

**11 November 2020**

## **Recovery Effort at North Head Underway**

The recovery effort following the recent hazard reduction burn breach at North Head is showing promising signs with the first signs of regrowth beginning to emerge.

Since the hazard reduction burn breach and in partnership with the Australian Wildlife Conservancy, recovery efforts have included fencing off the fire ground, rescuing and treating injured animals, creating artificial fauna refuges, installing nesting boxes, feral animal controls and initial bush regeneration works.

To support the recovery efforts and review prevention methods, the Harbour Trust will establish a temporary expert committee to review the recent fire and oversee the regeneration of the local bushland and wildlife.

Once formed, the expert committee is likely to consist of First Nations fire management experts, Government representatives, environment specialists and local and skilled advisors, and will be tasked with developing prevention measures for the future. The committee will also advise on the recovery measures currently being undertaken.

Mary Darwell, Executive Director of the Harbour Trust, said the expert committee will review the breach and provide guidance on how hazard reduction burns can be managed more effectively in the future.

“North Head Sanctuary is a place of rich history and diverse ecology. We hope that by convening this committee, we can achieve a holistic approach to fire management at North Head Sanctuary,” she said.

“Promisingly, we are starting to see the first signs of natural bushland regeneration following the fire with the grass trees, rushes and sedges showing early signs of new growth,” said Ms Darwell.

Closures are still in place at some parts of North Head Sanctuary. These include the Gun Emplacements, the Australia’s Memorial Walk, Avenue of Honour and Hanging Swamp track. The closures will stay in place until the areas are made safe, tracks are repaired and the regenerating bushland is sufficiently protected.

For more information and to follow Harbour Trust updates, please visit the Harbour Trust website.

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