that seems to have lessened in the last few years
145	i swim in the lake nearly every day spring summer autumn except those short times when there is blue green algae. The bird life is abundant and healthy and not scared of the human activity on the lake, the plants are healthy, the water doesn't smell, and appears to have enough fish for people to catch. Although brown from teatree, it is still clear. Only problem is when some people leave their rubbish and cigarette butts.
146	The slick of sunscreen you can see on top of the lake during summer, human faeces, people getting sick when someone with a gastronswims in there and spreads it, blue-green algae blooms during summer
147	In summer tourists do not look after our lake
148	I have watched the health of the lake deteriorate over the past 20years. The colour of the lake has changed, you can see the oil slick of sunscreen in summer. Kids get ear infections and gastro from swimming in there. I will not swim in there anymore. The lake is s beautiful and hold so much indigenous history but overuse and mismanagement is slowly killing her, so sad!!
149	Poo 🐛
150	I think the tea tree, the air bubbles and the fish keep it healthy enough for swimming. I do keep an ear out for when it's not safe

No.	Responses
	for swimming.
151	People contaminate the area leaving rubbish and other waste that ends up in the water. There are toilets they could use and bins
152	People swimming covered in sunscreen and nappy changing - occasionally green algae
153	Algal blooms, oil slicks, lake weeds. Dogs peeing and defecating (despite not being permitted around the lake)
154	There is always a film of scum, people litter and let dogs in it. Especially summer time tourists don't care about looking after the lake
155	Constant human excrement and gastro outbreaks from those who swim. It's one big germ
156	Looks healthy
157	"Generally healthy as far as I know, bit unsure towards end of summer.
158	
159	A lot of erosion on eastern side which could be improved to have better and easier swimming access, especially with children"
160	it seems quite healthy to us
161	Water quality seems mostly ok. Although it is well used, the biggest issue seems to be that it is filling with sand.
162	Depends on the time of year
163	occasional outbreaks of green algae limit my choice to 50%
164	Dark water absorbs heat which makes it less pleasant in warmer months. Otherwise fine.
165	Although the tree gives the illusion of unclear water I believe it is clean But I cannot determine what rubbish may be on the lake floor.
166	"The algal problems,
167	The unrestricted / none filtered storm water runoff from housing and cane fields that feed into it "
168	bloom of blue green algae, bloom of invasive aquatic vegetation, sun screen/oily patch appearing in the summer, occasional faeces floating in the summer, increased rubbish in water and around lake during summer, impact of increasing volume of people coming to the lake over the years (I have been coming to this lake for 20).
169	Needs more rain to freshen it
170	The lake is generally pretty good just sometimes the blue green algae gets a bit too much
171	"Only occasionally in warmer weather blue green algae is present .Any other time the water is clear and the lake has not changed in the 20 years ive been enjoying it.
172	"
173	Blue green algae outbreaks
174	Blue green algae
175	Too many people always gets blue green algae as it's not getting flushed enough.
176	Cause too many people let their dogs swim in the lake and backpackers wash in it
177	It is always clean no rubbish about. When algae is about council signs it & posts online.
178	Tree roots being uncovered. Rubbish
179	I never feel sick from swimming in the lake nor do my friends and family. Smells and tastes clean in most areas. No recent algal blooms
180	the water quality is variable depending on the weather conditions
181	I've had no health problems after swimming there
182	No
183	It's nice
184	"Instances of blue green algae
185	Pollution from run off from storm water
186	Contamination from sun screen
187	"
188	All ways seem to be clean, except for the algie blooms that sometimes happen
189	On my observations
190	Just by the look of the lake and the temperature of the the water
191	Think the environment could improve
192	I don't swim but I like to take photos of the scenery.

No.	Responses
193	After the tourists arrive on holidays it doesn't tak long before the water gets putrid from all the sunscreen and dirty nappies.
194	It was unclear whether you meant was the lake ecosystem was healthy or whether it was healthy for people. I think the health varies on the season and usage. It slides down the scale over summer with increased usage.
195	In summer when it's very hot and people start getting sick, it's unhealthy then.
196	I'm not sure if you mean the lake itself is in a healthy Eco state or it's healthy for people.... My family all got gastro swimming there last Christmas but we never have before. The lake doesn't seem to be in as healthy an Eco state as it used to be.
197	Most times it's healthy for swimming
198	Swam there yesterday and there was no blue green algae. The vegetation is always lush around the edges and the water is always clean
199	I wasn't sure
200	water quality - need to plant natives, control erosion, rid lake of excessive phosphates
201	I live here in Lennox and 90% of times its clean and healthy on dec jan feb it can be algae with peoples sunscreen
202	little visible rubbish, blue green algae blooms infrequent, ecosystems are healthy, aquatic life visible
203	about 50 I work with land care at lake ainsworth
204	Pets/people urinating in lake, blue green algae, rubbish/waste products
205	Greenery around the lake, animals, freshwater, very little rubbish in water
206	we swim on a regular basis and never encountered anything but clean. We love our lake just as it is. No changes please!!!
207	There needs to be a focus on cleaning the lake of obnoxious water weeds and grass
208	It should be done more campaigns regarding sunscreen use and signs about the importance of using the toilets because it is a joke as everything that goes in stays. On summer regarding the amount of people
209	The water quality in summer after rainfall can be dubious (algae)
210	Algae build up
211	As a permanent resident of Lennox Head and a daily visitor of Lake Ainsworth, this is a friendly and beautiful place for all to see. This lake is iconic and is the history Lennox Head. I see no disruption here
212	Sometimes accessible/not accessible. Algae infestation
213	Lake doesn't get flushed out. Algae,sunscreen, human waste, rubbish -build up in hot months.
214	Don't know - seems to fluctuate with the algae situation
215	Had ear aches from swimming in there
216	I have heard of people getting sick from the lake however my family has never been sick and I don't believe it can be confirmed that sickness was caused from the water.
217	Usually clean amd well airated. I only swi after rain in the hot season
218	when I camp at lennox we always end up with gastro. There seems to be a film on top of the water as you swim from large amounts of people there. Is swear we've been sick from the lake more than twice.
219	I think the tea tree essential oils are beneficial for my skin & hair. .however, my husband has had a few ear infections, after swimming daily, so I do question the water quality.
220	There are times the lake is not able to be used for swimming due to issues with algae, broken glass or other reasons.
221	I have watched the lake for over 40 years... The algae cones and goes, but there are way more people frequenting the lake.
222	It has blue algae issues so it's not as good as it could be but I think it's not terrible, I hope it's not terrible...
223	The algal blooms that regularly occur and the amount of users are definitely impacting on the health and ecosystem of the lake.
224	Green aglae blooms in recent years
225	Only when the Blue Green Algae is present it can restrict swimming. Always Love to drive up to dog beach let the dogs have a run
226	Blue green algae
227	Been swimming there for fourteen years no probs
228	looks healthy, swim there a lot, never seen rubbish, never been sick
229	the lake always looks stunning and the water is so soft on my hair and skin. Rarely i see blue green algae
230	We hear/read the occasional health warning signs
231	Sometimes its clean, occasionally it gets blue green algae. People leave rubbish
232	Becomes polluted int eh summer, sunscreens, lots of people etc. Lots of weed on southern edge
233	green algae scares

No.	Responses
234	have heard rumours of blue green algae
235	lots of use, lots of sunscreen, lots of dogs int he lake, fair bit of litter, algae occasionally, pretty good despite the above
236	The area needs more care and cars not allowed along the very edge! No cars and more care
237	Enclosed water system with frequent use
238	Prone to algae bloom? Over populated by tourists.
239	because it has blue green algae and stuff like that
240	Excessive human use makes it unhealthy
241	Depending on tourist traffic depends on the health of the Lake ie just after Christmas holidays will not take my children there
242	Its mostly ok
243	I don't have enough information to make an informed comment on the health of the lake and what affects it etc. NB I am still not sure what effect cars and the market had on the health of the lake
244	I've never been sick from it, the water makes the skin feel fresh
245	It's more unhealthy now with access denied to cars than it was years ago.
246	Logic. Some times there are algi blooms.
247	Lots of vegetation and few residential .
248	You can not tell how nature will turn out
249	Re-occurrence of blue green algae.
250	It is so clean mid winter and spring is so-so midling mid summer but gets polluted from sunscreen and lots of motorised rower boats plus their people plus the excess heat of summer that it is exhausted or unhealthy polluted at the autumn end of summer - more cooling shade might help too
251	it varies at different times of year
252	Because the lake has some things int he water and because i love the lake and everything that is part of it
253	Water seems clean. Tea trees are disinfectants
254	what about the feral weed that has been encroaching the lake. Nothing has been said or done about this problem
255	There doesn't appear to be any algal blooms or any scum visible (hard to asses totally, not an expert)
256	Unhealthy Jan Feb into march blue green algae and tourist overload. Ok other times creams and lotions should be used less
257	I have heard bad things about the layer of sunscreen on the water. Erosion is also evident
258	You can see a thick layer of oil on top
259	I have been swimming int eh lake for 35 years and the water seems clean, my skin feels nice after the swim, I have never gotten ill from the water
260	Gets really hot in summer - bugs, algae
261	media
262	Poor infrastructure, too many people all in the same spots, and many cases of algae. You should redo the roads and parking spaces, remove the benches and tables that are fitted on a concrete base, replace the ugly road blocking hat things with wooden posts or something not ugly and that should be done for the whole of Lennox. What would really be good is a road wrapping around the entire lake so people will hopefully spread out more. Less signage at the entrance too. Unobtrusive and sensible infrastructure, basically. Please don't [mess] this one up.
263	many years of abuse and overuse from swimmers etc. Poor condition of road as it washes asphalt into lake.
264	Government reports. BLUE green algae. Cane toads. Slavinia. Sunscreen. Loved to death.
265	My score in #6 is based on my intimate knowledge of several (unrelated) children & adults becoming sick after being at the lake and that this seems to be a recurring issue each summer when it gets busy.
266	I have seen sunscreen slicks, invasive water plants, blue green algae and submerged rubbish on regularly
267	unsure
268	varies acording to rain and tourist sewerage and overuse impact from van park and temperature bre BG algae
269	Apart from the BGA outbreaks, it appears ok.
270	Depends on sunscreen and babies in nappies.... they are the major health hazards....not car run-off as has been mooted
271	I'm aware of many gross things that have happened in that lake plus people have gotten sick from the algae etc. it's quite gross to swim in but in saying that I still go in
272	I have seen the water quality data; and I see the amount of people swimming there in summer full of sunscreen; children; babies etc.
273	I am aware of periodic algal blooms affecting water quality and nutrient loads for surrounding catchment

No.	Responses
274	Health issues include water quality (historic nutrient loads as well as ongoing inputs from the catchment), aquatic weeds, pressure from over use, erosion along the eastern and southern edges in high use areas. During most periods i'd assume the water quality is fine for swimming and other recreation, however the system is under pressure.
275	Water quality is clearly fine. After stormwater enters the lake it becomes affected. Council to re-direct stormwater from entering lake
276	I paddle on Lake Ainsworth and apart for the algae is looks OK by the eye
277	Regardless of reports as to cleanliness there is not enough exchange of water to be clean,
278	Hearsay about water quality
279	I DON'T SWIM THERE BECAUSE OF THE QUALITY OF THE WATER
280	At times has blue algae
281	The water always seems to have a slick on top - perhaps from so many people wearing sunscreen/lotions in it. Also I have been told by other locals that the lake is a dumping ground - all sorts of things are dumped in there. This is really sad.
282	The colour of the lake always makes me think it is unsafe and the warning signs, however I know a lot of people who love swimming in the lake and say it is safe
283	It Does get significant amount of blue green algae
284	"There have been times when bit of feces have been floating in lake when swimmers are there, haven't been back to swim after that
285	"
286	Tea tree water great for skin. Lake itself is usually fairly healthy - no infections for me this year.
287	I have been there in peak summer with small children and it's not particularly pleasant. I have seen young ones swimming without nappies and having accidents in the water, then the faeces left in the water by the parents
288	it gets blue green algae often and the surface of the water in summer when it's highly populated becomes infested with a thick layer of oil and sunscreen and rubbish which makes it unideal to swim in
289	Water quality being imaged by users.
290	Algae occasionally
291	Clean water no rubbish, comparatively unused especially in non summer months
292	With the aerator its quite healthy. Visible erosion by the eastern shore is no indicator of the lakes health. Water tastes fresh and makes skin and hair feel soft and nice
293	I have been swimming here for 40 years and have not had any problems. Also the amount of animal life in the lake indicates it is healthy
294	I know it has issues with algae blooms however for the majority of the time I believe the water quality is fine
295	it appears clear when I swim, but I know algae blooms sometimes close the lake
296	My husband has been here for 65 years(myself for 25yrs) Decline of clarity of water, increase of blue green algae, destruction of roots of plants and edges of lake - more intense leaf litter smell!
297	Does get algae quite often
298	The lake has a wide range of wildlife both in and above the water, it has a wide range of plant life, both in the water and beside it. The blue green algae is a natural occurrence in the type of swamp environment that feeds the lake
299	Only because of media reports, otherwise I'd class It as healthy
300	It gets blue/green algae at times
301	"For a lake in an urban area it is very clean. The roads near the lake do not seem to impact the water quality greatly. There is little rubbish and most users are very respectful of the area. Council keeps the picnic areas well stocked with bins that have lids and they are emptied frequently.
302	The waterway is mostly surrounded by bushland and the catchment is usually clean. Thought the caravan park allows pets and many local people ignor the rules banning dogs on the lake, so I feel animals have some impact. I also feel that young children pooing in the water is pretty common but possibly unavoidable.
303	There are some weeds. Blue green algae blooms are not uncommon in summer which is a concern.
304	There are times when people in town complain of getting gastro from swimming in the lake. This tends to happen in the hottest part of summer, particularly when usage is at it's peak after Christmas.
305	There seem to be lots of micro invertibrates and small fish in the water."
306	The Lake is always full of disease and causes illness and skin irritations. I would not recommend anyone touching the water as it is known in the medical industry to be dangerous for humans
307	Constant scums on water, high nutrient content and lack of regular flushing.
308	history of blue-algae blooms
309	"Its sand bottom acts as a natural filter and the reeds keep it clean and natural

No.	Responses
310	The blue algae can be a problem at times, but thats nature
311	"
312	son had severe allergic reaction when staying at Lake Ainsworth sport and rec, assumed from blue green algae, unproven. Kids have often got sick or rash after swimming
313	It's often closed/signed not safe for swimming
314	Sunscreen etc from people being in the lake and other toxic chemicals/waste that may enter the lake.
315	People and dogs add chemicals and waste.
316	I think it is pretty clean except for the busy hot times over Christmas break
317	Runoff entering lake from road and holiday park
318	It is healthy at times but sometimes algae blooms prevent access to the lake
319	I fully understand the algae issue ,and have been following it for 21 years , and I would like to see the aerorator used every day esp. during summer when algae blooms are more likely esp when the level is low
320	Because of blue green algae and other probable bacteria.
321	I think the lake is fine 90% of the time. After school holidays the lake seems to get a little yucky. But all in all pretty healthy
322	Water not always healthy to swim in
323	It is an assumption based on the flora/fauna health and general look, feel and smell of the water
324	I am careful not to drink this water because of its numerous "healthy" warnings. But mostly it has always looked ok
325	Surrounding healthy, occasional blue green algae
326	algae blooms poor water drainage overuse in summer
327	good for hair, freshwater, get tannen without harmful sun rays ;) (good for skin)
328	Council advises when algae on lake otherwise very healthy
329	Not able to be "flushed out" easily i.e. needs a spillway or large drain pipe(s) to the sea to allow a cleanout after heavy rain
330	Ive never had any health problems from swimming in the lake (over 50 years) but never swim when its closed with blue green algae. However, I do know a local doctor who never allows his children to enter the lake
331	Have had bouts of gastro after swimming. Sometimes looks dirty at edges.
332	I gave a neutral score because I am unsure of the lakes health
333	Not able to swim when blue algae is present.
334	Mostly its good, occasional algal blooms
335	I live hear
336	Because it had algae in it
337	Generally clear of algae when i check with Council website
338	I understand that at certain times of the year it can be unhealthy to enter water due to some natural algae process. I read it in the Ballina tourist brochure
339	blue green algae is always a problem every summer no matter what
340	see the different colours
341	Its not near industries
342	Algal blooms, erosion gutters, cane toad population, media reports of "life support" when it was aerated, weed in southern end, faecal discharge from camp septic system at northern end
343	Clean but extra people means rubbish/algae, temps high
344	Tea tree provides health benefits but sometimes the algae makes swimming inadvisable and stories get around about persons using the lake for a different purpose i.e. a toilet!
345	"Too many people using the area.
346	"
347	Mainly because it gets algae growth every now & then.
348	Known beachwatch figures, car use and runoff inside catchment, dogs accessing through and urinating/defacating inside catchment
349	Algae builds up after storms or periods of rain from run off, also lots of cane toad tadpoles and toads, build up of hyacinth at times, these are not good. there is fish life, eels, turtles and crayfish and abundant BirdLife as well as native lillies so this is good.
350	Insufficient control of run off water. Control of algae bloom.



No.	Responses
351	It has active bird and wild life, free of litter, in a natural state that's well set up and easy for humans to use too.
352	Tea tree oil is great for skin, swimming in a natural environment near the ocean & wildlife sighting all give healing & peace. Restricted car access would be even better
353	The lake suffers from algal blooms
354	Algae outbreak and nutrient problems
355	Overpopulated, unsafe facilities leading to poor water quality
356	i have seen it for 19 years
357	It seems to be mostly clean and clear (if coloured), and the surrounding vegetation seems healthy. I have known it to be occasionally closed to swimming though due to algal blooms/other biological contamination.
358	There's algae sometimes
359	The algae still returns and the fitness camp still uses a petrol motor to retrieve young sailors at their facility when electric outboard technology is very good. Also people still allow their dogs to swim there even though they are banned.
360	Algae outbreaks
361	Frequent cases of gastro in children who swim there and blue green algae
362	It's a great freshwater lake which is nice to swim in.
363	It has always been fairly healthy
364	Im not professional ecologist so I can't be certain if it's health but it seems clean and healthy in the sense that there is healthy vegetation surrounding the lake and there are obviously fish and bird life in and around the lake which also seem healthy.
365	"From articles published locally.
366	"
367	I've been going to the lake since I was a child and It's such a peaceful place to go with the family and friends I've been coming hear more often since I've had my children and it's a great spot to teach kids how to swim and build courage/ confidence
368	Occurrence of algae tells us the natural self cleaning mechanism is no longer working. Water levels are unnaturally high indicating there is little or no turnover of the water and no way the decaying vegetation can dissipate. Introduced fish and crayfish are damaging banks.
369	The lake needs the storm - ground water issues addressed and then it could be 100. The western side needs to stay the same for the fauna and habitat to keep it healthy.
370	Water appears clean. There is no visible pollution, and no unpleasant smells. There is no visible sediment. Fish and birds are seen regularly.
371	I don't know the scientific response so I took a neutral position
372	It looks healthy and is clean to swim in. No sharks
373	I know it shuts occasionally when algae blooms. Also that because it's not spring fed, or still water, that it cannot naturally filter itself. I could be wrong but i think it's stagnant water?
374	Winter is healthy but summer is too packed with people and hot and unhealthy
375	Incidences of algal blooms and reports of eye infections, etc..
376	It regularly gets closed due to algae and doctors have even recommended using ear drops after swimming there. In summer, the water gets so warm it seems risky putting your head under whilst swimming there.
377	"Contaminants entering the lake from various areas.
378	Uncontrolled dogs swimming in Lake.
379	Sunscreen and other pollutants entering the Lake.
380	Erosion of lake edges."
381	Runoff from carpark people using the lake as a toilet I've seen people washing their hair in there people take their dogs in and the bucketloads of sunscreen that get poured in there every summer can't be good.
382	I believe the Lake is basically healthy although some times overpopulated with people and subject to blue green algae infestations
383	The constant blooms of blue green algae
384	after any school holidays the lake is full of urine plus sunscreen--you can smell it every day--then we get the algae bloom--simple as that--too many humans pissing in it is the real problem
385	I swim and board very often in the lake. I see the oil slicks and the B/G algae slicks. I am always cleaning around the edge of the lake and removing garbage. Sunscreen and body oils are thick on the water and foreshore in summer. I do landcare on and around the lake. The degradation and pollution, as well as weeds, water borne and terrestrial, is very evident.
386	No algae bloom that I know of lately
387	I believe there's a lot of rubbish in the lake from Australia Day etc. Also the road is crumbling and falling into the lake

No.	Responses
388	It depends on the time of year and how busy it is. Now, in early November, it looks clean and healthy. Late Dec-Feb it gets dirty and too warm, and I often won't swim in it. Always check for blue-green algae before swimming.
389	Just like it as it is for my activity there
390	I am aware of the unexplained increase in phosphate conc'ns, the water weed problem, the outbreaks of cyanobacteria and the number of skin/gastric issues reported to local GP's after children have swum at the Lake.
391	I watch it go through decline every summer & it's not recovering during the cooler months.
392	The health of the lake seems to vary according to the seasons and rain fall. In summer it is prone to algal blooms and rainfall can cause fecal matter and other run off into the lake. In summer it often gets a film on the surface from all the sunscreen worn by lake users.
393	Phosphate run off an issue
394	It seems as though the entry into the waters edge is unstable with tree roots and the access is causing damage
395	Sometimes it's closed blue green algae
396	Over the summer holiday period the lake seems to deteriorate with the huge crowds that use it (slicks on the water surface, blue green algae, rubbishy left around, bank erosion ) but then recovers over winter.
397	In busy times when it is used a lot it starts to get a slick on the top. Also it gets blue green algae which isn't healthy. Overall though it feels like a very healthy place to be.
398	Better in the off season as sunscreen and run off from the road is less - prefer less people /children in the lake. Can be overused and dangerous with craft and swimmers everywhere. Children probably urinate in the lake as the toilets need to be close for them. Christmas time i do not go near it as it is bedlem in and out of the water.i have seen people drinking from glass -who knows where that ends up.once a lounge was left in the water just under the surface.(as it is dark - you cannot see what is below the surface).
399	I have no idea how healthy the lake is....nevet thought about it...here's hoping it is!!
400	The frequency of blue-green algae blooms. I don't tend to put my head underwater when I swim there just in case there are toxins there.
401	Clean ti tree
402	I've seen blue green algae some of the time
403	I worry about the algae and amount of users.
404	Dogs, sunscreens and algal blooms polluting the lake are my reason for reducing the score
405	At certain times of the year when the blue green algae blooms and at peck summer season
406	Too many people use it. Sometimes I see green slime on the surface.
407	Heavy impact of people & dogs; Eastern road almost in the lake & polluted road runoff, developments too close to lake
408	I'm 65 & swam in it since I was a baby ..... bring back the water activities (like a safer tower or water play equipment) & the old kiosk where we used to be able to buy an ice cream etc
409	too much storm water run off
410	Too many swimmers especially in summer. Sunscreen.
411	NOT looked after
412	there are some issues with elevated nutrients and indicator bacteria that affect its suitability for swimming and recreation and the Lake also has environmental degradation ie erosion, weeds etc
413	i wouldnt take the kids there if it was unhealthy, blue green algae in summer means it is not as healthy during a bloom. still swim when BGA is about & don't get sick.
414	I am no expert, but in summer, there are so many people in it. Plus when it rains, the local newspaper says there is blue green algae in the lake.
415	Conditions seem to vary for some reason. However I always consider it safe enough generally throughout the year.
416	Most times the water is fine, sometimes but occasionally at the northern end it does have an odour.
417	Each time I have swum the water seems fresh and clear. The road on the eastern side is getting very busy however and not a tranquil as 20 years ago
418	Water generally has no algae and appears ok to swim in.
419	The Lake is susceptible to blue green algae. Also pollution from sunscreens etc.
420	"Outbreaks of blue-green algae
421	Water hyacinth presence
422	Accumulation of sediment from road base on lake shore stops natural drainage of water from lake to ocean which flushes out lake
423	Use of sunscreens by large numbers of visitors in summer
424	Presence of high levels of phosphates in lake

No.	Responses
425	Past history suggests lake was occasionally flushed out by sea water "
426	Many people are working hard to reduce the impact of weeds such as water hyacinth, and educate lake users about how to reduce the growth of algal blooms. Clearly the lakes health is not certain.
427	Outbreaks of blue green algae are common. Degradation of the foreshore due to the road/cars.
428	The lake it always goes from having green algae blooms to being in very healthy
429	Nothing visually wrong
430	I have no independent information to confirm the Lake is not healthy. I believe the Lennox environment is generally in good health. I know that the Greens have lied about the condition of the Lake
431	Polluted by overuse runoff from road dog and duck crap blue green algae dogs in lake
432	There is no apparent evidence of problem. There is no odour from the water and no evidence of pollution. From time to time particularly in very hot conditions where rainfall is low, algal blooms may arise. These appear to have been appropriately managed by Council in the 30 plus years we have lived in Lennox.
433	Being a member of Friends of Lake Ainsworth I carry out rubbish removal weekly with others. In doing so we also monitor the status of the lake fringes and report findings to Council via LHRA
434	Algal blooms, overuse, observed change in the 25 years I have lived here
435	due to water conditions and what runs into lake over the year, plus the use of sun lotions and failure of people to leave the pool to go to toilet or to wash their dogs in water
436	It seems that the Lake goes through peaks and troughs. Sometimes it seems very healthy and others it seems to be unhelathy by observations only- fauna and flora present .
437	looks dirty I don't swim there
438	It depends on when it has rained
439	It is affected by rain so when there is more rain it is more healthy, if it sits there blue green algae can occur.
440	During Xmas season and subsequent high usage and hot weather, lake shows some stress. Due to lake of foreshore maintenance lake edges show strain.
441	High phosphate levels. Overused. Edge erosion. Litter.
442	Occasional blue green algae
443	10% unhealthy based on water run off from road, and algae that can generate in hotter season
444	People
445	I swim the lake regularly, and apart from the Council reports on blue-green algae I see it. I also see people swimming their dogs there, and plenty of dog poo around the lake.
446	the water always looks nice and clean.
447	sometimes the lake to closed due to algae blooms
448	"blooms of algae
449	roads too close

**Table 18: Open-ended responses provided for Question 9: Based on your observations, do you believe there are any other issues or problems with Lake Ainsworth? (please limit to 100 words or less)**

No.	Responses
1	Lack of initiative by Ballina Shire Council and its engineering department to have at least trialed the use of geo-textile sand-filled bags to halt the erosion problems along the shoreline along the eastern road. As after all this technology and practice was utilized by the "Jambours" at 2 Skinner st. Ballina...more than 10 years ago to halt erosion along the North Creek foreshore at that time
2	As is is closing vehicle access yes is a problem for all reasons of access for young and old in car. Picnics/carrying goods/getting access all potentially difficult when closed
3	The eastern road is very unattractive and limits the amount of usable land for picnics etc.
4	overuse. No appreciation or respect of aboriginal heritage values by most lake users
5	Seating about the lake to just sit and ponder, to chat with friends. The shoreline is appalling, difficult to access the Lake in some places and the ground is filthy...The surrounds of the lake need attention to stop erosion and to make access easy for everyone
6	A boardwalk around the entire lake would be wonderful for the lake and the people who visit. The boardwalk should include spaces along the track to lay your yoga mat down for morning exercise
7	Vehicle access must be severely restricted. this ought to be pedestrian access only. It is too valuable for it to be a road
8	eastern foreshore sis a big problem. Poor impacted soil, weeds at the road. South eastern lake edge severely eroded and dead trees have not been replaced
9	Lack of public respect for the lake

No.	Responses
10	Eastern road is very dangerous with children. Too many cars, nowhere to walk or ride
11	eastern precinct should be rehabilitated i.e. vegetation remove road fix erosion and runoff into lake
12	The weeds in the care park geomesh near the 4wd ticket machine. Dogs in water. Proposed changes to road access (not good). Birds becoming dependent on people for food. Birds being aggressive towards children. Poor council planning for increased usage. impact of caravan park on water quality
13	Climate change- increased higher temperatures changing aquaflora and aquafauna. Higher temperature encouraging more human visitation. Caravan park vehicles parked in lake precincts not caravan park
14	Customers of the caraven park treat the southern road as their parking area creating congestion and lack of parking and access problems for the general public. No walking footpath along the southern road creating safety concerns with people walking along the road with vehicles
15	Once the eastern road is removed pedestrian safety will be dramatically improved. Pedestrian access to the lake is always a problem in busy/summer times
16	the access to the lake from the southern side is shocking
17	Yes, the lack of parking when the eastern road closes is of major concern
18	Leave eastern road open
19	Protection of habitat and other species and water quality is paramount. Managing human impacts - litter, overcrowding, environmental degradation is critical. Aesthetic appeal important. Managing vandalism very important
20	no
21	traffic between the surf club and the rec camp - it is a death waiting to happen! I am very much in favour of closing that bit of the road and re-vegetation that area. I admire Council's gutsy stand on this issue...if there were no road along the disputed section, and Council tried to put one in, there would be hell to pay!
22	I think the road on the eastern side of the lake is an issue. There is runoff from it into the lake and parking under the trees is a destructive thing over time and contributes to runoff. The riparian area is also degraded along the eastern shore
23	It just needs a good clean up. You cant even get into it now because of tree roots erosion etc.
24	Informative VISIBLE SIGNAGE Re. Care, toilets, dogs etc. More regular patrols
25	The toilets need hooks on the back of the doors or walls
26	I do love its natural beauty but do feel the need for some more grassy areas for recreation. Too many ignorant dog owners
27	More and more easily accessible rubbish bins and toilet facilities needed please. More public noticeboards about the welfare and care of the lake to provide/increase awareness of the role people can take in maintaining the health of the lake
28	I think that the carrying capacity of the lake and surrounding precinct needs to be looked at in terms of public use and visitation. Infrastructure, public open space improvements should be assessed. Planning needs to be completed to understand what is an appropriate carrying capacity for the lake precinct and what investment needs to happen to support that level of use so that negative environmental impacts are minimised.
29	Except for the work recently done on the southern end there is no upkeep. The sand on the foreshore where the kids play is filthy and the tree roots are all bare, it needs continuous supply of clean sand, also haven't seen the pump in the center going lately?
30	No rope swings!!!
31	like many freshwater resources in teh region the lake may be "loved" to death and teh challenge is to manage the competing uses and maintain some high natural values
32	erosion of lake foreshores - to many motor vehicles in areas, surf schools taking up spaces and exacerbating foreshore erosion problems
33	Lake Ainsworth is a very great place to relax and enjoy with family and friends but if you don't have any water equipment you will get bored. Maybe add in an aqua park thing and some slides into the water would be great
34	I am quite concern because the mayor has his ideas and he wont change it. We went to the rally last year which they had a lot of good points. So he doesn't listen to the people. Leave the road open and put in line parking on the eastern side and maybe some block walls and little beaches.
35	dog owners not following signs
36	The rope swings which were part of the Lake's history and heritage have been removed. When googling the lake there are paintings of the rope swing. When they were removed part of its beauty went with it.
37	The greenies trying to stop people having fun a beautiful place. Send them all back to Sydney where they belong
38	Access is important but so is education that people need to be prioritised over cars/parking-there will never be enough in peak times and growing population needs more natural,safe,uplifting access.
39	Toilet and change facilities need to be provided to southwestern and western sides of Lake. These could be closed off seasonally if cost of maintenance is a concern.
40	Future access problems in some areas on north and western sides. Eastern road closure if there is an emergency such as the 2016 heath fire north of the sport and rec centre 1 agree with police, ambulance and fire brigade concerns, unless emergency vehicles are provided with immediate vehicle access to sport and rec centre. Going via camp drewe road would take too long.

No.	Responses
41	As a resident of 26 years it amazes me that dog owners are still frequenting the lake area and waters edge - sometimes on leash but more often not. We are dog loving people but this is not the place for them to be.
42	Lack of education - there is no one significant entry point with signage adequate signage.
43	Volunteers do weekly clean up around the lake and watering of planted areas, so their work should be facilitated by Council providing more taps and adequate number of rubbish bins
44	"Eastern strip should be revegetated with native species & road removed to make it more natural & to repair the riparian zone.
45	"
46	eastern foreshore presents potential shady + some sunny areas for passive relaxation, BUT that road is TOTALLY inappropriate and presents risks to pedestrians. Council's proposed access track must be implemented. More walking less cars!
47	With instillation of posts, there is no where with access to launch a sailboat to have a sail on the lake.
48	The slicks and algae needs addressing... some sort of preventative action coming into warmer seasons etc.
49	Needs far better effective management
50	Loss of th parking on the Eastern Road
51	You have succeeded in turning probably the regions premier recreational facility into a probable no go zone
52	Overcrowding, car parking particularly when the road on the eastern side is closed.
53	"1.dominance of Commercial activities over public interests including care for the Lake catchment, water quality and takeover of public parking
54	2.Connectivity between village/street parking and the Lake especially walking path from Gibbon St
55	3.Public understanding of how to behave in the Lake Reserve incl commercial properties
56	4.Public misunderstanding of lake processes, habitat and wildlife
57	5.Better parking management. enough parking - probably too much if take into account vehicles on foreshores and catchment in Caravsn park and Sport &Rec
58	6.Complexity of Crown Land management
59	7.relocation of Surf Club
60	"
61	"Council should have designated parking and stop parking on both sides of the road at the northeastern end of the lake as there isn't room for traffic to pass. Council needs to restore lake edge like it used to 30-40 years ago
62	They could also close the road over Christmas/new year and leave it open throughout the year when it's just locals using it "
63	Yes - illogical east rd closure removing 140 car spares forces all to southern foreshore / the commercialisation of the new surf club is the justification of this closure . Great focus will be upon who is granted the commerciL lease of the club house - the rd closure will result in congestion and drastically impact big summer holiday parking options and effect commercial businesses operations and parking impacts upon residential areas near lake .
64	The Council has done no forsore work for years it is disgusting the way it has deteriorated. The amount of parking that will be lost if the eastern road is closed bothers me.
65	"Foreshore erosion due to councils total disregard of their responsibility to maintain. It has been discussing to witness.
66	I believe councillors have held a long-time agenda to close road.
67	Bring on the next local government elections.
68	"
69	I think the eastern road should remain open. We use the tennis facilities at the camp. It will be a grave inconvenience to drive 2 km round the western road. On the eastern road it is 2 minutes from home on a bike!
70	Unfortunately one of the main issues (isn't vehicle traffic) its people not being careful about whats going into the lake...like allowing kids to poo/wee in it.
71	Surface of road needs to be made good
72	"the council has an agenda and your survey will mean nothing to them as they listen to no one.
73	"
74	New parking on southern side of lake pleasant but no footpaths so people walking on the road. Also car parks not deep enough for larger 4wd so they hang over the road.
75	Access for some disabled members of my family by further closure of vehicle access to some areas of the lake are a real problem for us. It is imperative to us to have disabled access and parking.
76	would be good if it had access to the ocean to clean itself
77	"The lake has no natural in/out flow.
78	No strategies is in place to manage sediment.

No.	Responses
79	Outdated plan of management.
80	No Aboriginal cultural heritage management plan "
81	"1. Dogs entering the lake and in the prohibited area.
82	2. Dog-owners, belligerent when confronted.
83	3. Lack of warnings/education re urinating in the lake - leads to nitrates, algae nutrients.
84	4. Nude toddlers (increases ease of urinating and defaecating in the lake).
85	5. Large number of nappies and dog-poo bags left around the lake.
86	6. Fishing in the lake - high possibility of treading on hooks.
87	7. Powered (electric/battery/petrol) machines in the lake."
88	need of dredging to clean lake bottom.conservaion required of west lake road area as this is fragile eco habitat area.after dark safety of east side area.dog walking access &swimming in lake monitored. use of sunscreen in lake - promote use of swimming with tops.
89	Facilities are poor leading to degradation. There are no change rooms (only public toilets). There is nowhere to access fresh water from a tap in areas one and two. The foreshores are degraded. There are too many people in one spot. The caravan park has been given too many of the facilities - shared toilet is ineffective. No change room. Lack of shade areas - not enough are built.
90	traffic is a problem improved parking areas to keep cars away from the lake would improve its amenity
91	No
92	I see no issues at all as it is!
93	its really ALL about the water quality. Its a gorgeous environment and well used but we are too concerned about possible short and long term effects of whatever is in there to swim in it. we stand up paddle board but always shower afterwards but would prefer to swim in the lake
94	Eastern road is dangerous for pedestrians - please close it for heath of families & the lake
95	The Eastern Road should be closed for long term health of the lake.
96	No issues at all
97	Misinformation being spread by various sections of community and sport and rec. regarding closure of eastern road.
98	A need for high quality educational signage re helpful behaviours in / around the lake with reasons and a management plan for all fore shores including tracks and parking along the western side, effectivevstormwater management between the western foreshore and the western road, realignment of access tracks to reduce erosion from runoff.
99	Personal safety if eastern road is closed, due to large groups of males drinking alcohol, i wouldnt walk into the area if i was by myself. Blue-green algae and connection with motor neurones disease.
100	I believe the council have invested very little in upkeep of the lake in passed years and now are closing road which is not the answer.
101	People allowing their dogs to swim in there.
102	Leave wild spaces. Ballina council tend to concrete everything and manicure everything... just leave it how it is.... too many rules regulations signs and trying to make everything look perfect... leave nature untouched somewhere
103	No
104	Mainly the dirty water. I am looking forward to the area becoming more family friendly once the road closes
105	I'll be happy when they close the eastern road. The traffic there is often dangerous and the car fumes annoying.
106	No
107	locals and tourists use it as dog access to beach then wash their dogs in the lake. traffic along foreshore. monitoring by rangers very limited.
108	"Some people allow dogs to enter the water (I am a dog owner) There is a dog beach adjacent to the Lake.
109	Threatening behaviour from some young adults - drinking in the area, especially on Australia Day/New Years Day. Requires policing."
110	No, I think the new foreshore management plan will resolve a lot of use issues
111	The lack of accessible areas during busy times means that people crowd in areas. It is completely amazing that there has not been a drowning at the lake. Also, car parking during these times is a massive issue. There is a need for clever use of green space to serve as car parking during peak times - with a clearly marked and wide pedestrian path from designated areas. Caravan park land or land on the western side could be used for this.
112	The biggest problem is a fanatical minority who don't want anyone using the lake Councillors included
113	Tourists need to be educated on how to behave and respect the lake.
114	"Perhaps include toilet/ change facilities at the areas 1 2 3
115	The recent holiday rush and the a lack of decent toilet facilities has caused issues"

No.	Responses
116	more parking- all spots are fairly full. More BBQs- though it is great as is
117	Long term conflict between users and managers of these waters. NSW Sport and Recreation has a designated area but we have no special area we can manage. We would welcome a designated area where we could have boat sheds and maintain the area and ensure all environmental issues are addressed and not increased. Our footprint is small and we would not wish to damage or have denied our access to this water sport where Breast Cancer Survivors rehabilitate and prevent lymphoma development. This social activity increases well being in this group of survivors.
118	Closing of eastern road.
119	No
120	Parking for access to the Dog Off Leash Beach.
121	There are two sides of the lake that can be easily accessed by pensioners, people with SUPs/canoes, families with lots to carry. One side will be closed.... do the math. Most Lennox Residents have to drive to the lake, the area is already congested... do the math. The council have failed to maintain the area and allowed the edges of the lake to deteriorate. No maintenance + more human chemicals + nesting shag droppings and other wildlife dropping's + lots of trees and lots of dead foliage = excessive nitrogen and phosphorous = blue green algae.
122	NA
123	Yes the lake is being loved to death with alot of people not caring about leaving a heavy foot print
124	If road is closed it will cause congestion on southern side with vehicles looking for parks more chance of accidents with people, and cars , Police have stated this. Discrimination against aged,disabled and families acces made harder on eastern side. Fire trap if eastern road closed. If road closed less public policing to prevent anti social behaviour. Over 90 percent of community want that road left open demonstrated by 4369 letters opposed to approx. 170 wanting road closed. The state govern. Don't want the road closed from a letter I have seen. What's happened to democracy and the people's choice.
125	We don't fully understand why the water quality is poor
126	I am very concerned about the loss of the beautiful and unique row of tea trees on the eastern side of the east access road. Any redevelopment MUST RETAIN THESE TREES. If there is plans to remove ANY of these trees, I, for one will do anything in my power to stop this despicable and wanton destruction.
127	A bit could be done to repair the eastern side of the lake in regards to entry into the water and maintenance of the scrub as it appears that nothing at all has been done to maintain this area for a long time. I believe that parking along the eastern side of the lake must continue to allow families, older people, handicapped people to bring their chairs, eskis, floaties, picnics etc. to continue enjoying the lake as it attracts so many people. This unique community situation must be preserved. So many of the people I see there along the eastern and north eastern side of the lake are there on a very regular basis. Shame to lose what is a wonderful place.
128	No I think you have covered them all in this survey for me
129	Just the tourists leaving rubbish and not respecting the lake
130	We need more education to locals and visitors how to care for the lake. More bins and signage about history and does and font when swimming there would help educate people. People need to know what a sacred spot it is then maybe they would respect it more.
131	not that I can see
132	Greater policing of humans that cause majority of the issues through disregard and lack of common decency. Maybe like the litter program for cars ... dob in a litter bug. Catch someone urinating (or worse) and dob them in too.
133	Most of the problems are human based which unfortunately isn't going to change during holiday season - people from Lennox tend to respect it much more
134	Despite two toilet blocks within a short walk of the bbq area, people always seem to instruct their children to pee by the trees/in the lake. Better signage is needed.
135	There is not enough picnicking areas, they need to get the road closed and create a green space so families can enjoy it without worrying about cars.
136	Too much litter. I'm summer to many people lake can't cope neither can do he infrastructure or ecosystem
137	Keep the access road please so we can drive where we need to get to otherwise it makes it to hard to haul everything
138	"Southern side has best access, parking can be a bit difficult during busy summer time and there is erosion at most access spots that needs rehabilitation.
139	
140	Can have better info re water quality and what to look out for if any risks
141	
142	Limited bins available"
143	we liked the markets under the trees by the lake and believe they should return-it was a unique setting
144	I do not want any changes in terms of paving, concreting etc. and sacrificing parking hence access to the lake. Environmental concerns like water quality and species preservation is a seperate topic and can be maintained alongside of the current semi natural recreational environment that is accessible to all which is paramount!
145	It is getting quiet busy around the lake.

No.	Responses
146	maintaining access for the elderly and handicapped people to visit the lake should be a priority. Closing the eastern road prevents these people from enjoying the beauty of the lake and its surrounding area
147	Not with the lake itself, but with people who don't seem to understand the geological history of the lake.
148	Yes, a short sited approach by the council.
149	The fact that the wishes of the majority are not being heard ,
150	not to my knowledge
151	Would prefer the council to listen to the majority not the minorities! It's called democracy "
152	Not really, just think it will be harder to access for picnics once the road is closed as we'll have to walk so far
153	Access is becoming more restricted by new council plans.Kids will not be able to enjoy the safe protected swimming the lake provides.
154	This area is becoming increasingly popular which is destroying the area and habitat. It's hard to find a balance between it all.
155	Monitoring people who do not properly dispose of rubbish and adding chemicals to the lake especially dogs entering the lake
156	Lack of suitable parking & people parking at lib causing congestion
157	I enjoy the existing authentic NSW seaside experience at Lennox and I do not support Council's plans to Disneyfy this. Amenities are fine as they are. If the experience isn't broken then don't try to fix it. I love parking for both beach and lake as it is
158	"I like to see the lake to stay the way it is. It's perfect for swimming. We take our rubbish home with us. We always find a park along the beach road. We bring our own food and have no need for any cooking facilities.
159	I would like to see an information board on its significance to aboriginal people and ways for visitors to respect it's cultural history"
160	No
161	"Adequate access for people with disabilities including, people using wheelchairs & level access for elderly people using/visiting the lake. There are no ramps or boardwalks to the waters edge.
162	Install drop off/pick up zones & get rid of cars from the lake perimeter. Encourage people to walk to the lake, encouraging exercise. "
163	I like it much as it is.
164	"Poor decision making by local councils e.g. to have a ski ramp
165	"
166	"Having to listen to people voice their opinions about the lake
167	All sides lie and trying to find correct information is hard
168	Just wish people would work together and not fight about the lake"
169	Leave it alone and stop development
170	Car parking problems
171	Tourists who don't respect our environment.
172	"Chemicals such as sunscreen, deodorants, perfumes, hair products etc in the lake.
173	"
174	Dogs often swim there after the beach despite signs. There used to be an airtion system in the middle of the lake but it's gone now... I assume it wasn't working??
175	Not that can't be fixed
176	The weed issues are unknown to majority of people but the Water Hyacinth and Salvinia is kept in check by a combination of a fantastic landcare group and biological control agents
177	Not really
178	need for increased parking for small cars and bikes
179	just people and their sunscreens
180	Overcrowding during summer holidays
181	No don't change it. Its all seasonal. Happens every year
182	closing the access road for recreational activities
183	More bins more environmental education about the Lake
184	Overcrowding on the eastern side road is in a disgraceful state and has not been maintained by Council. Dangerous for children (the road)
185	Poorly "managed" for many many years. Huge surf buses parking at north end. New paths being beaten into the west side. With all the new houses coming lake will be terribly under pressure



No.	Responses
186	No
187	No
188	Dogs should be allowed in part of the lake
189	"It is a concern the number of young people that use the lake for parties in Summer. They pollute the waters and the area around the lake. They also adopt a ""gang mentality"" and anti- social behavior.
190	"
191	Not that I can think of off the top of my head.
192	The problem is that new generations of residents want to change the lake and close the eastern road. They are a small minority and all us born and bred here want it to stay the way it's been for generations. Leave it as it is.
193	I think the health of the waterway needs to be managed while accepting that people want to use it. I grew up swimming there and I want my children to experience the same memory making adventures I had on the tea tree lake. We rarely went surfside when we went to Lennox because the lake was there. The serpentine in Ballina and the lake in Lennox are where actual locals formed our childhood memories, please allow the children that made them to give them to their kids too. We have mostly remained monetarily poor to stay here and we do so because we value the unique experience growing up here offers over the fancy gadgets we can not afford to buy our children, unlike some from capital cities who reap the economic benefits of living in such places, who decide, after becoming well off that the far north coast of nsw looks like the place to be.
194	Just over use by humans
195	Access to off lead dog area needs to be maintained for lake users
196	There will be when the eastern road is closed. Traffic will be a nightmare. Not very accessible to take picnic Esky. Chairs etc and not being able to drive to the dog beach
197	Dangerous depths
198	Council have done no erosion control for years
199	no
200	More garbage bins more speed humps
201	It appears that the east and south regions of the lake are used for recreational activities. This is good. Support these areas with covered picnic tables. The western side has poor access. This side should be supported as a nature strip - raised walkways and viewing platforms - keep the people off the bank and reeds. Limit swimming and water crafts
202	dogs swimming in the lake despite signs
203	Car parking is always going to be inadequate particularly in Summer around the lake and for that matter the whole town with apparent exponential rise in visitors to the town as well as development
204	Over populated
205	I think the lake foreshore and the areas surrounding the lake will benefit from the eastern road being closed to cars and buses
206	Despite the 'No Dogs signs up there are quite often dogs adj to the lake and sometimes in the water
207	There will not be enough spaces for vehicles or easy access to dog beach
208	Yes, too much council intervention when it was not needed. Spoilt a great recreation area.
209	Only the fact that it's already such a good place to swim. When you change it you are also changing its character and the sense of place that it brings.
210	I would NOT like it if the road to the east was closed to vehicles. I think the west shore of the lake is kept in natural habitat and I like that but I want people, surfers , and dogs ( with people) to be able to access the lake to the east and be able to enjoy the less used parts of the lake and beach and be able to park .
211	By doing what the council is doing. I have breathing condition parking 400 to 500 metres away, I would be having very bad breathing difficults. I will not be going to lake.
212	Potential of over use which will further degrade lake and surrounds.
213	Need good strong lawns for car parks to allow rainwater seepage through filtering sand to eventually refresh the lake. Rapid water loss bitumen is too hot and erosion is too much./ walk tracks and bike tracks in something porous materials would be good too. Shade sails that allow rain water through in parts = good. 3/4 area of foreshore to remain wild = good. Natural reeds and vegetation
214	speed humps on eastern road are poorly sign posted/warned. Pot holes
215	Access to sport and rec for emergency services in very high
216	No Keep it as it is. No more development or roads
217	No I think that has covered it
218	Close the eastern road and re-vegetate native plants. Maybe look at securing little bays with stone retaining walls to stop further erosion
219	More supervision to prevent dogs (off leash). Restore eastern side to grass and trees after cars removed
220	It's the infrastructure. There is no difficulty accessing the lake but it's in poor shape and that's having an impact. The little

No.	Responses
	parking area before the lake and at the back side of the caravan park is very agreeable but there are also many cases of some truly farcical decisions in infrastructure that I may begin documenting to bully you with. Also, I think it would be really nice to host markets at the lake again if that's at all possible. If they're too hectic for the environment, just do them once every month or two.
221	Community is very divided about the future of lake and road next to it. Road should go, but some very damaging claims are being made by opponents of road closure
222	Exposed tree roots (sort of covered in foreshore erosion but it is the roots not the embankment).
223	I don't feel I have enough data to really have a specified opinion but I feel it should be culturally and environmentally protected first and foremost and in turn should be monitored for health safety.
224	I think the increased access in the summer to the lakes western foreshore is damaging the vegetation. It would be good to see it fenced off
225	no
226	"Noise pollution from rowers and any operated craft. Sunscreen slicks during tourist season - encourage rashes in area
227	"
228	People don't always use the toilets before entering (or when they need to go!). Which is a public health issue for other users....
229	Too many people forced into a small area (south east). No access on west/north side. Sport and rec should not have exclusive use at north
230	N/A
231	I feel the lake should be considered in terms of habitat requirements for birds. Human access should be limited along the south and south-western areas.
232	Over-zealous regulation by Council at the expense of the communities enjoyment, along with inadequate community consultation
233	Dogs in the lake is a conflict with water quality and lake users who don't like dogs.
234	"Simply needs a 300-350mm high retaining wall built parallel to the road, to stop erosion.
235	Large boulders positioned around a lot of the riparian zone to stop trampling of vegetation, thus limiting access to the lake via several entry zones. "
236	Swimming should not be allowed as it is not a suitable location for this activity
237	Lack of respect from youth groups who 'hide' and drink and create litter
238	THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE DRINKING ON A REGULAR BASIS AND THROWING BOTTLES/CANS/RUBBISH AROUND
239	I'm not sure how its health is going to be able to cope with the rapid increase in Lennox's population/increase in holiday makers. If the health of it is already questionable, what will it be like in a couple of year's time with the increase in users?
240	Access to the off leash area for the dogs will be more difficult to access after the road closure
241	Just the poor use by people, using it as a toilet and rubbish in there
242	No, but access on Eastern road is essential for best kayak access
243	I do feel concerned about young people on the eastern road and the traffic that moves along it neither particularly taking great care
244	no
245	No
246	Submerged hazards interfere with sailing
247	"Toilet block needs urgent modernisation and upgrade.
248	Reduced car parking and congestion arising from new upgrades."
249	Why fix something that's not broke. Pedestrians and cars look out for each other. If the banks are replaced people can walk safely again. The expense of infrastructure and education and parking on the western side will be huge. People will vote with their feet and stop coming to Lennox Heads detriment. If I have to pay for parking push wheel chairs pushes further than now I wont come
250	Pollution during summer from sunscreen
251	Currently a lack of parking given its close proximity to the beach and the surf club
252	Pollution from sunblock - SIGNS!!! as in other land-locked lakes. Introduction of bass and redclaw. Need for alternative areas that have clean sand around the lake. The concentration of water that cant escape ie - can't the lake be opened up to the sea (as was the history of the lake)
253	Yes, the erosion of the banks due to wind erosion and a small extent usage. The sand has been eroded back into the lake as the waves don't return sand. It is a public facility and always has been for a long time. The new plan of cutting off access will put a lot of problems back into the village re parking access to older younger and disable persons even temporary injured people. I believe the lake needs to have crab pots set and monitored for Redclaw crabs which need to be removed.

No.	Responses
254	I believe if the road is removed the foreshore will collapse as it has done at the southern end
255	That sport and rec claims too much of it and gen public do not have access to vast areas or sailing boats and other water craft cannot be hired.
256	"I am concerned that if the council shuts the road to the sport and rec camp that there will be major parking issues in summer. The parking is already limited. The parking in the peak of summer is fully used and can be parked out as far as Shelter Cafe.
257	There seems to be no negative impact on the lake from the road to the sport and rec camp. The road also acts as a fire break. To stops the rainforest vegetation on the coast from being burnt if there is a bushfire.
258	I would like to see the council support kids playing in the trees around the lake. Council staff often pull down rope swings and have told kids to get out of the trees. If kids can't climb tree's and play with ropes then what is the world coming too. Council should be encouraging kids to play in trees rather than discouraging nature play.
259	I would like the cafe at the surf club to stop putting old coffee grounds under the trees near the toilets. They should compost them elsewhere!
260	The councils water testing should be broadened to include a greater range of pathogens and pollutants. The public gets poor info about water quality."
261	The water quality is the major issue and one that needs to be addressed. More money needs to be put into making this lake a health safe recreation location and then more money to maintain a healthy water way
262	Lake has changed significantly over the last 15 years due, I believe to lack of constant flushing to the sea.
263	lack of ocean flushing it out, which I imagine would have been normal / regular before it was developed
264	Closing the beach road is going to make it a problem with parking and access
265	communication of water quality before reaches red level should be visible on signage at the lake, not just on web
266	Not enough parking
267	I think the water quality and the surrounding Native flora and fauna need protecting! We have a blessed to have the natural freshwater lake to use and we all need to look after it!
268	No
269	No
270	no
271	I would like to see the natural beauty conserved
272	algae blooms , no cars on lake front road , seal back rd for sport and rec . I still see many dogs being swum/washed in lake , esp after they been in the sea . way back I used to see horses washed in lake after a run on the beach !
273	I think the lake is great the way it is. It has enough parking for people. I do believe more bbqs would be great to accommodate everyone.
274	Poor maintenance of the excess for elderly to use the lake for swimming
275	Im always aware of the possibilities of danger when it comes to driving along eastern side especially with children. Also pollution - would be happy to not see any cars as long as access is easy for everyone.
276	I would like to see a platform in the middle of the lake to swim out to. Its not a problem, just an additional facility
277	There are no recycle bin options meaning a lot of recyclables going into landfill. Concerned about BSC decisions to limit parking around eastern side of lake and develop a Gold Coast type "parkland".
278	It is not a public pool, it is a natural asset that should be conserved the most pristine way possible. Population growth and climate change it is a huge challenge by itself let aside a concrete road!
279	During summer and Christmas period people camp or park there large vehicles along the foreshore. These bigger vehicles need to have restricted access to discourage this
280	closure of eastern access road very determined to access, enjoyment and must not happen or be reversed
281	closing the eastern road
282	Very few issues with lake and access. Leave it alone. Construction will cause poor water quality and difficult access
283	Eastern Road needs to be wider towards beachside to allow median strip pedestrian refuge and lakeside boardwalk and beachside parking
284	I hate to see all the people fishing in spots where I used to swim. The only time I saw something being caught it was a long-necked tortoise. This is a fairly recent development- nobody fished there until the last few years. I heard that someone illegally released bass into the lake. I think all fishing should be banned - humans do not need to kill anything that moves.
285	Lack of grassed area song eastern side for recreation.
286	I go there when its not crowded - it's great, easy for the elderly - I'd like to see it controlled when crowded - I just leave or don't go if its so crowded. Most of the year it isn't
287	It has littler on it
288	Dog walkers leave their dog waste either in bags or not all along dog access areas. Also allow the dogs to swim in lake. The smell, the mess, the dog hair and poo near the access area is utterly revolting. If the access for dog walking is the be

No.	Responses
	continued dog owners should be more responsible and the ranger could be more present to improve area for all!
289	Too many people parking on edges and wrecking the foreshore. Overpopulated
290	Car parking. I cannot see that the new car parking spaces (31 I think) will be even close to the amount being lost through the upgrading of the Eastern Road. It can be difficult to impossible to park there over the Christmas/school summer holiday period. The loss of these spaces is going to make it more difficult! It could mean its not possible to visit the Lake during these periods.
291	Crossing the road to go to toilets
292	As long as lake gets tested regularly I think it is a beautiful place to swim after being in the surf. The water is so soft.
293	Whilst I support and love dogs, they must be removed from the catchment (to the beach only) as they all urinate and defecate when out of the car then eventually draining into the lake. The smell on their access tracks and the carpark tells it all. We shouldn't have a pet lake outfall at the lake. Remove dogs please.
294	Zoning of the lake for boat craft versus swimming. Dogs in lake.
295	With the current approval of the road closure to the eastern side of the lake this will create a dead spot for the lake users. I'd like to see a timber type board walk around the entire lake so people can enjoy the natural settings and wild life. Also a pier to the southern end for children to enjoy and easier lake access for some who need it
296	It's lovely just the way it is.
297	Needs to be a wildlife sanctuary so people & wildlife can coexist. Great job being done so far by council but we could do more to preserve this rich habitat & still enjoy its beauty
298	Sunscreen affecting water quality
299	Lack of respect and care for Lake by users - an education program would compliment the current improvement works to enhance users care and value for the Lake
300	The recreation centre which is not public, and is mildly aggressive to the local community seeks to dominate the lake for its private purposes, infrastructure for its own exclusive gain, while excluding the community at large.large
301	No.
302	Looking forward to getting rid of the ugly road along eastern side
303	Petrol outboard motors, dogs, and algae blooms
304	Not really
305	No
306	There could be more picnic facilities. More buns to ensure a lack of rubbish and clearer signs regarding no dogs in the lake.
307	Please leave it alone. NO Council action needed, except their Inaction and neglect of forshores. What do they do with their State \$100,000+ pa
308	I understand that the eastern road was potentially going to be closed but I like this access road to the lake and unless there is a major problem concerning habitat/environment I'd like like to see the road remain open.
309	"I believe the introduction of both general waste and recycling bins would be fantastic. These are already available throughout town.
310	"
311	NO It's beautiful just the way it is
312	Heavily used access points are degrading - controlled structured access points would prevent this. Surmising the plans for the parkland proceed unhindered damage caused by pedestrians to the edge of the Lake will be reduced.
313	The problem is the people not the lake. It needs logical management for the people,more garbage bins would be a start. Keep up with the summer haste.
314	The Lake should be kept as active recreation only i.e. no motorised craft. Parking should be moved away from the Lake, so that it is a safer place for people to relax in and around.
315	Alcohol use in peak holiday periods
316	No
317	"Yes huge
318	Access
319	Respect for rubbish around lake
320	Dogs around lake
321	Parking
322	Spots to picnic
323	Water quality "
324	A vocal minority delaying much needed improvements to the lake's foreshore.
325	It needs to be clearer that dogs are not permitted in and around the lake and perhaps better policed or sign posted and politely

No.	Responses
	explain why dogs not permitted.
326	I am concerned that as the population increases there will be greater demands for access to the Lake. I would not like the western side, where natural vegetation occurs to be opened up with more paths into the lakeside. There are too many of these already from the western road. This area needs to be kept as natural as possible, because it adds to the beauty of the surrounds and preserves significant habitat.
327	Crowding everyone into the southern and eastern sides
328	People don't observe the signs for No Dogs. Parking can be an issue. Traffic can become congested.
329	"Ballina Council is the number one problem. They have let the lake be degraded. The lake needs active management, not just going and measuring how much blue green algae is in the water. Just look at the erosion of the foreshores, nothing done by Council at all and the problem get s worse and worse.
330	"
331	parking is a total fukin nightmare in summer and holidays--caused by the overflow of campers cars--they should be made to park in the caravan park-extremely poor management by ballina council --timed parking say of 4 hours should be in place and fine all the campers so they nick off with their extra vehicles they all have--
332	Not that I can think of
333	Currently, speeding traffic along the eastern road, and the dangers that presents to pedestrians/swimmers/children but hopefully closing the road will help that.
334	There appears to be a small vocal minority group who wish to change the nature of access to the lake which has served the majority well for many years (at least 50). Council has neglected general upkeep and improvement/amenities for many years to the overall detriment of the foreshore environment - this is the main issue as I see it
335	safe recreational space where children and pedestrians have little to no need to share space with cars is extremely limited thus there is a concentration of users in a small number of areas.
336	"The way people take it for granted - easy access seems to be connected to this.
337	Pee-ing in the lake."
338	Only the reactionaries who want to maintain the vehicle access
339	Car parking and no walking paths unable to access the western side
340	It's becoming a victim of it's own popularity.
341	A child once was climbing in the tea tree - fell- broke her arm -council cut 7 beautiful trees that were overhanging the water, some with roaps that children used to swing off.This was a terrible knee jerk reaction AND THE TREES WERE SOUND-as I inspected them.i have written 2 letters just before Christmas on consecutive years because nothing was done about the undermining of tree roots by children with spades leaving a meter drop off for people to fall as they walk on the grass near the foreshore.Their parents just let them dig instead of the beach over the road.-these trees take a long time to grow! I am also concerned that sealing the road around the back of the lake will cause water run off instead of filtering through the sand naturally has to be channelled somewhere. erosion is a concern.
342	"No
343	Love it just the way it is"
344	Erosion of the bank in area C above. Kids dig the sand out and create erosion of root systems and deep step down areas.
345	That it seems access and parking is being reduced
346	No
347	Nope
348	"I am very concerned about the erosion on the banks near the surf club side of the lake,
349	Humans are impacting the lake more than cars and the road, it has been left to erode for a few years now ,all the talk has been on the road."
350	Long term erosion material remains in lake; no interpretation of the natural & cultural values of such a perched lake; understanding of the lake ecology;
351	I guess the use of sunscreen & people then swimming in the lake doesn't help the water quality
352	Overcrowding on peak days in summer
353	We are living it to death.
354	Nil
355	As listed above
356	the reason I was concerned about litter was that I found a needle there last summer. whilst I support people being able to drink alcohol at the lake - even though signs say you can't it would be nice if people picked up their bottle tops. need to protect the western side of lake especially as they are closing he eastern road it has already started to be affected by vegetation die off
357	Too many chiefs, not enough indians. Everyone has an opinion. The lake has been there a long time and it's still ok. It will always be ok. Leave it alone!
358	"Serious safety issues between swimming and sailing craft. Some form of barrier needs to

No.	Responses
359	be installed possibly from Location 2-3 (east west) and definitely from 3-5 (parallel to shoreline, about 20m out, and running for 100m.) A buoy system would be effective and also serve as a swimming safety device in the deeper water. Swimming along the inside of the buoy line would also be safe for lap swimmers. Craft would enter the Lake from western (Location 7) or north eastern side (between Locations 5-6).
360	FYI: Tallebudgera Creek has an excellent barrier device for this same purpose for swimming protection adjacent to the Tourist Caravan Park, though it would be somewhat more costly. Worth looking at."
361	I think the biggest issue in the future will be infrastructure, ie toilets parking tables water access BBQ's.
362	The lake should be a shared community space for healthy activity and fun. Visually naturally beautiful. Cars should be limited close to the lake except for some disability spaces. Walking a distance with items is healthy. Every one wants it too was these days.
363	No

**Table 19: Open-ended responses provided for Question 11: Are there any other management issues you feel are important and should be prioritised for funding that have not been mentioned? (please limit to 100 words or less)**

No.	Responses
1	I am very concerned about the welfare of the native animals and birds once all the road traffic is diverted to the western side of the lake as inevitably there will be road kill. 'By-catch' occur when native animals come into contact with speeding Territorian...visitors! along the new bitumen road to 7 mile beach etc. To me, Council hasn't really considered this factor...as to what is going to occur.
2	have listed already
3	I think that it is important that the eastern road is closed and all roads near the lake are moved further away to reduce storm water runoff and erosion into the lake
4	i dont think we should be prioritizing funding for new BBQ areas and landscaping and maintaining the foreshore like parkland. \$\$ should be spent improving the environmental condition of the lake which is why people are there in the first place
5	swim pontoons in correct places
6	returning to its natural state
7	eastern foreshore infrastructure can only be effective if road is removed. Education of lake users important e.g. (1) name plates on trees and plants (2) explanatory signage about what makes a healthy lake and environment
8	Better information for public and make it positive. What about nature walks so people know its value - look after it?
9	Do not close the road. fire management. Allow kayak/canoe/SUP hire
10	Caravan park tenant parking must remain in caravan park boundaries - reducing parking pressure on dedicated lake parking, i.e. less wear on grassed areas, less litter falling from cars, less emissions in lake area
11	Caravan park customer parking needs to be addressed. Campers vehicles need to be parked within the Caravan Park boundaries. During peak holiday times 50 to 100 cars are permanently parked on the southern road taking up parking spaces
12	The access to the foreshore to swim needs urgent attention as it is almost impossible to get down the steep banks
13	Leave eastern road open
14	"1.yes - close the road
15	2. reforest the area
16	3. Control dogs in the area
17	Most people keep their dogs out of the water in the peak period but this is not the case off season. Dogs will have to be kept on leashes until they are on the leash free section of the beach. I walk a dog down there but do not let her loose in the scrub - because of ticks but also for the sake of wildlife"
18	Tourist education in all accommodation! Improved informative signage visible to all areas
19	Implement WSUD treatment trains for lake inflow where there is a cross over with development. Is there a management strategy for Cane Toads ? Other natural precinct use fencing / selected culling / noise interference / habitat management ect to reduce toad numbers.
20	Education signage, council monitoring and fines for accessing sensitive areas
21	Bring back my damn rope swings!!!
22	Just emphasize education and the impact of people and their activities on the lake
23	Dogs-cars are two major concerns
24	No that is all I believe
25	more bins to be provided
26	The rope swings! they need to be brought back! Put signs up saying that people jump at their own risk or need parental supervision. Do what you want, just bring the rope swings back!!
27	Aesthetics of built environment- allow the lake and environs to shine by minimising negative visual impact of paths and furnishings e.g. not sandstone blocks as next to new parking area-out of step with our local geography(suitable Sydney not

No.	Responses
	here) Timber,basalt,granite,neutral colours best to allow the natural beauty to shine. This aspect often not consulted on and is critical to outcome in terms of nourishing wellbeing.
28	Signage for public amenities and parking areas within lake boundaries. If parking ids full, give directions to other parking areas
29	Checking carefully sea level rises possibly when cyclones hit this area. If the Pacific Ocean from Seven Mile Beach is allowed to wash into Lake Ainsworth as was happening in mid 1967, the Lake's unique qualities and attractions will be lost. A 2019 version of the 1967 tea tree fence is needed
30	Is it possible for the lake to have a designation under OEH?
31	"Closure of eastern side road - no improvement to lake health has been demonstrated by employing this strategy.
32	Quality improvement of the lake health must be the major priority.
33	There is no need to attract more visitors.... more will come anyway if there is a clean, healthy lake to visit and swim in. No need for further amenities until the above achieved"
34	Access track to replace existing eastern road will make a difference & improve pedestrian safety including for elderly people - as need safe paths for those with walkers & other mobility aids.
35	Educate people re value of & means of caring for natural environment eg. care of lake edges, interpretative signage incl tree identification plates,
36	Access for small sailing boats
37	Dont close the road on the eastern side of the lake. Use funding to upgrade what is already there, the road, the foreshore and the car park at the northern end.
38	"1.Parking Management (see 9 above) and walking path
39	2.Increase funding ie greater contribution from Caravan park and S&R for general maintenance of reserve both land and water and
40	3.specific requirements from the above including
41	- .compulsory stormwater management, environmental protection, aquatic management, vegetation plans and PoMs regarding these matters with regular inspections."
42	Fix the foreshore erosion. Allow designated parking for the dog beach and North East lake access. Stop parking that reduces road to one lane. Possibly close road on busy days (Christmas, New year, Australia Day and Easter) between 8am and 5pm. Please leave road open for locals during non busy times ie after 5pm and before 8am and non holiday times
43	Yes planting out east rd access entry points that exist will impact southern bullrush ans western reed beds with people trampling these reed beds to gain water access - the rd closure is a terrible decision
44	The money Council should have spent on forshore , there wouldnt be a problem now.
45	"Imediate Foreshore restoration
46	Resurface road down eastern side
47	Basically leave lake as is but do maintenance that should have already been done "
48	I feel the monthly markets should be returned to the eastern area once / month currently the markets behind the shopping centre are a disaster which I guess were imposed by some well meaning autocrat! I do not recall any community consultation on this move. [additional derogatory comment deleted]
49	Good parking for dog. Beach
50	everybody wants the eastern road to remain open over 4000 signatures and still the council does not listen, and they wont listen to you either unless you recommend what they want. its them who are paying you.
51	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage
52	"If the health of the lake is not improved, and worsens, all the other aspects mentioned here are a waste of time. There will be no eco-system if the water is foul, no tourists so no need for amenities, etc.
53	Re the amount of rubbish, there should be more bins.
54	To save the western side, always better water condition than south and east, it should be closed off until the water quality is improved."
55	if there is closure of east road, the amount of close to the lake parking has to be addressed. many people have elderly/ disabled and children that can't walk far or be left on the foreshore while a park is found far away. also it will be impossible for us and others to carry our watercraft from blocks away which will happen once the east road is not available for parking.it would be sensible for council to build the 120+ car spaces that will be lost before the east road is closed. thats one of the main reasons we suspect that there is behind the scenes being done. The loss of the current amount of car parking also doesn't take into account the growth expected in the area from all the subdivisions that are happening between Ballina and Lennox. This will be a huge issue re the increase of the use of the lake as it is seen as a safe place to swim without predators like sharks.
56	I find it hard to believe that such a popular area has been so neglected by the council - or that there is even a discussion about limiting funding. This is very heavily used. Facilities are atrocious in comparison with, say, the Queensland beach areas. Management of the tourist facilities seems stuck in the past without reference to the huge explosion of visitors. Many of the improved areas are also ugly and cheap looking.
57	No

No.	Responses
58	Leave it alone.
59	no
60	Please close the eastern road.
61	Charge a parking fee
62	Council should be responsible and fix erosion
63	Education about the ecosystems of the lake and it's foreshores and ways to support them. Management strategies for likely increased usage of western side and also increased landings on northern and western forshores by people using watercraft
64	Water quality testing should be expanded to test for a wider range of contaminants to adequately protect the public.
65	I'm worried about youth usage of lake once road is closed. Currently kids can be seen easily with access to drive along lake. Once closed off will be harder to manage. Good luck!
66	A ranger funded to patrol to make sure people are doing the right thing, and issuing fines for dogs swimming in there.
67	No
68	No
69	monitoring by council staff is poor
70	Eliminate any form of fishing in the lake
71	Recreation is a major contributor to well being and the access to this lake( for me all my life) stirs up passions in the community. It would be important to have spokespersons who are empathetic to those on both sides of this issue.
72	Leave the lake the way it is...I have been going there 3 to 4 times per week. Allow dogs to be tied up on the lake's banks while owners can swim in the lake. Don't worry about climate change it is not happening.
73	There is no point building parks around bodies of water that are dead....
74	Na
75	farm runoff on the western side is a concern to me. I feel the western side reeds havn't been maintained and which has been a natural filter to run off . Also waste water from the sport and rec
76	Lake needs the area improved , sand beaches re-established the informal parking on the eastern side to remain for ease of access for families, disabled and aged. Don't deactivate against these people by closing the road and getting rid of the parking. Listen to the people!!! You will create a great opportunity of anti social behaviour and accidents with people and cars by closing the road. Improve the area , fix erosion , bring back the beach from the lake bottom, don't introduce timed parking. Let us be different from the concrete jungles at every other beach sites in Australia. Let's listen to the people.
77	Test areas that contribute to run off into the lake- cane fields, caravan park, sport and rec, stormwater etc to see how they contribute to poor water quality esp after rain and during peak season
78	SAVE THE TREES!
79	Signage informing people that their actions effect the lake eg. Sunscreen and using the lake as a toilet
80	No
81	Education, preserving water quality , flaura and fauna.
82	Perhaps an actual study of how bad dogs are for the lake compared to a sunscreen laden poo taking human!
83	No
84	no
85	Limit human impact via signs and education but do not preclude access and maintain current natural setting! Leave as is. Spend money on maintaining environmental values not urbanising it.
86	The caravan park needs to be relocated
87	This survey does not frame questions adequately enough to allow participants to support the status quo. Who framed the questions?
88	No
89	"Keep the eastern road open, listen to the majority of the locals
90	"
91	No
92	Leave the lake as it is,natural easy to access for families
93	Sediment in the lake might need dredging?
94	Educate on aboriginal significance and how to respect the habitat
95	No
96	"Adopt waste strategies similar to NPWS.
97	Remove the bibs & encourage people to take their rubbish home.



No.	Responses
98	Charge an entry fee to the lake. "
99	No
100	Like I said before having someone neutral telling us how we can improve it and not using scare tactics like both sides are
101	Don't use grey ink on writing in this survey . Hard to read. I am 87 y.o.
102	No
103	I really feel sunscreens should be banned or at least research into effects they are having
104	Don't do things that will create overcrowding
105	with help with landcare
106	No parking meters
107	yes, dont change a thing
108	The road is too close to the lake and the areas surrounding it should be treated as a protected area because it has a function in the ecosystem. Filtering the water before entering the lake, holding the soil (erosion) another item
109	Speed limit, no parking on lakeside edge especially on northeast side. Firies couldn't get the truck down there for drafting.
110	No
111	No
112	Not that I can think of just now.
113	Improve what's here, don't change it. Spend the money on any environmental issues, not changing the way it is.
114	No
115	The lake needs to be retained and maintained
116	keep fire trails and walking tracks open to public
117	stopping dogs around the lake, ok on beach
118	Presumably a scale that is beyond budget possibilities but water treatment
119	Dogs should be allowed on a leash in a grassy shaded area without direct access to the lake. This would allow dog owners to swim before or after utilising the dog friendly surf beach.
120	Bicycle racks would be great and might encourage more people to cycle to the lake
121	Let it go back to what it was.
122	More consulting with residents.
123	Keep road open on east side. I think the lake is minimally developed and well used and I think we'll conserved . Good balance to keep.
124	If the council from the being, made the eastern road with the right guttering/storm water treatment and road surface it want be in the condition it is in
125	more accessible and low environmental impact public access composting loos need to be installed with showering facilities to allow rinse before entering lake to swim and avoid any urine in lake. With proper effective shade sail seating areas nearby
126	Picnic and BBQ area needs to be turfed. Entry to Lake needs to be greatly improved in this area. At the moment it is unsafe. Tree roots in one area and a huge drop in another. I find it very difficult to safely enter the Lake which is disappointing. Also the black sand in this area is very unpleasant. This is the popular section for picnics - needs urgent attention.
127	no
128	no
129	Look at swamp mud lake management in Germany. Stop all fishing int eh lake I always see ducks with fishing hooks and line in their beaks
130	Infrastructure. Infrastructure. Infrastructure. Sensible, objective, inexpensive, infrastructure that reflects and respects the natural beauty/image of Lennox Head. The excessive use of concrete and ugly metallic council furnishings honestly disgusts me. There is too much of this shit around Lennox and messing up the lake would make me absolutely livid. You shouldn't need me to tell you to make sensible infrastructure decisions that are built in harmony with our modest Lennox lifestyle.
131	Cane toad control
132	I feel that "improved disable access" should be a question on its own rather than being lumped in to "Improving public access (e.g. walking tracks, watercraft launching, disabled access etc.)" as it is a totally separate issue and should always be considered for improvement from a social and humane point of view.
133	as above, the protection of existing vegetation on the western side of the lake - a sealed road will encourage more people to that side so areas need to be fenced off effectively and signed for non use
134	no
135	cancer council should promote body protection with GARMENTS and NOT SUNSCREEN(which is killing the lake) and parents should not allow babies in the lake (nappies or no nappies).. there needs ot be a positive move made to educating proper

No.	Responses
	(Toilet) behaviour in the water as well as BANNING sunscreen. Maybe provide a shaded swimming areas
136	N/A
137	PLEASE DON'T TURN LENNOX INTO A CAR PARK. Habitat for animals is being lost in small bite size chunks. The more we accommodate cars, the more cars will come.
138	More stringent development controls within the catchment, especially mindful of the incremental impact from intensification of residential and commercial development
139	People management is the key to managing the lake. Improving user behaviour is important. Protecting and improving the natural values will improve the user experience
140	Swimming should not be permitted. Enforce parking restrictions and littering. Some covert ranger activity to respond to littering.
141	no
142	OPEN LAKE TO THE SEA LIKE IT WAS MANY YEARS AGO SO LAKE TIDAL
143	No
144	no
145	no
146	No
147	Minimisation of paper cups and plastic at nearby cafe in surf club. The council zoning of cafes as ' kiosks ' that don't allow for use of ceramic mugs/ and metal cutlery is absolutely stupid, completely out of step with environmental policy!
148	Again - It was well-managed 15 yrs ago. No maintenance means major expense as well as huge inconvenience to Sport and Rec and lake and beach users.
149	Advertising i.e school children re (litter recycling). Water pollution - ie. with sunscreen/urine. Maintenance Maintenance!!!Fantastic to fix it BUT to have funding for yearly maintenance.
150	more bins
151	Parking and public access are a major priority. As well as erosion of the foreshore should the existing eastern road be removed!
152	No
153	"I can't believe the council just put grass down where cars park near the lake opposite the caravan park. This is going to become weed infested. The geo textile which was previously laid in the car park on the corner near the caravan park toilet block is 100% weeds just a few years after grass was laid over it and yet council has not learnt thier lesson.
154	They have spent tens of thousands of dollars to stabilize the parking only to turn it into what will become a weed bed. In the end all the top soild with the grass will wash into the lake as the grass dies off. I can't believe the council did not use a durable surface that stops weed growth in the new parking spaces.
155	The off leash do area on the beach should be removed as too many dog owners end up with thier dogs off leash in the lake.
156	The council should develop a clear plan of management for the site in consultation with the community. "
157	Better parking facilities now the foreshore is being closed, the current new parking is insufficient, as has already been witnessed as the warmer weather hits. it will be a nightmare in the summer
158	You have a copy of my report on the issue of continual flushing of the lake through the dunes. Correcting this issue will reduce nutrient levels and remove many other problems such as high nutrient levels.
159	cultural significance of area should be obvious to visitors by educational signage. easy seating at waters edge for supervision of swimmers
160	No
161	Not that I can think at present.
162	Ni
163	no
164	no other issues = lake ainsworth is very dear to my heart as I have run sailability for 21 years at sport and rec . and it is such a unique / safe and beautiful place ,the only exit for water is evaporation so what ever has gone into it for the last 200 hundred years is still in there !
165	No
166	When I say improved parking I mean - leave parking as is please
167	should be non-smoking area and zero alcohol too
168	Put market back (big mistake) used to be fantastic now very poor market thanks to Council
169	Remove hideous blue building on beachside southeast to give clean ocean views
170	Volunteers and/or Council workers appear to do a good job keeping down aquatic weeds and rubbish. Dogs swimming in the lake are a never-ending problem - if I dare to speak to the owners I usually get abused. Controlling uncaring dog owners would

No.	Responses
	be a full-time and largely impossible job - too many bastards.
171	No
172	I think it is fantastic as it is most of the year. But from Xmas to end January and at easter the road between the lake and sea should be blocked. Leave it as it is but shut it when its overcrowded
173	I think it should be improved for animal and plant life
174	Parking
175	I think you should have driving access to the lake from both sides.
176	Lake erosion
177	Dogs in lake
178	No
179	Education in local schools about how fortunate we are to have & enjoy this natural wonder & also about how to care for & preserve it
180	The near by Cafe creates a lot of waste with take away cups and is way over priced. A more sustainable business which offers real cups etc would help to create more respect for the environment in such a beautiful location.
181	In all cases, urbanisation and the restriction of access and use is against the desires of the population, for which the lake has become famous and remains a continued natural asset for even the most shallow of promoting the area or greater Shire. Management must at all times remember they are a public service, and not a quasi policing or restrictive practice for known neighbours who would seek to exploit and restrict it for their benefits alone.
182	Make people walk to lake
183	No
184	No
185	I think the environmental value of the lake as an eco system is paramount.
186	No.
187	Council, the community have spoken. When will you listen?
188	..
189	No
190	Well defined zones for various uses would assist in safety. A hop-on hop-off shuttle bus from the Point to the Lake on a regular basis would reduce the need and demand for parking in the immediate vicinity of the Lake for visitors and residents.
191	Keep it real. There is a 7 mile walking track called the beach or back track that doesn't need funding. If your going to put in more bbqs then logical waste disposal needs to be implemented as last summer was a disgrace with Smelly overflowing bins.
192	Keep the Lake open to the public, but as a natural area. Do not place car parks all around it, do not provide food outlets, toilets, etc. Then it will be used and enjoyed actively by local residents. It has the potential to be overused by tourists, in which case local residents (who ultimately have to fund its care) will stay away.
193	No
194	No
195	Parking could be reconsidered: it's a small space and if there's no place to park people can go elsewhere. Or park down the street and walk or ride a bike in. In fact the whole town could easily be designed around encouraging more bike use rather than catering to cars.
196	Animals around lake
197	No
198	Make sure that Youth Sport and Rec are not contributing to pollution of the Lake and improve the Riparian Zone within their borders
199	I think a portion of the western side of the lake past the caravan park should be developed for greater public access and a substantial car park built on that side. Engineered to avoid runoff into the lake. No matter what you do people will complain about not enough parking but we should never sacrifice the most beautiful part of the lake and coast to turn it into a carpark there is a big area of heath sitting out there on the western side let's use it.
200	Said it above. Council needs to effectively manage the lake and its surroundings, including the impact of the caravan park and sport and rec camp, plus the unsealed road. There also needs to be better management of people there and what they do
201	yep--add yellowbelly and bass fingerlings to the lake for better fishing--increased council officers to stop the idiots that get drunk up there and screw it up for families
202	No
203	Lake management by council needs a commitment of funds and annual maintenance to prevent the overall deterioration that has occurred over the last 15 years or more. The increasing public usage has put pressure on all aspects of the lake environment yet council does minimal work and only if asked. This needs to change and management practices need to be locked into any new plan whether that means council will be reactive to this remains to be seen

No.	Responses
204	Education that raises the lakes value from taken granted.
205	I, and a lot of others, would love it if there was a dog-friendly area around the lake so we could share the space with our four-legged friends.
206	No idea
207	"No
208	"
209	.
210	The lakes health and erosion
211	Being clear about what a community that embraces sustainable livelihoods can achieve with a more balanced approach to visitors & how less is often more.
212	To protect the foreshore erosion you could build boardwalks around the edge of the lake (or at access points) with wide wooden steps w/hand railing to enter the lake ....
213	Nil
214	protect the western side of lake
215	Signage for watercraft not to encroach within 50m of designated swimming areas. (See my proposal re buoys). My concern is the impending greater use of the Lake will increasingly endanger the safety of children. Buoys will keep the watercraft OUT and the children IN.
216	No that's it.... thanks for the opportunity to participate
217	No
218	Keep the eastern road open.
219	You need to address the Council's plans for the east side road closure, the camp site, access road to sport and rec camp and parking. Access points to the Lake obviously need to be opened up to lessen the pressure on the south east corner where 80% of people access the Lake. Spread the facilities and the access and get the idiots in the Council to put in place a proper traffic and parking plan
220	No specific issues
221	no
222	No
223	no
224	Community involvement in the management decisions
225	No
226	Just get on with it, we have been waiting a long time and watching the area being degraded whilst council sits on its hands. Also, start actively enforcing regulations in place to protect the lake.
227	no.
228	na
229	Not sure why council comes along and cuts down important shade trees? (This happened prior to the works beginning)
230	Keep the area as "natural" as possible - trees, other vegetation.

**Table 20: Open-ended responses provided for Question 12: Imagine Lake Ainsworth as you'd like to see it 10 years from now. What are the three most important attributes? (Select only 3 attributes)**

No.	"Other" responses provided
1	cultural heritage
2	natural unspoilt protected
3	very little change to landscape
4	Healthy trees, healthy riparian zone, not masses of lawn (green grass)
5	leave the road open
6	more heritage stories of the area - aboriginal history and significance
7	control of dogs
8	fun things i.e aqua park and slides
9	Rope swings!!
10	Protection under a NPWS designation
11	Easy car access to off leash dog walking area or the off leash dog walking area extended right up to the surf club.
12	Returning Lake Ainsworth into it's position as the region's pre eminent recreational attraction

No.	"Other" responses provided
13	three attributes is too limiting I need to include scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, less crowding to make any sense of a vision statement.
14	Keep the eastern rd open allow informal parking
15	The road on the eastern side of the lake to remain open
16	If you leave the road open we can park and walk in shade its quieter we can feed birds cant do this with no road as it will be too far to walk, the council does not get it.
17	Protection and promotion of Aboriginal cultural and social heritage
18	Continued access to parking and the leash free dog beach.
19	water quality is the key issue
20	Just leave it natural no concrete no expensive poles and fencing no more signs
21	open up access from the western side of the lake. close eastern road.
22	No PONTOON!!! This is asking for trouble. Come on - you cannot be serious even including this. A pontoon in the lake will lead to injuries and drownings. It is a natural resource and needs to be impacted as little as possible by man made infrastructure.
23	This is a very limiting question and therefore many could be seen to be equal in importance but reducing this issue to only three answers does not provide that opportunity.
24	Leave the lake the way it is. Spend the council's money on more urgent works ,like introducing bi annual street rubbish collections as is done in Sydney.
25	MORE PARKING.
26	It is a beautiful spot now don't spoil it , don't compromise access for disabled aged and families which is what will happen if you close the eastern road and parking on that side.
27	SAVE THE AMAZING TEA TREES
28	I would like to see it as it is, with a healthy lake, allowing enjoyment for all people who use the lake and the area, without excluding or stopping the activities or usage that is currently most enjoyed by the local community.
29	Less tourists taking up space of locals and leaving rubbish including faeces in the lake
30	East car access
31	Leave as is and maintain or improve environmental quality standards
32	keeping the eastern road open for access for aged and handicapped people
33	"1. Formalise and tidy up parking on the eastern road.
34	2. Stabilise, as much as possible, the eastern shore. "
35	I want a healthy lake so it can still be enjoyed
36	The lake has natural features and they need looking after, it does not need pontoons diving boards etc These were there when I was a teenager and they fell into disrepair, the lake is better off by keeping it simple.
37	"A healthy community that gets along
38	People need to hear the facts
39	I don't know how it can improve but there needs to be a balance so everyone can use it
40	From young to old people
41	Parking for cars etc"
42	I don't expect to be here in ten years.
43	Will it be alive in 10 years? So over stressed already. Maybe allowing months of non activity in the lake so it can recover from the huge influx of people moving here over the next 10 years
44	clean healthy
45	No fencing
46	Some people don't want it changed. Education rather than changes.
47	Infrastructure that is not shit. All of these are top priority except recreation features, launching areas, and facilities.
48	areas that are inaccessible to protect wildlife and native vegetation
49	A place for Quiet peaceful enjoyment in calm clean natural environment
50	How about a specific area set aside for non-toilet trained people and covered with shade cloth....
51	"Maintaining parking spaces and leaving the road open.
52	
53	Erosion is a total cop-out! Erosion can be fixed by installing a small retaining wall or a gabion wall.

No.	"Other" responses provided
54	Riparian zones can be fixed by positioning large boulders and limiting access to the lake via several entry points "
55	reduction in litter, enforcement
56	None motorised watercraft only t dragonboating
57	Harmonious integration of parking to allow easy access for elders and less agile ( not just designated disable)
58	"Tradition uses for the lake maintained for local kids and families such as rope swings, tree climbing, fishing, swimming, paddle sports, surf club training/events, picnics, school camps, cubbies in the bush etc.
59	More prominent indigenous history acknowledgement."
60	All of above, why only 3?
61	N
62	Same access as always. No increased urbanisation.
63	No cars!!!
64	The Council are not following their Duty of Care
65	Leave the lake alone with its natural beauty.
66	Keep it natural. People pee in the water. Maybe spruce up the toilets a little bit!!
67	A healthy place that can be enjoyed by everyone and not destroyed by to many people and cars

**Table 21: Open-ended responses provided for Question 13: If you would like to use your own words, please describe your vision of Lake Ainsworth as you would like to see it in 10 years (please limit to 50 words or less)**

No.	Responses
1	The foreshore and erosion problems sorted whilst also retaining the present day eastern road that has been utilised by many locals and visitors for over 60 years without incidents. As I recall spending a week at the Fitness camp in 1965 with a school group, and in my opinion Council has been remiss with the necessary and essential maintenance that has been needed.
2	Family friendly to continue easy access for family old and young with all picnic and then access to beach. shady area and parking for all
3	We need these things fixed now so we can enjoy the lake now
4	marked decent walking path
5	One of many waterside natural areas int eh shire. Council should promote all other such areas to take the pressure off Lake Ainsworth. A peaceful natural environment with healthy vegetation, more wildlife, less people in peak times i.e. direct the flow of visitors to other places
6	less people! less cars! more vegetation
7	Very similar to today with better water quality. more trees in caravan park
8	Improved water quality all year. Road access to all sides of the lake but with a very slow limit of 20km/hr maximum. No caravan park clients parking in lake precincts. All stormwater outlets directed away from the lake. great riparian vegetation less "lawns"
9	Clean healthy vegetation and not overcrowded
10	lots of properly designated car parks and shade to site under. A bush walking path with educational signs around lake (with "vista" points) (more disabled access). Healthy vegetation (native species). Good biodiversity levels. Easy access to lake and amenities that allow public to care for the lake area i.e. enough bins and some hard structures that help minimize foreshore erosion at entry points to lake
11	as above
12	leave eastern road open
13	Environmentally friendly, aesthetically pleasing accessible recreational area which protects habitats, wildlife and water quality while being visually attractive and respectfully used by people
14	keep it as is
15	I see a healthy lake with easy access along the south/east/west foreshore - and walking, carrying gear access elsewhere. Parking is not a problem for most of the year and only a minor problem in peak season (about 3 weeks in Summer and a week at easter)
16	An area where the uses are balanced between needs of the landscape and wildlife and recreational needs of people i.e. people aren't the main priority
17	The lake water always goes up and down with no rainfall or lots of rain that will not change. pontoons can be dangerous if the water level is low
18	Improved education for all to ensure the longevity of the lake and use by locals and others year round
19	I'd like more info on the indigenous significance
20	I would like any improvements to be as natural looking as possible. I wouldn't like to see a concrete crazy site! Lake Ainsworth

No.	Responses
	is beautiful please maintain its natural beauty and dont over develop
21	A precinct that integrates open public space with the natural environment, where there is sufficient infrastructure so that ongoing use of the area does not negatively impact environmental values. The lake should be self sufficient in terms of environmental systems that can maintain water quality.
22	A preservation area, uniquely beautiful, access not always easy, but once your there, good facilities with abundant native flora and fauna
23	We do not need any more public facilities to draw more people to the lake, there are already 2 toilet blocks and BBQs. I would like to see less people there
24	grassed/trees/shaded areas. excellent water to swim in, healthy environment
25	I would like to see more aqua park things and slides
26	Family friendly but fun for everyone, bring back the rope swings
27	A place of serenity and natural beauty, tastefully and subtly furnished with natural materials such as hardwood timber, retaining as much wildness as possible, and playing a vital role in the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors of all ages and abilities.
28	More respect for natural and aboriginal environment. I was in the 1st intake of children at the Sport and Rec Centre. I would like the Lake to appear and function as it did then. Probably impossible
29	As per above - a place of natural, environmental, cultural and recreational heritage.
30	Safe, comfortable space for individuals & small groups - native plants, access tracks, no eastern road.
31	Healthy natural vegetation, not too much "development", suitable for all age groups esp. older as v few places are good at this locally.
32	Continue as is.
33	Less people. The better the facilities the more people will come and abuse it
34	The Eastern Road rebuilt and converted to a Shared Road which would maintain parking and quality access for the public
35	as above returning it to the standard it was in over 30 years ago
36	A place that's beautiful, healthy and with easy access for all.
37	as above - Beautiful uncrowded grassed area with exemplary out of the way parking and traffic management, clean water and untouched western side.
38	East road open everyday between 5pm and 8am during holiday times and open 24 hours during non holidays. Designated parking. Lake edge restored. No algae blooms
39	Remaining a informal easy access with eastern rd access and maintain untimed car parking - it's an economic advantage as the 5,400 individual submissions to OBJECT to the rd closure testify that's it's. Leisure is illogical and against the community wishes
40	Improvements to lake made without changing present day ambience
41	"I hope the foreshore erosion is addressed urgently
42	with suitable retaining banks. The parking issue is currently being addressed"
43	Excellent water quality & the road on the eastern side of the lake to remain open
44	Just a good picnic and swimming area with car access and parking at dog beach access
45	keep the eastern road open and provide beaches, spend some of the \$100,000.00 per year allocated which is never spent.
46	A serene place of beauty with easy access along existing access points. Healthy trees and foreshore. A free place to visit for everyone.
47	The lake should be a safe, healthy and accessible place for families and the wildlife that share this rare and beautiful environment. I hope that the cost of parking will not keep us from visiting.
48	"increase access on the west side of the lake so everyone isnt jammed into the south east corner
49	that may help to take pressure off the water quality and erosion"
50	Gazetted as an Aboriginal Place and jointly manage between Jali LALC and Ballina Shire Council
51	"Extremely healthy water quality thereby leading to healthy vegetation, wildlife, scenic beauty, etc.
52	Fewer tourists (they don't care for the lake and the condition of the lake after summer holidays and the tourist influx is always unsatisfactory).
53	A permanently employed ranger to educate users, police and fine offenders, nurture the lake and environs. "
54	A clean, healthy and safe water resource for both wildlife and human recreational activities. Easily accessible for all ages and physical abilities. Foreshore and surrounding area regularly cared for to impede erosion due to human activities and it's toll on the lake area. No further housing development to the west and south/west of the lake.
55	Attractive contemporary facilities for tourists and users - not the cheap and nasty 1970s-80s ones that now exist. Recognition of the area's increasing attraction for people from the cities.Reduced encroachment from the caravan park. Excellent water

No.	Responses
	quality. Excellent preservation of natural areas.
56	A place of natural beauty where humans and the environment interact in harmony.
57	Same as it is now.
58	"somehow improve water quality and ensure that the water quality is tested very regularly tested and its status is simply displayed on a daily basis
59	"
60	A healthy water source for nature & hopefully humans
61	A beautiful place that safe to swim and play in and is treated with respect-Nice signs giving info about the Indigenous people who looked after it before everyone else came by.
62	As it has been for the past 60+ years
63	Healthy water and foreshore. Nice safe area for exercising and recreation.
64	An oasis of natural tranquility with minimal constructed facilities, fences, paths, signage, lighting etc.
65	"I love the lake as is. Apart from the algae.
66	Would be good to see road left open but better looked after. "
67	Same as now with better water quality
68	"Somewhere tranquil where we can swim and take the family without hordes of noisy people littering and polluting the water.
69	Somewhere where the native water birds and aquatic creatures can flourish in their natural habitat."
70	As a clean, safe and beautiful space to enjoy
71	I hope it's taken care of and still looks as beautiful in 10 years.
72	An asset for the community with clean water, picnic areas, shade, easy access and education of the lake patrons.
73	A healthy, peaceful location that is well managed and utilised by all ages.
74	Maintain public access to the lake
75	The natural beauty should be preserved and environmental issues addressed. Limit any further man made structures in and around the lake.
76	safe place where community and family can relax and cool down safely
77	A healthy lake enjoyed to its potential by our ancestors who are following in our footsteps as users and appreciators of this unique lake.
78	The same as it is today
79	Preferably ALL of the above attributes, not just three!
80	10 years.... if Lennox hasn't collapsed under the weight of lack of infrastructure - as it's growing in a way that is unsustainable.... and we haven't moved.... I hope it will be as good to swim in as what it was over 25 years ago, and I hope it isn't suffocated by copious amounts of trees as the Point is.
81	Na
82	A serene place for wildlife and the general population with good water quality and with visitors and locals having respect for such a beautiful natural space
83	Eastern road and parking remain. Beaches on southern and eastern side re established , erosion of banks cease, measure to stop run off. BBQs and open areas existing re grassed. Nobody had the right to restrict access and numbers attending that lake whic a small group of people are trying to do.
84	Relaxed space for families to enjoy
85	I would like to see the lake healthy, with dog beach access still open, with vehicle access along the eastern side maintained to allow people to enjoy the picnics and activities that they do now. It is a great community area, and the dog walking community is an important social opportunity for owners and dogs. The whole experience of Lake Ainsworth as it is should be maintained.
86	Na
87	Restored to her natural original beauty without excessive disrespectful humans poisoning her.
88	Keep it natural as possible and without too much man made intervention / structures. Educate users and not punish environment by building more things in the vision of "beauty"
89	A green space where people can relax and not worry about cars and no bitumen in the lake.more shady areas
90	Less litter less crowds better access to parking far better water quality
91	Clean, easy access and space to relax. Doesnt need major facilities, keep it natural
92	an improved version of what it is now
93	Not turned into a Gold Coast like paved, fenced, monetised business only a few can access, augmented under the guise of improved access, amenities and environmental protection. That would really suck.



No.	Responses
94	The lake to be used for passive recreation will have to be limited during certain times of the year.
95	keeping the beauty of the area in a practical and people friendly area without restricting access
96	For my grandchildren to be able to access and enjoy the lake like I have since first coming here in 1964.
97	Able to adapt positively to climate change and readily accessible as an educational resource and for public recreation.
98	Great place to hang out with the eastern road being the main access road still in place
99	Whilst I am for making accessibility on the South Eastern side of the lake improved, with a closure of the road, I am also very much for keeping an are for wildlife, with little change of accesss on the Western side, with perhaps an inconspicuous walking maintained bush track, with perhaps one or two bird observatory such as this with edu on birds/wildlife, so both humans and wildlife can be accommodated.
100	Healthy lake to swim in, lots of trees for shade and a pontoon for kids to swim out to and jump off etc
101	Keep the same as past 50 years but manage the foreshore erosion
102	Lived here for 40 years and I would like to see showers so people do not wear sunscreen in the lake and the young people not drinking in the lake while on inflatables
103	Kept in the style it is now, protected from development
104	I would like it to be a safe fresh water place to swim & picnic
105	Keep access for Northern Rivers locals the same as it already is. Don't encourage tourists
106	A clean healthy water body with good access that maintains its natural beauty and uniqueness without over development.
107	Leave it the way it is
108	No
109	"User pays, day use fees.
110	A circular walking/cycling track around the lake with information boards, viewing platforms, environment, cultural & historic information. More tree, shrub & bird attracting plantings around the lake."
111	Sustained beauty and access to the public improves local tradition cultural knowledge of the lake, stronger engagement with the local traditional owners.
112	Where it is beautiful clean and everyone gets along
113	Natural
114	Clean, safe, not overcrowded, family friendly recreation area for all to enjoy.
115	Environmentally sustained in harmony with appropriate level of human usage
116	Inevitably our population is ecpanding and we all want to use the lake, however foremost it belongs to the natural inhabitants of the lake and we must do our utmost to protect these species. more facilities means more people/rubbish/and inappropriate behavior. the beach is not far away!
117	more landcare
118	same same same
119	A pristine waterway for everyone to use. Limiting or monitored fishing!!! Noted a native water duck with a fishing hook in its beak!!
120	If you ensure the 3 attributes above you will probably ensure the wildlife as well. The lake is a gift for us and we just need to manage and respect that space, By ensuring public education people will be able to maintain that gift
121	A natural beauty to observe nature and the public having fun and enjoying themselves. It may be crowded though but the view is my only concern. Wildlife is also an important factor
122	Pristine, clean, weed free, healthy, respected by those who use it.
123	Healthy nurtured ecosystem, good for birds, swimming
124	No
125	Natural
126	Clean
127	Naturally healthy and thriving with native wildlife and vegetation.
128	Leave it alone!!
129	Still open as a swimming area
130	Needs to be Maintained and left the way it is.
131	beautiful, no rubbish, not too touristic, quiet, clean
132	keep it similar to how it is now
133	Have a look at West Lake in Haugzhou China or Lake Geneva for dealing with over loved lakes in urban settings

No.	Responses
134	Zero algal blooms, improvement in water quality and erosion problems, abundant wildlife. Limit the over populated issue by introducing paid parking? The funds could be utilised to maintain and manage the lake!
135	No cars down the eastern road. Close proximity of cars and pedestrians not good and would only get worse. Ideally no parking right adjacent to the lake. Park and ride?
136	Back to what it was twenty years ago.
137	The same. Some work to stabilise the bank and the unique ability to park very close to where you can swim to remain.
138	Keep the same. Conserve and take care of water quality and vegetation while enjoying for swimming and picnicing.
139	Some where I can go to swim, without fear of asthma attack, due to walking to far to the water
140	Majority 3/4 of lake shores to be native wild vegetation bush areas. Beach - like swim access areas to be erosion, pollution and litter free with a lot of sun shade and wind shelters, seating, smooth disability access ramps or railing with pebble stone ramps seating loss of simple pole - elevated shade structure floors composting very low impact. No toxic poisons to be placed under any cement slabs like the building code makes people do. it kills
141	As it is but with better access to water
142	Families having picnics/BBQs and swimming in the lake. The markets returned to this area (Not suitable at car park (very hot)
143	No major change. no development. healthy water. keep west side as it is. no change
144	Many native plants and animals
145	Healthy wildlife, floating pontoon and water activities
146	A beautiful lake which humans and native animals and plants share
147	Modest, healthy, and beautiful.
148	A healthy and respected jewel in the crown of Ballina Shire.
149	Please just use common sense and recognise the little piece of gold that is sitting here right now... once it has been abused and depleted it will be gone forever.
150	I would like to see the lake with good water quality, plenty of riparian zones, suitable amenities and protected existing habitat - no loss of vegetation.
151	the same as now
152	Shady picnic areas, no rubbish, respectful use of the lake
153	Better vehicle and general access for the aging population. Maintain the lake edges (not done for last 20 years) provide shade and protection from defecating children. Ban sunscreen
154	N/A
155	Not surrounded by car parks
156	Healthy ecosystem. Reduced urban pressure.
157	A nice place to go for a stroll, with regulations for parking and littering enforced.
158	as above
159	LIMIT ACTIVITIES DON'T INCREASE THEM
160	in better shape, with all aspects listed in the previous sections worked on and improved
161	I would like a walking path that circumnavigated the should lake
162	People far and wide being able to come and visit the lake for a day or more. It is an area of natural beauty which anyone who wishes can enjoy. I know in summer it is busy, but that is what we want to see people/families/friends enjoying the outdoors.
163	A healthy lake with plenty of parking and space for this ever growing population in this area!
164	User friendly for all ages not just young kids
165	The same as it is now but with less erosion near the surf club beach and less contamination from dogs and kids pooing in the lake.
166	Clean safe water, no weeds/algae, good walking bike trails and parking picnic facilities, lots of green space
167	Good water quality with no introduced fish, particularly Bass, and a system created to ensure continuous flushing. Even opening to sea again should be seriously considered.
168	pristine aquatic environment that can be accessed easily and enjoyed by everyone
169	a unique pristine freshwater swimming hole to be enjoyed by the whole family
170	Good water, abundant thriving Native flora and fauna.No cane toads/tadpoles. Continuing education rules/regulations for people wanting to use the lake to do their bit to look after it
171	Healthy and safe place for locals to spend time enjoying a swim NOT a commercialised park for tourists.
172	Tinjeep it a great place for families to go for bbqs and swims whilst not doing damage to the wildlife or environment
173	more nature focused, less infrastructure focused - a place to escape and enjoy the water and wildlife.

No.	Responses
174	I would like to see the natural beauty retained without buildings amid parking lots too close. I would like to see the water quality the wild life and vegetation cared for and not become too touristy
175	as is but better / cleaner !
176	Exactly how it is now. But with a few more bbqs and visiting area
177	Relaxing place for families and friends to enjoy well maintained
178	I would like to see Lennox markets reintroduced to Lake Ainsworth along eastern road on a monthly basis - like before. It made it a special sunday market - between the lake and sea. The market now on the local oval is very ordinary in comparison
179	I would like it to be as is with the addition of freshwater management. Recycle bins should be a no brainer and shows laziness on part of BSC. No parkland- this is not the Gold Coast
180	Pristine if possible. It should be vested as a reserve/NP
181	Still maintain the naturalness of the lake by protecting the environment and educating people to be mindful we all need to protect and respect the lake and its inhabitants. Return monthly markets back to the lake
182	Like it was 40-50 years ago!
183	Lake Ainsworth is perfect the way it is
184	Don't change it too much. Look what happened with the Angels Beach "Boardwalk/bike racing track" A beautiful winding bush walking track is now a dangerous "Velodrome" especially on Saturday morning with racing bikes.
185	The ever-increasing population means that the lake is doomed to be increasingly inaccessible and polluted - like the rest of planet earth. So I will never again see it how it used to be.
186	Continue to be a delightful place for family and friends to gather to escape coastal winds and swim and enjoy non-motorised water sports, followed by picnics and relaxing on the foreshore or adjacent grassy areas which are well maintained and free of litter and waste.
187	AS I mentioned its more for animal and plant life
188	Lake Ainsworth restored and maintained in its most natural state with priority given to its indigenous heritage
189	Exactly as the new proposed plan to close the Eastern Road, beautify and protect it
190	Less crowded
191	No erosion, cleanly vegetated, good access into the water, open woodland around edge with cars removed.
192	A beautiful natural environment to enjoy without visual eyesore-pontoons will impact on visual amenity and be an insurance nightmare for the council and ratepayers
193	Timber board walk around lake, better water quality, stable foreshore, shared vehicle pedestrian to the dog beach, better parking management
194	Just as it is now.
195	A protected, clean green habitat with dedicated carers ensuring humans & animals thrive there together, with due respect given to those who rightfully own the land.
196	Healthy ecosystem respected and cherished by community and visitors
197	Well looked after ie erosion, nutrient levels, picnic areas and surrounding environment managed and maintained.
198	The lake is here for the community. Not events, fun-park or restriction to a pretty view, with no access, or for just the neighbouring property. It is a natural lake- so man-made augmentations including induced 'greenery' is not consistent with its presence, draw for people, or future desires.
199	Well landscapes with as many paperbarks as possible
200	Improved not forgotten
201	No
202	An extensive green and peaceful community recreation space, free of cars, with path circumnavigating, link to bike tracks and lots of green space.
203	As it has been for the last 65 years that I know of.
204	I love the lake as it is, but I am not clear on all the threats to the natural ecosystem and existing habitats etc. I would love to see improved water quality and I would like to think that the natural environment in and around the lake could flourish whilst also being enjoyed as a swimming and picnic area for the local human inhabitants as well.
205	Much the same... keep it close to nature.
206	More parking other wise it's great just how it is
207	Parkland on southern and eastern sides, shade trees and amenities for families to picnic and meet. Shuttle bus service from the Point to the Lake to reduce need and demand for parking in the immediate vicinity. Lennox Markets relocated to the Lake. Opportunity for an entertainment stage viewable from the natural amphitheatre on the southern side for open air theatrical performances, musicals. Mobile coffee and food vendors allowed in adjacent area, dependant on leasing arrangements of cafe at the Surf Club. It goes without saying, clean water, return of native vegetation, beaches not banks. And underground power
208	Like it was in the last 10 yrs but with proper people impact management for the busy times.

No.	Responses
209	A natural area, cared for and maintained to provide active and scenic recreation for local communities
210	Better than now
211	As good or better than it is today
212	More grass. Less complications. Tables are nice but people sit on the ground there! That's the whole point.
213	Abundant with Nature ( as natural as it is ) flowing with clean water
214	A place of natural beauty for everyone to enjoy with a healthy foreshore, safe environment and grassed areas for picnicking.
215	My vision would be to keep Lake Ainsworth as natural as possible for passive recreation and appreciation of nature. I know this is not likely. The track on the West side would be kept natural and not opened up for bikes, disabled access or made into a highly accessible track.
216	Beautiful peaceful place with more green grassed areas lots of trees for shade and a stable foreshore. Walking track around the lake. Restricted areas for watercraft. No road on the eastern side only the southern and western sides. part of the western side developed for greater public use with a car park built away from the lake edge Engineered to avoid runoff from carpark. Bins toilet bbq and sheltered picnic tables.
217	I would like to see a lake that is clean (good water quality) and properly managed. I would like to see the ecosystem function improved with more wildlife there
218	family and disabled peoples place to have a swim in a protected environment
219	Clean, accessible and popular
220	I'd love the lake to remain a place residents and visitors can visit for a peaceful, natural experience, where nature matters more than human needs; there are enough other places for us. I'd also like there to be no 4WDs driving along the western road to access the beach (and no beach driving allowed).
221	An improved properly managed version of what we have had in the past!
222	Public behaviour values the lake
223	a tranquil lake with clean water,no erosion,no weeds and not too busy -and certainly no vehicles
224	Naturally beautiful...let's not forget its main purpose before just people.
225	Maintained as a natural ecosystem and somehow manage the volume of visitors by having sections with limited access eg only a bush track for walking not picknicking.
226	Preserved for future generations.
227	I would like its current natural beauty to be maintained with minimal man-made additions.
228	"As natural as possible.less sign congestion(at the moment we have 16 signs in 100 mtrs).
229	We all love the lake but it is being loved to death! eventually maximum people destroy
230	nature - that is what draws the people in the first place! Respect has to be used, it is not a swimming pool and a water slide setup -it is a living thing. I would like to have that not abused. Parking will be an enormous headache as it is in every summer.i would like the West side of the lake left alone as much as possible for the wildlife."
231	Good quality water and the same beautiful space it is
232	Healthy clean environment for people and animals. Respectful lake users who take rubbish away with them
233	Natural, clean, safe water activity and play
234	As above
235	A safe clean lake which is accessible to all.
236	A beautiful peaceful place used with respect by the public. No overcrowding. Abundant wildlife. No fishing.
237	A beautiful coastal place embraced, loved and cared for by all for its natural, recreational & spiritual values, values that make the character of our town unique & relaxed.
238	Much like it is today but with real beaches not erosion cliffs that are there now
239	Nil
240	Used for public recreation, thriving environment protected and enhanced, enhanced public paths, BBQs etc, healthy water quality, good habitat.
241	good water quality, no bank erosion, good riparian vegetation, no degradation of vegetation on the western side of the lake.
242	Just let it be. It's survived well in the past. It can continue to do so.
243	Regarded and advertised widely as the jewel of Lennox Head to be enjoyed by locals BUT with plenty of parking for visitors.
244	Comfortable environment
245	A uniquely special place in the northern rivers to share with others pristine, natural unspoilt
246	A beautiful recreation area that is accessible by all with good water quality for swimming and facilities for picnics and barbecues as well as adequate parking.

No.	Responses
247	I would like to see Lake Ainsworth maintained to keep it as the treasure that it is.
248	Acces for all people not just the upper class/ counical/greenies who just want there way
249	Healthy vegetation and water quality with far better access, traffic and parking so access is spread more evenly around the Lake to minimise impact on particular areas of the Lake. Good use of natural grass and open areas around the Lake
250	Clean green and dog free
251	Maintained as much as possible in its natural state by avoiding overuse and by regular monitoring of external damaging forces
252	better water quality and environment for fauna and flora. Minimal effect from people's actions
253	As Above
254	I would like to see it open to the ocean
255	Prevent water quality deterioration from overuse
256	No
257	A lake with good water quality, and a healthy ecosystem, where its natural values are protected and actively managed, particularly the aquatic and riparian wildlife.
258	much like it is now.
259	na
260	an active, clean space without cars, healthy vegetation, and native wildlife. It should be cared for strictly like a national park. More signage is needed to tell people WHY dogs are not allowed in the lake and the damage they cause.
261	Unique place which is protected and understood by everyone who uses it. Clean water, wildlife, healthy vegetation, and rubbish free
262	A natural space with minimal man made impacts
263	Parklands, recreational area. A great area for families.
264	as natural as possible
265	I want it to be just the same as it is now and has been since I was a child swimming in the lake many decades ago.
266	No more building or development anywhere near it, protection of native vegetation and foreshore areas
267	A place that is environmentally healthy and is a place to spend quality time in a beautiful natural environment with family and friends swimming, kayaking, BBQ/picnicking.
268	"Natural biodiversity abundant with birdlife and animals (no dogs).
269	Small human footprint.
270	Recognised as the key landmark in Lennox Head.
271	Adjoining holiday park partnering the community in actively preserving Lake and surrounds. "
272	A scenic lake that balances the needs of recreational users and the environment
273	Lake Ainsworth has an Ngangbal name, change the name. Provide natural in and outflows. Register as an Aboriginal Place.
274	Better access and amenities e.g paths, bbqs, toilets. Similar to the work that has been completed in East Ballina.
275	Pedestrian area only, with improved space picnic area in size and amenity, whilst still having a plan for nature preservation.
276	I would just like to see the lake still being used and healthy.
277	No changes to access
278	A beautiful healthy green space for people to enjoy

**Table 22: Open-ended responses provided for Question 21: And finally, is there any other information you wish to provide to the study team? Please provide details below. For any attachments or files, please contact the study team via the project webpage (the web address is provided at the end of this survey).**

No.	Responses
1	Also the necessary research work needs to be done asap to ascertain the size/quantity of the Bass Fish stock in Lake Ainsworth as the fish would be contributing to the nutrient levels in the lake, water and in turn would be a factor contributing to algal bloom problems.
2	You could perhaps put a lovely "Tea House" somewhere around the lake close to the boardwalk at the other end. Something old and beautiful that is in keeping with the landscape
3	Please close the eastern road of the lake. Please restore and preserve this ecosystem to the full extent possible. thank you
4	It is very important that Council inform the public about access for disability -the details, because some misguided people think that when eastern road closes they wont have wheelchair access to the eastern foreshore. Please explain clearly re: access paths
5	What have other regulatory bodies e.g. LGA done to control dog behavior and litter in public spaces. This would be helpful to research

No.	Responses
6	Many recommendations from expert consultants over the years say close eastern road so please do it NOW.
7	The council needs to focus on road safety between the pub and the lake. Pacific parade is dangerous in summer due to poor roadside parking on Pacific Pde. The parking near shelter is poor and the road is too narrow. Fix the road rather than the lake as a priority
8	I work in Lennox a couple of days a week and if I knew that parking wouldn't be an issue I would buy lunch in the town and spend more time at the lake
9	Parking is insufficient even with new southern road done on weekends, not even holiday time yet
10	There is already a major parking problem before the Eastern Road is closed. Cars parked up every street - even since the new southern end has been sealed and parking provided. Still not even holiday time and on sundays and sat it is overcrowded with cars
11	Along the Eastern Road: I use the lake frequently and have seen a few near misses with small children but also tired adults lugging gear to their cars. They rarely check to see if anyone is backing out.
12	I would like to let you know that I have been swimming in the lake for over 30 years or so now except during the colder months. I don't go near the place over xmas, new year due to the crowds and dirty water. I feel it is well enough left alone except for a bit of upkeep around the foreshore, the local residents association are the ones that keep it clean
13	I used the rope swings for 10 years without injuring myself. Teach people to take responsibility for their own stupidity!
14	Lake Ainsworth is a very welcoming place but when having a day trip there kids from 5-18 might get bored. Add slides or even a aqua park
15	Is it possible to have an in-water shade structure? Same thing near the shore in the shallows for little kids to help lessen the need for use of sunscreen? I'm happy to minimise my own use of sunscreen but worry about my younger daughter so I always put sunscreen on her.
16	The rope swings were up for over a decade, they became a part of the lake, people came to the lake just for them. They are fun and a great way to keep fit and enjoy the lake. They are local tourist attraction! They need to be put back up!
17	I'll send a few photos through over the next few days:)
18	This survey is excellent. I suggest you hold meetings, with photos, film and diagrams etc. to inform more people. [Additional personal information removed].
19	Please listen to those people who aren't caught up in the hype of save-the-road, their arguments are based on self-interest eg. convenience re parking; it's clear they are ignoring the information made about the improvement works.
20	Please inform dog walkers re the new arrangements for their access to beach. Council is not good at community information, rely too much on their web, should get out there and talk with people + leaflets in letterboxes.
21	Between 1967 and 1982 as Shire Engineer I was responsible for the Lake's welfare. Whoever is responsible now should be ashamed of themselves.
22	A boom gate could be used to close the road between 8am and 5pm at peak holiday times but please leave the road open in the evenings and 24 hours a day in non holiday times
23	hate to say it, this the council has an agenda and you wont change it. its called window dressing, been there done that before,
24	"I am part of FOLA so feel competent to comment on the litter around the lake.
25	I row a kayak c.3 times a week and swim in summer unless the blue-green algae situation is intolerable.
26	I listened attentively to all the arguments re closing the eastern road before deciding I prefer it to remain open, based mostly on the fact that water quality would not improve by closing it.
27	There is a lot more rubbish on the lake's western side, more easily accessed now with the improved road, I often pick it up when kayaking. Lake access on the western side should be curtailed until water quality improves.
28	Council wastes money on beautification without maintaining plants, etc. FOLA members undertook to water plants in the new car park opposite the surf club, as Council was not doing it. There was no hose and no tap to do this. We had to carry buckets from taps on the lake side or keep the caravan park outside shower button depressed to fill buckets. Most of us are retired people so heavy lifting was onerous so we discontinued the watering.
29	confrontation of lake offenders, as an individual, is distasteful as offenders are often belligerent when confronted. A ranger could prevent this and maybe even raise revenue through fines. He/she could run classes to educate visitors and locals on protection of the lake and environs."
30	"Can the council guarantee that the development of the west road area is not to make things easier for a sub division to the west and south west of the lake with a future road connecting through to the Byron/ Ballina road?"
31	From all the scientific data from the universities, the closure of the east road and the subsequent change of the road will cause more problems to the lake and its eco systems. Replacement of car parking hasn't been carried forth before this is scheduled to occur, so there will cause more problems for lake users and residents living in the area close to the caravan park area. Of course, a solution to close the park and use it for parking could be an option! (most unlikely though)
32	We still don't know why council deliberately allowed such foreshore erosion to occur when they've had funds allocated to them to upkeep this."
33	Leave it alone - AGAIN.
34	This is OUR Heritage

No.	Responses
35	We are collecting a portfolio of ideas for effective yet simple signage to better inform this aspect of yhe planning and are hopeful that we can be a part of the process to develop signs
36	Access for small sailing boats is important as it is a safe area to introduce young children to the sport A sport that can open doors worldwide for its participants
37	I have heard rumour of closure of the road to Sport and rec- this would be a big concern as it offers great access to lake , picnic areas and many parking spaces.
38	Nil
39	No
40	When I was a kid growing up here, Lake Ainsworth would naturally get flushed out every 18 months or so via storms. It would burst through the sand dunes run into the lake and back out again, then naturally seal itself back up again. I feel this really helped manage the lake to keep it clean, once the dunes were regenerated by landcare this phenomenom doesnt happen and with the over use of the lake, foreshore erosion and reed degeradation we have loved this Lake to death.
41	Listen to the majority not the minority!!!! This is demonstrated by 4369 signed letters asking to keep that road open including a Minister and senate representative that said it is ludicrous to shut that road.
42	This summer we have seen traffic banked up all the way through town bumper to bumper trying to get to the lake. It's so popular with families from all over that people need to understand they are living her to death.
43	People both local and tourists need to respect the lake. Especially in tourism season
44	This will not be any easy task..Lennox is getting very busy and overcrowded more times than not. In respect to the development in and around Lennox in future years this will have to be seriously regulated and a population cap of its surrounds would have looked at seriously. The issue of one way traffic flow through the Main Street is a precursor of what is in store for the town...more population, housing, car parking and infrastructure will be needed all against a town ship that due to its location and geography is hemmed in. The rugby / sports ground in the middle of town will have to be looked at in future infrastructure planning as well as the caravan park near the lake. It will be a thankless task, but with the development planned for Cumbulum and associated areas this will create more pressure on Lennox.
45	No.
46	No
47	Keep the eastern road open
48	This lik to a bird observatory with educational info on wildlife. <a href="https://www.alamy.com/stock-photo-observatory-in-the-natural-park-of-lake-vico-in-lazio-23892077.html?pv=1&amp;stamp=2&amp;imageid=3A67E46E-9D61-4632-B5A0-6988E9A18626&amp;p=39665&amp;n=0&amp;orientation=0&amp;pn=1&amp;searchtype=0&amp;lsFromSearch=1&amp;srch=foo%3dbar%26st%3d0%26pn%3d1%26ps%3d100%26sortby%3d2%26resultview%3dsortbyPopular%26npgs%3d0%26qt%3dbird%2520watching%2520hut%26lic%3d3%26mr%3d0%26pr%3d0%26ot%3d0%26creative%3d%26ag%3d0%26hc%3d0%26pc%3d%26blackwhite%3d%26cutout%3d%26tbar%3d1%26et%3d0x00000000000000000000000000000000%26vp%3d0%26loc%3d0%26imgt%3d0%26dtfr%3d%26dto%3d%26size%3d0xFF%26archive%3d1%26groupid%3d%26pseudoid%3d%26a%3d%26cid%3d%26cdsr%3d%26name%3d%26qn%3d%26apalib%3d%26apalic%3d%26lightbox%3d%26qname%3d%26gtype%3d%26xstx%3d0%26simid%3d%26saveQry%3d%26editorial%3d1%26nu%3d%26t%3d%26edoptin%3d%26customgeoip%3d%26cap%3d1%26cbstore%3d1%26vd%3d0%26lb%3d%26fi%3d2%26edrf%3d%26ispremium%3d1%26flip%3d0%26pl%3d">https://www.alamy.com/stock-photo-observatory-in-the-natural-park-of-lake-vico-in-lazio-23892077.html?pv=1&amp;stamp=2&amp;imageid=3A67E46E-9D61-4632-B5A0-6988E9A18626&amp;p=39665&amp;n=0&amp;orientation=0&amp;pn=1&amp;searchtype=0&amp;lsFromSearch=1&amp;srch=foo%3dbar%26st%3d0%26pn%3d1%26ps%3d100%26sortby%3d2%26resultview%3dsortbyPopular%26npgs%3d0%26qt%3dbird%2520watching%2520hut%26lic%3d3%26mr%3d0%26pr%3d0%26ot%3d0%26creative%3d%26ag%3d0%26hc%3d0%26pc%3d%26blackwhite%3d%26cutout%3d%26tbar%3d1%26et%3d0x00000000000000000000000000000000%26vp%3d0%26loc%3d0%26imgt%3d0%26dtfr%3d%26dto%3d%26size%3d0xFF%26archive%3d1%26groupid%3d%26pseudoid%3d%26a%3d%26cid%3d%26cdsr%3d%26name%3d%26qn%3d%26apalib%3d%26apalic%3d%26lightbox%3d%26qname%3d%26gtype%3d%26xstx%3d0%26simid%3d%26saveQry%3d%26editorial%3d1%26nu%3d%26t%3d%26edoptin%3d%26customgeoip%3d%26cap%3d1%26cbstore%3d1%26vd%3d0%26lb%3d%26fi%3d2%26edrf%3d%26ispremium%3d1%26flip%3d0%26pl%3d</a>
49	No
50	No
51	Greater emphasis on sustainability for the future of the lake, no band aids or quick fixes.
52	I would like an area that allows dogs to swim.
53	good, see lake ainsworth as a park
54	Dont change it please
55	It is fundamental to make sure that the visitor knows the importance of the environment and how to deal with it. Increase the vegetation around will ensure less impact on water quality
56	If parking is further away, good pathways are essential. A high profile "keep the lake clean" campaign
57	No
58	Only that not living in Lennox should not disqualify opinions from outside the shire. I can no longer afford to live in Ballina shire as housing has increased exponentially since I was 20 let alone a child. A lot of people from outside Lennox use the lake, and not just day trippers from qld, local people that have been pushed out of living in Lennox or Ballina or Evans because popularity has risen so dramatically in the last 20 years but we will travel from cheaper areas like Lismore Coraki or Casino to give our kids the beautiful experience of living on the far north coast ☹️ □
59	No. For me it's completely inaccessible.
60	Add a concept of really protecting the healthiest part of the woods/tree clumps. Add quiet zones where no rowing or water craft motors are allowed so aquatic creatures can be less disturbed. Many visitors arrived briefly and quickly depart so make that easy and accessible with loos. Pretty porous paving preferred for bikes, dogwalks, strollers and wheelchairs/sticks. thanks
61	Please email me if you have any questions or if anyone would like to lend me a nice camera so I can document the many infrastructure issues here in Lennox. I'd be up to helping out in any capacity, really. Cheers big ears.

No.	Responses
62	N/A
63	Without the environmental values, lake ainsworth does not have community values. We need to improve and protect the key environmental values which make the place special to the community.
64	NO
65	No thank you
66	Go back to the dredging foreshore frequency before the degradation. We have lived here 30 years - why let it get to this drama when maintenance aka, maintaining a beautiful natural facility would not have degraded.
67	We have been visiting/holidaying in Lennox Head for around 25 years and find that there are a group of new residents who want to close off the lake to visitors as much as possible so they can have it to themselves. I have every year cleaned up the foreshore after New Years Day and Australia Day - yes I know there is a lot of rubbish left but this is just one day or two - this very vocal group usually arrives to clean up with their own rubbish and place photos of themselves on facebook doing the clean up - it is always cleaned up before they arrive - by Council but mostly by holiday makers from the caravan park who want to assist in helping - doing their bit for where they holiday.
68	No
69	I am yet to meet a person in lennox head who wants the road to the sport and rec camp closed. It must be a very small number of people who want it closed. Council is not acting in the interests of the community if they close the road.
70	No
71	.
72	I would like to be actively involved in the lakes healthy future !
73	Some older Lennox Head residents swim the lake up and back daily. It is a national, nay, world treasure and icon. It should stay that way!
74	Leave the Lake alone
75	I feel very sad about the proposed changes to Lake Ainsworth. I am not the only local resident who has been living here for 60 years or more, and most of us came because of the lake. Now that I am old and less mobile I will never be able to swim in or park by the lake after the proposed changes are finished. Lennox Head is being swamped by more and more people - "the next Byron Bay" - that says it all, really - very sad. This new lake plan has been forced onto the silent majority by people who are recent arrivals and people who don't even live here [personal example deleted]
76	General concerns: health of lake compromised by dogs swimming and defecating near edge of lake when 'rinsed off' by their owners. People drinking and leaving bottles, cigarette butts on the edge of the lake. Thanks you!
77	Why were the reeds , the natural filtration systems removed years ago and never replaced?
78	please dont develop the west side of the Lake. Leave it or rehab the west side to as natural a landscape as you can to ensure only those determined to have a more natural and intrepid experience go there. Not the masses
79	Manage erosion/ litter and leave the rest
80	no
81	.
82	I believe in climate change, and that there will be sea level rise in the future. However, I don't see much use in attempts to plan to mitigate against it for Lake Ainsworth. It is a beautiful lake, but sea level rise is going to change/obliterate it at some point, so I believe that whatever we do in developing or conserving it is for a limited time only.
83	"Although I now live in Melbourne , I am in lennox head about every 6 weeks The family own 3 properties Elderly relatives live in them
84	Houses have been in the family for 3 generations
85	I am appalled at the loss of the village atmosphere and the row of starch white white houses in Pacific Parade near the corner of Lennox street
86	I am concerned the lake Ainsworth re do will a last century fix u"
87	No
88	No
89	Yes, the Council have committed many breaches. One being collusion and also most importantly Conflict of Interest
90	I absolutely love this lake as it helps with my skin and my children as we have eczema and it's such a natural relief for our skin without causing damage to us.
91	Our Lake is one of the jewels of Lennox. We have loved it to death too long. The Southern and Eastern precinct programme currently in place is the first step in rectifying the damage while affording better and safer people access. We need to look around the world at other vulnerable, much loved locations to identify best management practice for the natural environment and the increasing numbers of users. There are a large number of vocal individuals in the area who still think we are living in the 1970s and obviously have never opened up their eyes to management of other over loved sites in this region, Australia and overseas.
92	n/a
93	No



No.	Responses
94	Lennox Head could look into hearing the town around bike riders. Once the path from Skennars to Lennox is put in we will have people from Ballina coming in for the day. The town is already such an epic place to ride a bike. Let's find ways to encourage it more!
95	Please keep the lake as beautiful and not over crowded as lennox is getting so busy the lake needs to retain its beauty - thank you
96	"A well-constructed survey. Well done.
97	Let's hope that, after the bickering stops and the necessary work is done, our lake will become a pristine environment for our present and future enjoyment."
98	I don't object to the road closure, but I do suspect it is being done for reasons other than what we are being told. [Additional personal comments deleted]
99	no one would be aware of this one--there are freshwater catfish in the lake--they need to be eradicated--they are very dangerous if ya get spiked in the foot for example--see i know this fact and all the other experts and council boffins have no idea about this fact--how sad
100	No
101	Thanks for creating such a great survey, for listening to the community and for helping to keep Lake Ainsworth such a special place.
102	get on with it !!!!
103	The best outcome for the healthy survival of our Lake is correct the problems now carefully balance the people and the nature
104	I would love it if there was an area around the lake that was dog friendly so that I could share the space with my four-legged friends.
105	The western side of the lake needs to be preserved as a more natural area with less human involvement which would destroy the vegetation and leave rubbish. People are concerned about the western road being tarred and opened up to more public access to the lake on this side. People are also concerned that the council have another agenda re opening up of that side of the lake to development and this is the first step in that process.
106	.
107	I would like to see all old paper bark trees remain along the road
108	The lake like our little town has limits if we are to maintain the valued seaside town character of our place. Change for the sake of growth & reacting to developers & commercial interests after big bucks will kill our golden goose as sure as it killed all those lovely towns all along the coast. Development doesn't need to destroy character, local amenity or the reasons we live here in the first place.
109	Why do a study after the decision to close the eastern road, it should have been done before
110	Please leave the areas around the lake in a more relaxed state and don't make it too regimented. We like it to be a casual place to visit and not have too many man made features like paths, bbqs and tables.
111	I have had many great times at Lake Ainsworth especially when you could float around at a BBQ with a beer in hand. solved many of the worlds problems doing this. happy for alcohol to be restricted on some public holidays or managed.
112	Well done
113	No
114	The Lake is critical to the Lennox Surf Club. The surf club is the most important institution in Lennox Head providing a critical resource for our children and for surf life saving. The club values access to the Lake for training hugely. Don't let the half wits in the Council screw this up
115	Congratulations to the councillors for their vision and dedication despite misinformed opposition
116	None
117	Additionally, showers would be an advantage, and signage encouraging sun safe swimwear rather than sunscreen during periods of high use.
118	No
119	The sad thing is that this important and sensitive environment is at the mercy of land managers who have a proven record of environmental vandalism. It would be great to see the management taken out of the hands of Ballina Council and given to a more ethical and competent management authority.
120	A most needed study - looking forward to results and recommendations