

ADOPTION OF THE BLUEWATER SPECIAL CHARGE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2026/27

F&BS | 63/2/14-01 | #7840282

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27.

INTERESTED PARTIES:

Ratepayers of properties within the Bluewater estate with canal frontages
Ratepayers of properties in Riverside Parade with canal frontages
Bluewater Marina
Yorkeys Knob Boat Club

Note: The identification of interested parties is provided on a best endeavours basis by Council Officers and may not be exhaustive.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides a summary of the actions required in adopting the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27.

Council is required to preserve, maintain and keep clean any canal within its area including access channels, in accordance with section 121 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*.

Council must have an overall plan for each special rate or charge. An overall plan is a document that sets out the estimated costs, timeframe and nature of the activity to be provided. It also identifies the rateable land to which the special charges are to be applied. On 30 June 2021 Council adopted the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Overall Plan 2021/22 - 2030/31.

Each financial year, Council is required to adopt an annual implementation plan for the special rate or charge. An annual implementation plan is a document that sets out the actions and processes that are to be carried out in the current financial year for the activity to which the special rates or charges apply.

The Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27 is to undertake the following actions as required:

- dredging of the Bluewater Canal, Half Moon Creek and Offshore Channel, including spoil disposal;
- maintenance of channel markers and lights;
- hydrographic surveys; and
- administration and project management of the dredging program.

It is recommended that Council resolves to adopt the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27.

BACKGROUND:

Council is required to adopt an annual implementation plan for each special charge each financial year. The annual implementation plan describes how the overall plan for the special rate or charge will be executed in the financial year.

OPTIONS:

Option 1 (recommended):

That Council adopts the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27.

Option 2:

That Council suggests changes be made to the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:

Adoption of the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan is in accordance with Sections 92 and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and Section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*

CONSULTATION:

Preston Law were consulted regarding the documentation and processes required for adopting the Special Charge for the Bluewater Canal Dredge.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27 (#7840279)



Jason Ritchie
Executive Manager Finance



Lisa Whitton
Chief Financial Officer



**Bluewater Canal Special Charge
Annual Implementation Plan
2026/27**

1. Overall Plan

Cairns Regional Council adopted an Overall Plan for levying a special charge upon rateable land for the dredging of Bluewater Canal, Half Moon Creek and Offshore Channel on 30 June 2021.

The Overall Plan specifies that:

- a. The rateable land to which the special charge applies is specified in Attachment 1;
- b. The activity for which the Overall Plan is made is the dredging and maintenance of Bluewater Canal, Half Moon Creek and Offshore Channel specified in Attachment 2 and providing for as the major elements:
 - dredging of the Bluewater Canal, Half Moon Creek and Offshore Channel, including spoil disposal;
 - maintenance of channel markers and lights;
 - hydrographic surveys; and
 - management and administration of the dredging and maintenance program, including obtaining required permits and contractor evaluation and selection;
- c. The time for implementing the Overall Plan is ten (10) years, beginning on 1 July 2021 and ending on 30 June 2031; and
- d. The estimated cost of implementing the Overall Plan was \$8.2M across the ten (10) year period after allowing for contributions of \$0.3M from the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

2. Annual Implementation Plan 2026/27

2.1. Action

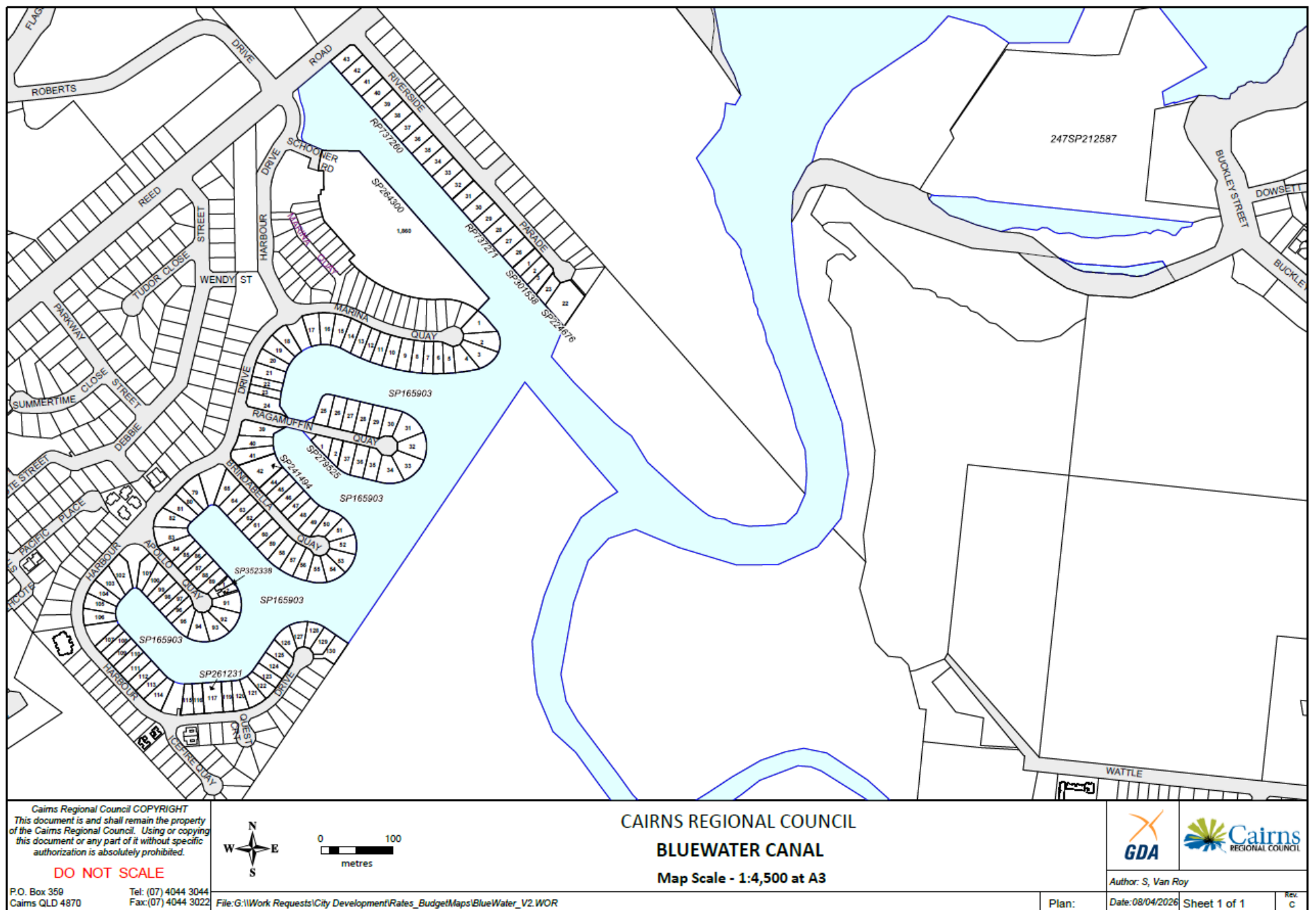
The Annual Implementation Plan for the 2026/27 financial year is to undertake the following actions and processes as required:

- a. the dredging of Zone A, Zone B and Zone C as shown in Attachment 2, including spoil disposal;
- b. maintenance of channel markers and lights;
- c. obtaining hydrographic surveys; and
- d. management and administration of the dredging and maintenance program.

Attachment 1:

The special charge applies to the following parcels of rateable land:

Lot	Plan
Lots 1 to 37	SP165903
Lots 1 to 2	SP279525
Lots 39 to 41	SP165903
Lots 42	SP241494
Lots 44 to 65	SP165903
Lots 79 to 89	SP165903
Lots 1 to 2	SP352338
Lots 91 to 116	SP165903
Lot 117	SP261231
Lots 119 to 130	SP165903
Lots 22 to 23	SP224676
Lots 1 to 3	SP301538
Lots 26 to 31	RP737271
Lots 32 to 43	RP737260
Lot 1860 (the "Bluewater Marina")	SP264300
Lot 26 (the "Yorkeys Knob Marina")	SP122863



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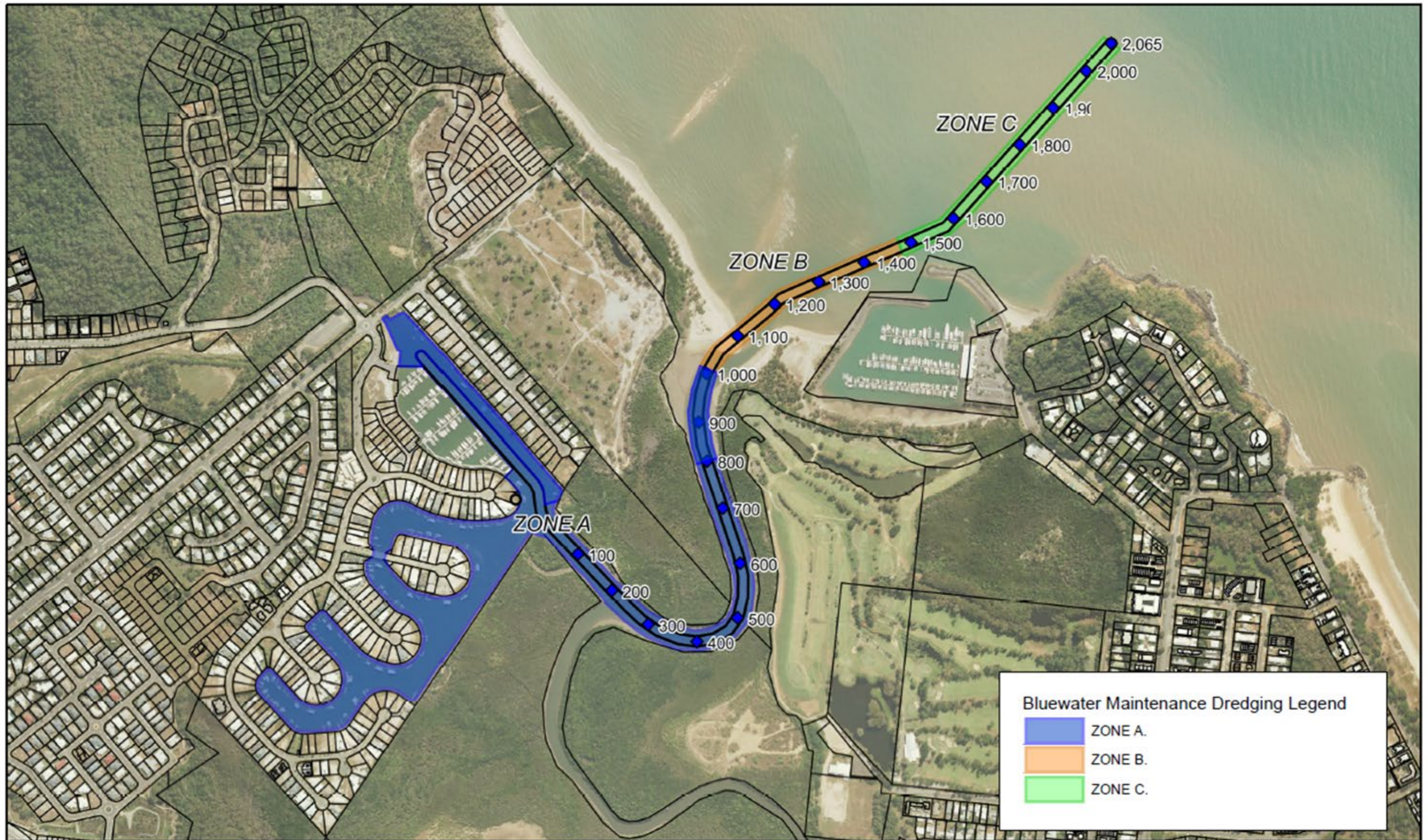


CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
BLUEWATER CANAL
 Map Scale - 1:4,500 at A3

GDA Cairns REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Author: S. Van Roy
 Date: 08/04/2026 Sheet 1 of 1 Rev: c

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Attachment 2: Dredging Area



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CAIRNS REGIONAL COUNCIL
 BLUEWATER MAINTENANCE DREDGING SCHEDULE

Map Scale 1/10000 on A4

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Date: 20/04/21

Author: S, Van Roy



Plan No.
 Sheet B