



Sustainable Snowies

Litter Prevention Strategy

2021

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Executive Summary



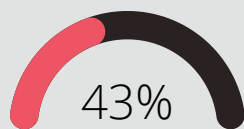
To date, no comprehensive strategy focused on litter prevention has been developed for the Snowy Mountains. **Litter prevention efforts for the region have been frequent but have lacked a shared strategic vision.** This strategy contains the framework to facilitate an ongoing collaborative approach to litter prevention.

This Strategy and its accompanying Action Plan aims to **reduce the amount of litter in the Snowy Mountains** by developing a compelling business case presenting evidence that litter is an issue in the region, providing a comprehensive list of recommendations to implement and to set up the framework for an ongoing cohesive and measurable strategy towards litter prevention in the region.

This strategy and the recommendations made, are based on; litter audits, historical litter data, researching impacts litter have on the environment and the community, consulting with the community and stakeholders about the common litter issues and hot spot litter locations within the region.

The Snowy Mountains region contains **a community dedicated to litter prevention.** This is evident through the support the community shows to the frequent local clean up events. This strategy aims to encourage each aspect of litter prevention as to not solely rely on clean ups from a community that are passionate caretakers of their local area as the main form of litter prevention.

At a state level litter prevention is expanding and evolving and becoming an increasingly higher profile issue.



Reduction in litter since 2015



NSW Government support of Litter Prevention Programs and NSW Plastics Action Plan

These government initiatives and the research presented in this project have provided the foundations for successful implementation of this strategy.

Strategy outcomes are based on the key litter prevention mechanisms; infrastructure, cleanliness, involvement, enforcement and education and awareness. These mechanisms in combination with the EPA's "Own it and Act" assessment tool (Leadership, Commitment, Permission and Process) are key enablers for a functional group.

These concepts have provided the framework for suggested projects and protocols outlined in the Action plan. It offers practical examples about how litter can be addressed in the region and how the group can harness the value of collaboration to have lasting impacts for the benefit of litter prevention in the Snowy Mountains.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommendations have been developed by understanding the key components of the litter journey and **combining this knowledge with the research and feedback obtained at a local and regional scale.**

Introduction

Sustainable Snowies is a group of local stakeholders that formed in 2019 from business, government and community in the NSW Snowy Mountains region. The participating partners have worked together for many years on initiatives such as Straw-free Snowies, Boomerang Bags, Clean Up Australia Day, Lakeside Scavenge and the 'Snowside Clean Up'. The group's mission statement is:

"Foster improved sustainability within the Snowy Mountains by building partnerships between local businesses, government and community and developing environmental projects that benefit the region socially and economically".

Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Sustainable Snowies members to provide formal acknowledgement of the partnership in developing a Litter Prevention Strategy for the Snowy Mountains.



Litter prevention strategy mission statement:

Our mission is to reduce the amount of litter within the Snowy Mountains by utilising the learnings from research-based projects, harnessing the ability for key stakeholders to collaborate on litter prevention initiatives and ultimately to preserve the area's unique natural assets which will in turn improve the local and tourist experience.



Background

The Snowy Mountains are beautiful, unique, and diverse. It is an ancient landscape that has seen many changes in climate and landscape. For over 20,000 years it has been the home of the Ngarigo, Walgalu, Bidawal and Southern Ngunnawal people. Today the area supports a vibrant, diverse and rapidly expanding community with a population of just over 35,000 people, with 1.3 million visitors to the region each year¹. The population in Jindabyne can triple during the winter season mainly due to tourist influx.

The physical scope of this project is located on the traditional lands of the Ngarigo, Walgalu, Bidawal and Southern Ngunnawal people. This strategy and the Sustainable Snowies community group recognise the Ngarigo, Walgalu, Bidawal and Southern Ngunnawal people as the native custodians of the land and encourages a collaborative relationship with traditional landowners.

Many tourists visit the region each year, mainly to enjoy the four ski resorts. However, mountain biking is also becoming an extremely popular attraction due to the large number and variety of world-class tracks on offer. Other attractions include bush walking, running, fishing, elite sporting events, boating, horse riding and camping. The Snowy Monaro region includes a number of National Parks and nature reserves, with protected areas making up 26.9% of the total area of the Snowy Monaro Regional Council LGA², which complements the listed outdoor activities.

1. Jindabyne Community Statement, April 2019 (nsw.gov.au).

2. Snowy Monaro Regional Council - Waste Management Strategy.



Management of large numbers of people in a fragile and beautiful environment can create many challenges for the government, businesses, and the local community.

Through funding from the EPA Community Litter Grants program, extensive research has been carried out to determine historical and current litter volumes and patterns in the Snowy Mountains. Through litter audits and surveys of community members and stakeholders, it has been observed that one of the biggest environmental challenges faced by the region is management of litter.³

This strategy provides insights and confirmation of these long-suspected but mainly anecdotal observations about litter. This research, along with insights gained from community and stakeholder consultation, will inform an overarching framework for building a long-term Litter Prevention Strategy for the region.

3. Tourists cause almost 40% spike in plastic entering the Mediterranean Sea each summer | WWF



Sustainable Snowies key stakeholders involved in the litter prevention strategy.

The following stakeholders are key to the success of this strategy and have been heavily involved in its development. The table below summarises their involvement in litter prevention and Sustainable Snowies to date.

INVOLVEMENT IN LITTER PREVENTION	KEY STAKE-HOLDERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist in organising roadside “don’t be a tosser” signage and infrastructure throughout the Monaro Highway and Kosciuszko Road rest stops. 	Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPA grant recipient on behalf of Sustainable Snowies. 	Jindabyne Chamber of Commerce (CoC)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal litter clean ups. In kind support given to Lakeside Scavenge. 	Kosciuszko Thredbo (Thredbo)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal litter clean ups. Yearly litter prevention advertising. 	National Parks and Wildlife Services – Southern Ranges Branch (NPWS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal litter clean ups. Support given to Lakeside Scavenge events. Epic Promise Day. 	Perisher Blue Pty Ltd (Perisher)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement and support EPA litter prevention roadside “Don’t be a tosser” program. Support for local litter events and community groups. Received NSW Govt grant to fund local litter event Spring into Scavenge Jindabyne – April 2021. Provide local community litter groups the opportunity to apply and receive funding to continue their efforts. Host community engagement information stalls to educate the community about litter initiatives. 	Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC)

Purpose of this Document

This document aims to provide key stakeholders with the opportunity to establish a pathway to support the systematic reduction of litter in the Snowy Mountains using recommended evidence based mechanisms. It will also outline the framework to ensure long term coordinated litter prevention outcomes in a documented and replicable manner, benefitting future litter prevention measures in the area.

Goals

The following lists the outcomes that this Strategy will deliver:

- Develop a compelling, well-researched strategy for litter prevention in the Snowy Mountains region, that can be actionable for all stakeholders involved.
- Discover the litter problems in the area with measurements using a holistic approach of collecting and summarising data and common metrics, including audits, feedback, research, and consultation.
- Develop a supporting document, the “Litter Prevention Action Plan”.
- Develop the framework for a strategy that ensures a high level of collaboration for litter prevention projects that can be documented and measured to ensure longevity of the strategy or transferred to commensurate projects.
- Provide recommended litter prevention methods to key stakeholders where appropriate, to engage and educate the community, grant permissions or fund the implementation of signage or infrastructure which are outlined in the Litter Prevention Action Plan.

Scope

The physical scope of this report sits within the Snowy Mountains region, with key locations being Jindabyne, Perisher, Thredbo, and surrounds. This strategy will address the elements of effective litter prevention and the need for implementing measures on a cooperative basis involving key stakeholders, the local community, and businesses throughout this region. To support this scope the strategy is underpinned by an assessment of the state of litter in the Snowy Mountains and a monitoring and evaluation framework for Sustainable Snowies to record the outcomes of the stated recommendations.

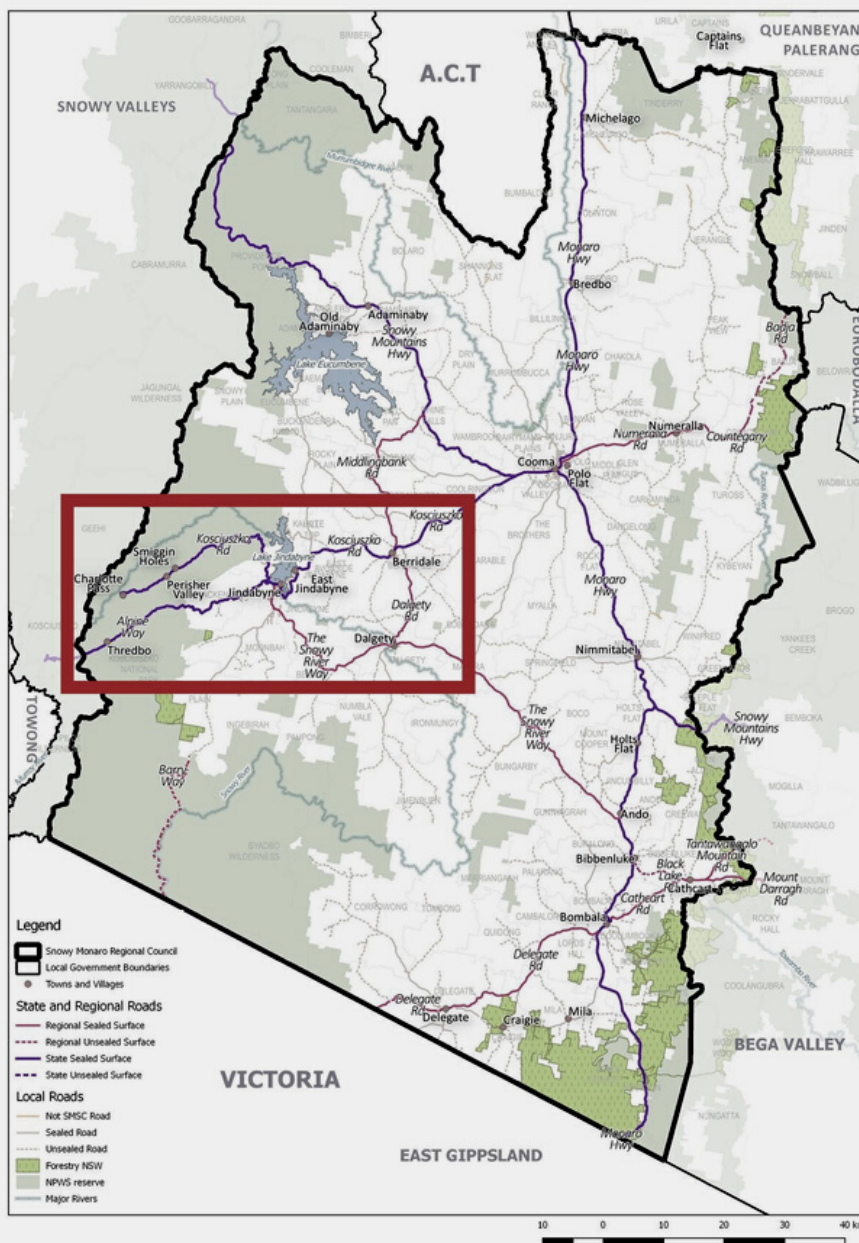


Figure 1 Physical scope of project

The project's physical scope excludes the areas of the Snowy Mountains outside the above locations and their surroundings, at this stage. The assumptions of this strategy are that it will provide a compelling case for the relevant stakeholders and potential funding bodies to commit to a localised litter prevention strategy. It endeavours to inform a long-term litter strategy that is achievable for the Sustainable Snowies group. The constraints of this strategy relies on having support from stakeholders for years to come.

Litter Prevention in the Snowy Mountains



To date, no comprehensive strategy focused on litter prevention has been developed for the Snowy Mountains. Efforts from government bodies like EPA, CRJO, local council, as well as not for profit and community group initiatives have been pursued within the region but have lacked a shared strategic vision. Whilst each project has value, collectively they have lacked cohesion and the ability to document outcomes. This strategy aims to assess past efforts and take on the concepts that have been successful, to ultimately provide a strategy that the community and stakeholders will support.

The Impact of Litter


Litter collections are frequently conducted by the community through various organised events such as Lakeside Scavenge and Clean up Australia day. From these events data has been collected after each event to quantify the effort the community puts into collecting litter, listed below are weights of each event over the last three years.

Table 1 Summary of measured litter clean in ups conducted 2019-2021

EVENT	AMOUNT OF LITTER COLLECTED	PARTICIPANTS
Lakeside Scavenge 2019	570kg	101
Lakeside Scavenge 2021	95kg	78
Clean Up Aus Day 2021	200kg	20
Clean Up Thredbo Business Day 2021	22 Clean Up Bags	38
Perisher Valley Spring Clean Up Day	500-1000kg*	50

*Yearly average around 500-1000kg





The amount of litter collected at these events reflects the magnitude of the issue: Litter is prevalent across the Snowy Mountains. Additionally, community response shown by their frequent attendance at organised litter clean-up events reflects the overwhelming commitment of the community to litter prevention.

This data in the table above is a snapshot of the litter that has been collected in recent years. The accompanying spreadsheet “Sustainable Snowies Litter Data Summary” provides a detailed overview of all available recorded litter data available for the Snowy Mountains including clean-up results and local litter checks. Missing from the summary is data from community groups such as the ENJO clean-up volunteer group⁴ who frequently conduct unmeasured events due to the informal style of the events.

The evidence provided by the continuous stream of data illustrates that the region needs a long term litter prevention strategy that involves all major stakeholders.

After establishing this strategy that will document these events, these ongoing and measured events will provide an insight into the reduction of litter, which can be communicated and promoted to maintain continual support within the community. These events are an important step in keeping the community engaged in litter reduction along with continued in-kind and financial support from stakeholders to encourage these efforts.

⁴. (1) [ENJO Clean up Jindabyne Volunteer Group | Facebook](#)

Past Litter Prevention Projects



EPA Operation Frostbite - 2016⁵

Operation Frostbite was rolled out in 2016 by the EPA, who worked collaboratively with SMRC and NPWS in the Snowy Mountains region. The project was based around the distribution of “Don’t be a Tosser” campaign signage targeting litter on arterial roads to the ski resorts and on the ski fields of Thredbo and Mt Selwyn, starting as far north as Goulburn.⁶ Additionally, EPA officers undertook education and enforcement campaigns .

Feedback from SMRC representatives noted that the community liked car litter bags, and were easy for the council to distribute but commented that three months was insufficient lead time to prepare for the campaign. Social media messaging was the most prevalent form of campaign messaging. From the stakeholder business feedback only three local businesses responded to the questionnaire indicating limited resources or engagement from the business. Recommendations from the operation revealed banners and car litter bags were highly sought after by council and more face-to-face time was needed with council and local businesses. There were limitations in this signage being used within the ski resorts, due to the Perisher not willing to adopt the EPA “Tosser” messaging.



Figure 2 Operation Frostbite campaign messaging example

5. Appendix 2: Operation Frostbite Stakeholder Engagement Report

6. Don't be a Tosser on the ski fields this winter (nsw.gov.au).

Infrastructure Upgrades to Rest Stops -2020

EPA grant funding received by CRJO in 2020 in collaboration with SMRC to implement “Hey Tosser!” litter prevention tools, such as bins, cigarette bins and clearer signage at rest stops along the Monaro Highway and Kosciusko Road.

The final report⁷ showed that there was a 69% reduction in litter at the rest stop area indicating a useful project in reducing litter in these areas. This project built strong relationships between CRJO and RMS, Council, and NPWS staff and noted that these relationships will be useful for future litter related programs.

The recommendations from this program identified by Robbert Mels (CRJO) was that two cigarette butt bins were stolen throughout the project. Due to the remoteness of the locations, there was no surveillance of the areas and this issue should be considered for similar projects. Also, the type of signage installed needs to be considered. Stickers seemed to only last roughly one year, and now additional, durable bin signage has been purchased to replace them.

Lakeside Scavenge 2017 – to present

Since 2017 Seaside Scavenge has held events in Jindabyne and this year’s event was funded by the NSW Government and The Festival of Place – Summer Fund. Each year roughly 100 participants volunteer to collect litter around Lake Jindabyne. This event is frequently promoted widely through the community mainly via social media. The litter clean-up is incorporated with market stalls, live music, and educational talks to further reach the community.

The results of litter collected, and types of litter collected are relayed back to the community through SMRC’s website and an event report⁸ created by Seaside Scavenge. Each year this provides a level of education that may not have been frequently explained before this event.

Feedback from this year’s scavenge given in the event report was that the time of year that the event impacted the amount of litter and lower engagement of participants. It was noted that the energy and enthusiasm of individuals involved demonstrates eagerness of these events. Additionally, the report also highlights participant feedback, “Feedback from the participants was positive overall, with people appreciating the range of free activities available on the day.”

7. Appendix 3: Final Report – CRJO Monaro Litter Program Report

8. Appendix 4: Event Report – Jindabyne Scavenge

The review from Seaside Scavenge for the 2018 event⁹ provides insight into the quantity of litter found in Jindabyne and the level of engagement seen from the community in comparison to the other scavenges held. In 2017 & 2018 around 750kg of litter has been collected at each event, with 120 and 93 participants respectively. In comparison “An average Scavenge pulls in 200kg with the help of 100 hands”.

The community turn out and effort put into the clean-up highlights the passion the local community has towards Jindabyne and their determination to keep it clean. “Comparing the number of people to the quantity of litter collected with the previous 34 Scavenges, it is safe to say that the people of Jindabyne are by far the keenest and most committed to the cause.”

Current Policy & Commitments

There is strong evidence from stakeholders (including the community, business, organisations, and tourists) within the Snowy Mountains showing their ongoing commitment to litter prevention in the region. Below are examples of the level of involvement taken by key stakeholders.

An example of an existing commitment by the region to reduce litter can be seen with the Kosciuszko National Park (KNP) and the Ski Resort’s Environmental Management Systems (EMS). “An EMS is a tool to help manage an organisation's activities to prevent pollution, protect the environment from the unintended effects of infrastructure and minimise any impacts from operations.”

Commitment from the main stakeholders within the KNP shows that pollution (which encompasses litter) is taken seriously and that litter in the National Park is a key element of managing environmental impacts. An example of how NPWS, Perisher and Thredbo are addressing the issue of litter is by conducting litter clean-up days at the beginning of every spring and throughout the winter season, which highlight the commitment major stakeholders in the region are already making to tackle litter.

9. World Clean-Up Day – 740kg — Seaside Scavenge





Current waste strategies that are relevant to the area such as the Snowy Monaro Regional Council Waste Management Strategy and the CRJO Regional Waste Strategy: 2018 – 2023 note litter reduction as key aspects to the strategy. For example, the CRJO strategy has stated that one of their main themes is to reduce litter by preparing and supporting a Regional Litter Plan. Additionally, reaching the state target of 40% reduction in litter.¹⁰ The SMRC strategy also notes that one of their aims is to “reduce litter in public spaces through education of the community in the importance of litter reduction”.¹¹ This high-level commitment from local council and the Canberra region should influence a specialised commitment for the Snowy Mountains region and should be strongly supported by these organisations.

Litter collections are frequently conducted by the community through various organised events such as Lakeside Scavenge, Clean up Australia day, and ENJO Clean up Jindabyne Volunteer Group show the communities involvement in reducing litter. Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC) are committed to reducing litter through the support of numerous community events as mentioned above, and previously undertaking EPA litter grants in the region, such as the Don’t Be a Tosser campaign Operation Frostbite.

With involvement from major stakeholders already taking place throughout the Snowy Mountains and commitments made at local government level to reduce litter, it is obvious that the community and businesses want to be involved in reducing litter. With the development of Sustainable Snowies litter prevention strategy, it will combine all the individual efforts that have been made to date and lead them in one direction, creating a holistic approach to litter prevention.

¹⁰. [CRJO-Regional-Waste-Strategy-2018-2023.pdf \(nsw.gov.au\)](#)

¹¹. [SMRC Waste Management Strategy](#)

Litter Issue in Context

Visitor perception of litter

Litter can end up in waterways and other natural areas causing a negative impact on the flora and fauna that exist in these areas. Other than this, it is unsightly, which de-values the tourist experience and in turn de-values economic returns from tourism in the region. For example, results from the community consultation surveys collected that stated they were “not local”, all respondents agreed that litter is an important issue to the community and selected locations that are key tourist locations such as Nuggets Crossing, Thredbo, and the Foreshore Park as litter hotspot locations listed in the survey responses.¹²

Whilst the overall maintenance of these areas is generally considered to be a high standard, the impact of litter diminishes a person’s perception of a place that has not been cared for. The images below depict an example at the Banjo Paterson Park showing a well maintained space (Fig 2.), but in the second photo (Fig 3.), on closer inspection there are several items of litter found. This suggests that tourists are noticing litter in these high tourist visitation areas and could negatively impact the location's sense of ownership and community pride.¹³

Figure 3 - Banjo Paterson Park, overall maintenance is generally high



Figure 4 - A closer look at the same location at Banjo Paterson Park identifying litter

12. Appendix 5: Community Consultation - survey responses

13. [Things you should know about litter and litterers \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au).



Impact of litter on the Snowy Mountains ecosystem

The Snowy Mountains is a unique and sensitive environment with a large network of waterways including the iconic Snowy River. “The catchment area of the Snowy River is habitat to native species of 19 native fish species including the River Blackfish and Southern Pygmy Perch and hundreds of native invertebrate species, many of which have not been comprehensively studied.”¹⁴ The Snowy River catchment is listed as an endangered ecological community, meaning the fauna and flora are under threat, emphasising the importance of reducing litter in the Snowy Mountains. The Kosciuszko National Park which encompasses many regions of the Snowy Mountains is nationally and internationally recognised as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve and its six wilderness areas contain plant species unique to the area.¹⁵

The Snowy Mountains are home to a unique variety of animals that can be impacted by litter. The iconic Mountain Pygmy Possum, Broad Toothed Rat, Gang Gang Cockatoo, Guthega Skink and Northern Corroboree frog are all endemic to the area. Litter avoidance in this area is crucial for the maintenance of their fragile habitat. Plastic debris (with the main source derived from littering) has a harmful impact on animals, particularly marine animals, through the injuries that they can suffer from entanglement and ingestion.¹⁶



14. Endangered Ecological Community of the Snowy River Catchment in NSW

15. Snowy Monaro Regional Waste Strategy 2003

16. Impacts of plastic debris on Australian marine wildlife (environment.gov.au)

The impact of plastic ingestion of plastic debris has an array of impacts to the health of the animals, particularly aquatic species. Problems facing fish species such as ingesting toxins from plastics, limiting the amount of food that can be absorbed, and reduced fitness have been observed.¹⁷

The perception of the Snowy Mountains River is widely accepted as a popular fishing spot due to its unspoilt beauty. Whilst specific studies of litter and the presence of micro-plastic have not been studied within the region, the presence of litter and plastic in the Snowy Mountains may impact a visitor perception of the pristine ecosystem, due to the growing knowledge of micro-plastics impacts on waterway ecosystems and potential harm it may cause from the consumption of animals containing plastics.¹⁷

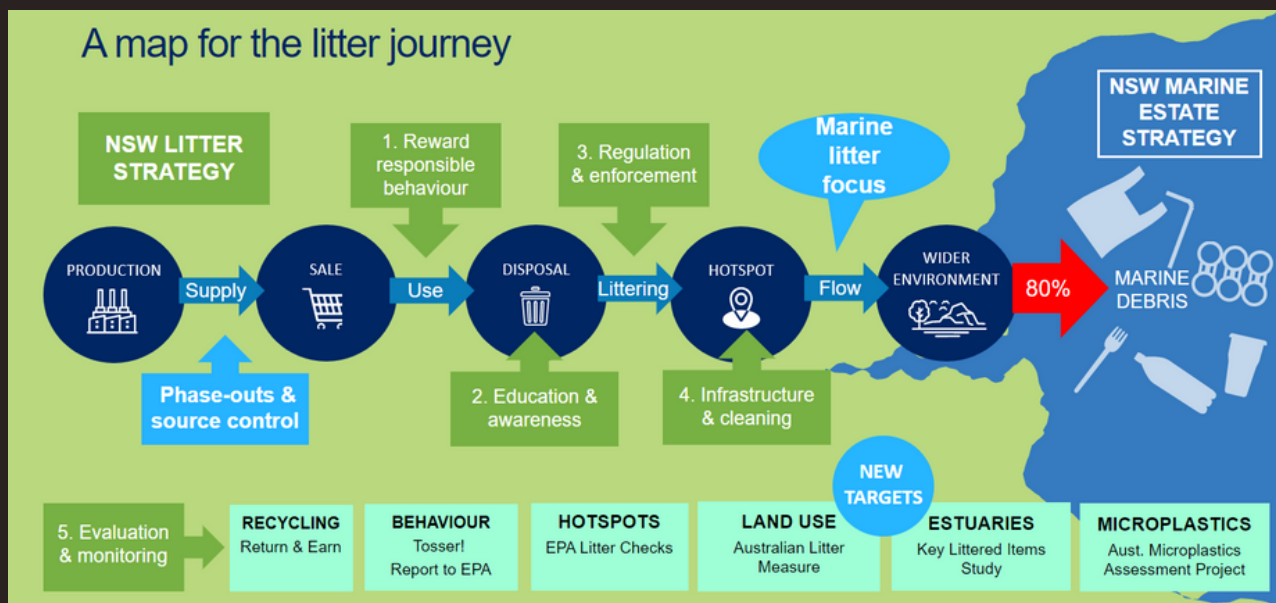


Figure 5 Example of microplastics observed on Lake Jindabyne foreshore

Due to the proximity of the key litter hotspots to highly valued natural environments within the Snowy Mountains, accountability of the source and prevention measures of litter needs to be addressed.

¹⁷. Marine microplastics – Parliament of Australia (aph.gov.au).

Figure 6 Graphic representing how litter makes its way from production into the environment and how this is being addressed by the EPA. Graphic developed by NSW EPA



The Snowy Mountains Community Attitude Towards Litter



98% of respondents to the litter prevention strategy survey strongly agreed, or agreed that litter is an important issue to the community.¹⁸ This is an indisputably high statistic for the affirmative. The community consultation litter prevention strategy survey received 28 in person responses and 67 online responses. The community responses have been valuable in identifying what the community's concerns about litter are and what the community wants to see done to improve litter levels in the area. Out of 10 potential litter hotspot locations listed in the survey the Foreshore Park (16%), Nuggets Crossing carpark (14%) and Old town centre carpark (13%) were the three locations that were highlighted as litter hotspots within the area. These areas are significant to the community due to the high visitation of these sights, the visibility of litter has identified the need for improvement in these areas as the community has indicated their level of concern for litter and are noticing it in these locations.



Figure 7 Sign on Kosciuszko Road into Jindabyne. Winter 2021

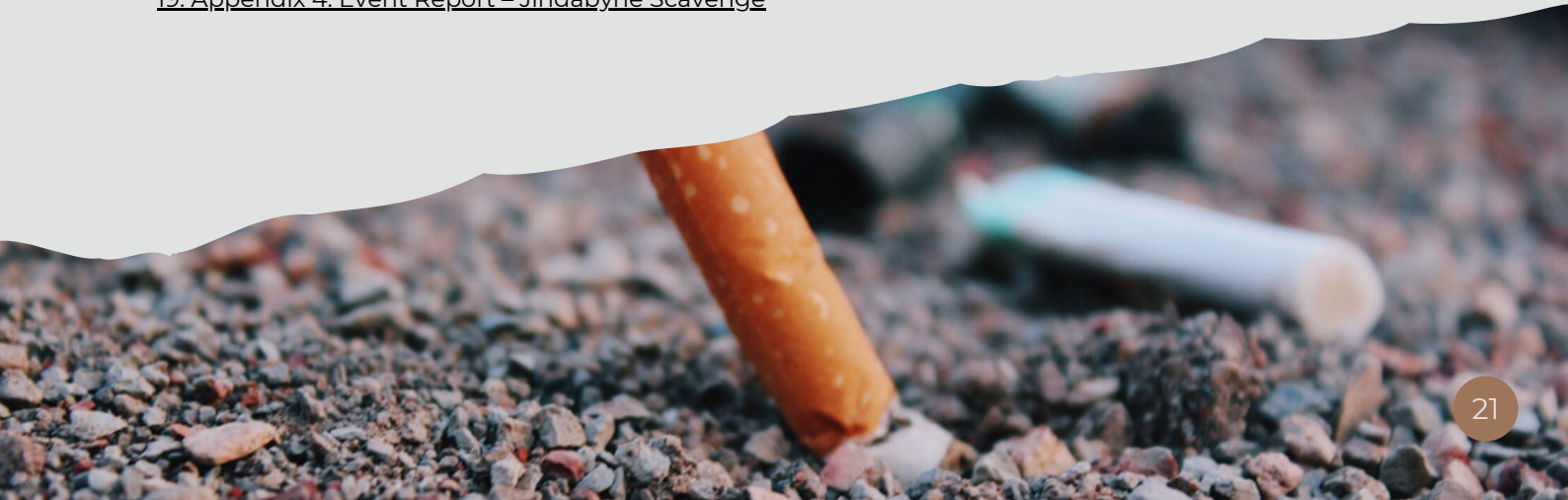
18. Appendix 5: Community Consultation - survey responses

The most frequent litter items noted by the community in the survey were plastic bottles (17%), cigarette butts (13%), and wrappers (13%) correlating with local litter checks, and historical data within the region; see table 1 below. These responses indicate the community's awareness of the items in the identified hotspot litter areas.

2021	2019	2018
53 Participants	101 Participants	93 Participants
Soft Packaging - 464	Soft Packaging - 3452	Soft Packaging - 3237
Tissues / Serviettes - 272	Tissues / Serviettes - 2168	Tissues / Serviettes - 2995
Cardboard / Paper - 237	Cardboard / Paper - 1270	Cardboard / Paper - 1240

Table 2 provides a valuable insight into frequently littered items across the location of the clean-up - Lake Jindabyne foreshore. This is one of the most iconic places within Jindabyne, and the documented clean ups conducted by the Seaside Scavenge group has shown that the mass of litter collected, along with the community's feedback recognises the Foreshore Park as the most noted hotspot in the region. The community's responses noting the most frequently littered items in this area generally correlate with the top 5 littered items in the lakeside scavenge¹⁹ all indicate the need for a strategy focused around the key visited areas. The community is asking for it, and the evidence reveals the high volume of litter.

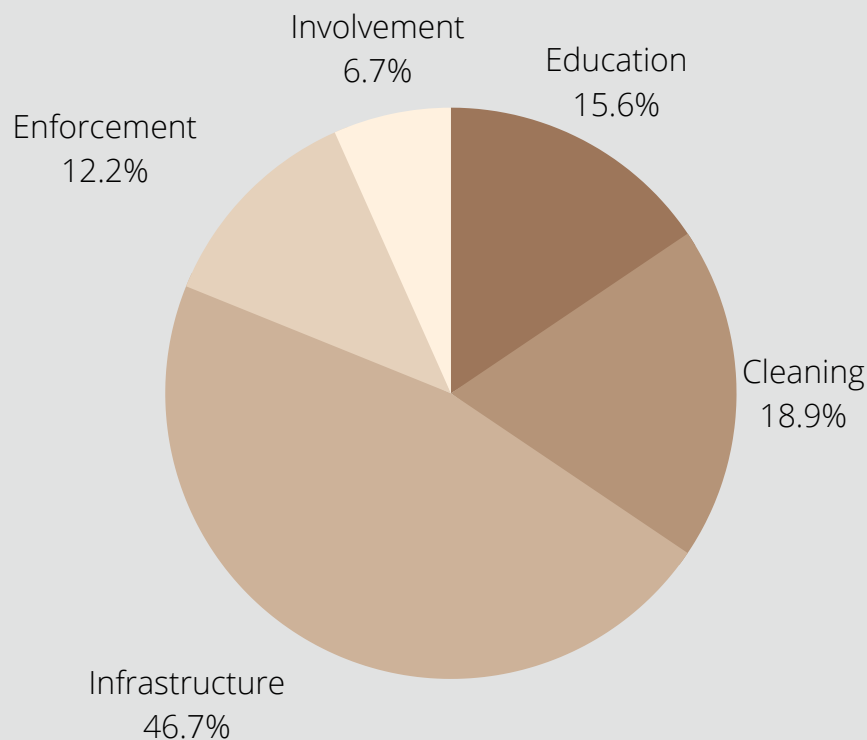
¹⁹. Appendix 4: Event Report – Jindabyne Scavenge



Community understanding and involvement in litter prevention

The community's understanding of delivering a comprehensive strategy that focuses on solutions for litter can be seen from the communities' thoughts on "What can be done to reduce litter in the Snowy Mountains?" Each core prevention strategy (infrastructure, enforcement, involvement, cleaning, and education) for reducing litter has been highlighted by the respondents from the survey. Although, a main theme in the responses revolves around installation of bins in more locations throughout the region.

Figure 8 Summary of the responses from the community survey question "What could be done to reduce litter in these areas?"



Do you have any suggestions on what could be done to reduce litter in these areas?

By identifying each core litter prevention strategy these responses show a community asking for a well-rounded strategy that encompasses a number of concepts. Whilst infrastructure may be the most obvious solution, if that is the solution, an emphasis on research of correct placement and visibility is needed by the responsible stakeholders.

Below are examples of the community responses to the survey that indicate the level of action the community wants to see in the Snowy Mountains to reduce litter.

Table 3 Highlights of the community survey responses to "What could be done to reduce litter in these areas?"

Survey responses: "Do you have any suggestions on what could be done to reduce litter in these areas?"	Core prevention strategy that the comments address
"We need additional bins... plus signage as to where bins are and to put your litter in bins, plus further 'education' of visitors"	Infrastructure/ Education
"1. Stop all takeaway plastic container usage. 2. No more takeaway throw away coffee cups, only green Caffeine cups.	Involvement
"Banks of bins in a well-planned location"	Infrastructure
"More creative/artist signs to encourage people not to litter and especially that this is our DRINKING WATER CATCHMENT."	Involvement / Education
"There needs to be more bins for people to use. The council invites people to use these lovely facilities then gives them no option rather than take it home or throw it on the ground."	Infrastructure
"A Sustainable Snowies strategy encompasses single use materials, refuse / reduce, recycling etc. It should be owned by local citizens and businesses and has the aim to remove all single use takeaway plastics, remove the use where possible of unwanted single use plastics"	Involvement



An example of the community's involvement and eagerness to contribute to litter prevention efforts is the grass roots community group ENJO clean-up volunteer group, run by a local community member. The group, which began in 2020, focuses on organised group and individual clean-ups throughout the town and arterial roads of Jindabyne. SMRC have provided support for this group through grant funding to dispose of waste collected from these events.

Along with organised clean-up events the group founder Petra Richter has also organised clean up events for students that are completing The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award program. The collaboration between school children and the group encompasses the community's passion and commitment to litter prevention. This group has been recognised on a regional level through WIN News Canberra interviewing Petra about the organised litter clean ups in Jindabyne.¹⁹ This recognition on a regional level emphasises the local interest and support litter prevention has in the region and how the community continually supports these initiatives.

Targeted sites in the Snowy Mountains

The areas selected below have been identified as key littered areas throughout the region, they are frequently noted as hotspots by the community and the key stakeholders have addressed these areas in the introductory stages of the project. The sites chosen for the litter checks for the project are broken down into three categories; summer hotspots, winter hotspots, and year-round hotspots for litter. The sites selected are:

- **Summer Sites**
 - Banjo Patterson Park
 - Claypits Car Park
- **Winter Sites**
 - Thredbo Ski Resort - Friday Flats Car Park
 - Perisher Ski Resort - Perisher Valley Car Park
- **Year - Round Sites**
 - Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre Car Park
 - Town Centre Car Park

¹⁹ [Appendix 4: Event Report – Jindabyne Scavenge](#)

The sites chosen for the particular times of year correlate with their increased visitation. Summer tourists are generally spending more time around the lake and winter tourists generally are visiting the two major ski resorts Thredbo & Perisher. The two shopping centres also have an influx of visitation during the peak times but is consistent with residents throughout the year.

Summer litter survey sites

Banjo Paterson Park

Overview

Banjo Paterson Park highlighted as a summer hot spot for litter. There are various reasons for choosing this site as a summer hot spot:

- The community surveys identifying the 'foreshore' as a problematic area.
- Local students from the school have requested an extra bin near the skate park as there are frequently drink bottles littering the area.
- There was a high litter count near the skate park and BBQ area.
- It has a high intrinsic value for the community and tourism over summer as a meeting point for community events and tourists wanting to enjoy the lake during summer.
- The amenities are well maintained whereas the bins provided lack the same aesthetics.



Banjo Paterson Park is located at the entrance to Jindabyne and many visitors get their first impression of the town when visiting. It encompasses Jindabyne skatepark, 'Livi's Place' playground, community BBQ areas, and the lake foreshore walking track.

Community survey results

Community surveys were conducted during January / February 2021.

Out of 10 locations in Jindabyne & surrounds the foreshore was noted to be the most problematic area in the region for litter. 16% (the largest percentage in the survey) listed foreshore as most frequently littered. There were 44 responses which mentioned the foreshore as a hotspot.

Below are comments from the community surveys regarding Banjo Paterson Park and foreshore

Community responses to, "Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce litter in these areas?" (relating to Banjo Paterson Park or the lake foreshore).

There needs to be more bins for people to use. Often the children's playground at banjo park is full first thing in the morning. there needs to be a second bin and a recycle bin down there. The council invites people to use these lovely facilities then gives them no option rather than take it home or throw it on the ground.

Bins that are emptied more often. There are no bins along the lake from horizon to the skate park

Put bins around the lake and empty the ones that are there more often

More bins, regularly emptied. Dog poop receptacles especially along the lake foreshore and bike path

Council or Cooma jail inmates to do litter pickups regularly along foreshore and roadside into towns

More frequent empties of bins around foreshore

Place more bins around the lake foreshore at the car parks

Litter check results

There have been two local litter checks conducted at Banjo Paterson Park near the amenities and BBQ building, these checks were conducted in summer and winter. 34 litter items were identified in summer, and 19 were identified in winter.

The most common items were:

Summer	Winter
Small Hard Plastic - 9	Small Hard Plastic - 5
Small Plastic Film - 8	Small Plastic Film - 5
Small Metal Beverage Item - 5	Small Paper / Cardboard - 3

Stakeholder input

Public spaces cleaner

The bins are serviced 7 days/week in morning approx. 8am at the Banjo Paterson Park and the Claypits. These are comments provided by the council contracted staff member about the state of litter in the park.

- Problem area is the skate park – especially Friday & Saturday night and particularly bottles.
- Bins overflow during peak periods in summer after BBQs. It's unlikely that a large amount of litter is caused by people physically leaving it behind. Rather it is often noted that the most serious litter is caused from crows accessing the overflowing bins or accessing tied up bags that are left next to the bins.
- A potential recommended solution of installing more easily noticeable bins in this area was noted from an operational aspect that consideration for any new bins need to be emptied by hand (i.e. no greater than 140l bins) and that the locations of the bins can be accessed by a ute.

Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC).

- Bins would ideally be a consistent theme across Jindabyne. See Figure 6 for example.
- There are no litter collections conducted by staff. Previously hired someone to collect bottles after busy nights, since CDS bottles have reduced the need for this staff member.
- Council cannot enforce fines for littering, only by reporting to EPA. Council staff can enforce illegal dumping fines, but litter does not fall under this.
- Ideas to trial bins in various locations would be considered, but would need approval prior to starting trial.
- Permanent bins need to be in places that do not disrupt flow of pedestrians or interfere with sprinkler systems that have underground pipes throughout the park.



*Figure 9
Style of bin banks
to be introduced
throughout
Jindabyne*



Claypits

Overview

The Claypits has continually been noted as a summer hot spot for litter by the community and stakeholders for the location. Highlighted as an area where illegal dumping in bins is problematic, presumably from campers leaving the National Park camping grounds, Airbnb's and lodges. In addition to the litter caused over summer, there are also problems caused throughout winter. Previously this area was popular with van campers that would stay for the duration of winter. The introduction of an informal camping ban in Jindabyne has since reduced this issue, SMRC²⁰ has stated that litter is one of the causes for enforcing this ban.

Community responses to, "Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce litter in these areas" (relating to the Claypits or the lake foreshore).

One of the hotspots not listed is the claypits area and lake foreshore in general. More bins in the park areas and signage lakeside to encourage guests to take rubbish with them.

More bins at peak times especially at claypits

More at the clay pits and around the Jindabyne park areas. Community litter pick events.

More frequent empties of bins around foreshore

More bins around foreshore including more recycling bins

Bins around foreshore at car parks

20. Snowy Monaro Regional Council - Council endorses Jindabyne Winter Camping Campaign(nsw.gov.au).

Litter check results

There have been two local litter checks conducted at the Claypits lakeside of the amenities building, these checks were conducted in summer and winter, 37 litter items were identified in summer, and 21 were identified in winter. The most common items were:

Summer	Winter
Small Hard Plastic - 13	Small Hard Plastic - 6
Small Plastic Film - 5	Small Plastic Film - 3
Small Metal Beverage Item - 4	Small Miscellaneous Items - 3

Stakeholder input

Public spaces cleaner

- Household & camping rubbish is a big issue for overflowing bins. For example, 5L water bottles are frequently found in bins – indicating that campers are disposing of their waste in these bins.
- People have requested recycling bins at the Claypits and public spaces cleaner would support this.
- More bins may not be the solution, but potentially would be beneficial during peak periods, for example bins near the outdoor stage in summer where many people are using the lake.
- Any new bins installed from an operational aspect need to consider that the bins are manually emptied (i.e. no greater than 140l bins) and that the locations of the bins can be accessed by a ute.

Snowy Monaro Regional Council (SMRC)

- Bins would overflow daily at the Claypits during winter before the informal camping ban was introduced but is not as common due to this ban.
- Illegal dumping is common at the Claypits as there are many potential causes for this being, campers, holiday rentals, and residents without a kerbside collection. Consideration should be made to offer bins within the National Park.



Winter litter survey sites

Thredbo ski resort – Friday Flat car park

Overview

Thredbo's Friday Flat car park was the location that was noted by stakeholders as the most littered area in Thredbo. The site is the main car park over winter and is becoming busier during summer due to development of the mountain bike trails around this area. The bins within Friday Flat are in ideal locations, towards the car park the bins are well serviced around the footpaths but due to snow clearing requirements over winter they are not provided throughout the car park. This site is considered a winter hot spot due to:

- Litter is frequently blown into the vegetation on the side of the car park.
- Limited potential for bin locations available throughout the car park, due to snow clearing requirements
- This area is considered an easy location for people to litter due to the cramped nature of the car park and lack of accountability because of it.
- Specific items relating to the skiing and biking industry are often found in the car park e.g. tags from retail outlets.



Litter check results

1. Small paper and cardboard items (13 counted)
2. Small plastic film / sheet (11 counted)

Stakeholder input

Environment project coordinator – Kosciuszko Thredbo

- Bins not feasible throughout the carpark due to the requirements of snow clearing vehicles needing access to the entire car park.
- An idea to introduce more signage around enforcement measures of litter reduction may be possible, but currently Thredbo do not generally use signage as a key strategy due to the view that signs are not an effective way to convey a message.
- An idea to introduce a campaign to remove tags in retail outlets would be supported by Thredbo.
- Ongoing support from Thredbo of campaigns like Green Caffeine will continue, but unsure of uptake from businesses in Thredbo Village, particularly due to the hesitancy from COVID19

Environmental Liaison Officer - NPWS

- VMS signage could be utilised at Park entry gates and on entrance to convey litter reduction messages
- NPWS stance on bins at campgrounds is firm, but there could be a potential to discuss the suggested idea of a drop off skip bins at key locations within the national park.

Community survey results

Community responses to, "Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce litter in these areas?" (relating to Friday Flat carpark or Thredbo).

We need additional bins, recycling ones included, plus signage as to where bins are and to put your litter in bins, plus further 'education' of visitors including 'don't trash Thredbo'. The litter in Thredbo is NOT solely in the car parks, it is under lifts, along the riverside, on the village green etc. It is also important to educate visitors on the quality of the water supply and deter them from bringing in large quantities of bottled water. Also need additional water refilling stations.

A Sustainable Snowies strategy encompassing single use materials, refuse / reduce, recycling etc. It should be owned by local citizens and businesses and has the aim to remove all single use takeaway plastics, remove the use where possible of unwanted single use plastics eg balloons, glitter etc, businesses to affirm reducing in other ways INCLUDING Woolies and Mitre 10. Messaging strategy for locals and tourists to ensure they understand and to get their cooperation. In the short term deterrents will be needed in terms of higher profile presence of rangers who can fine for litter dropping, but the longer term view would be to change the habits and expectations in the region. Recycling should not be the primary aim, but is important in the mix - strive for businesses including Thredbo and Perisher to only stock items (drinks) which are packaged in recyclable aluminium or plastic and really upweight recycling communication around the chair lift and tennis courts in Thredbo for this.



Perisher ski resort – Perisher Valley car park

Overview

Perisher similar to Thredbo, has the majority of visitation over winter, this means the litter is in greater quantities during this time. Perisher Valley car park is the location most often noted by stakeholders as not only the most affected area for litter but potentially the cause of litter. During winter, the car park is full most weekends and holiday periods making it a cramped and busy area. This could be a cause for the higher quantities of litter recorded here. The site is considered a winter hot spot due to:

- The carpark being the first point for most guests arriving in the resort after travelling long distances, and most likely have rubbish in their car.
- A lot of litter is blown into the creek adjacent to the car park. It is also noted that wind can blow litter out of cars in the resort.
- Limited potential for bin locations available throughout the car park, due to snow clearing requirements.
- This area is considered an easy location for people to litter due to the cramped nature of the carpark and lack of accountability because of it.
- Specific items relating to the skiing industry are often found in the car park e.g. tags from retail outlets.

Stakeholder input

- Potentially difficult to incorporate the EPA's Hey Tosser campaign messages throughout the resort's due to negative perception of the campaign
- Campaign to remove tags from retail items at POS would be supported.



Spring Clean Up
Perisher Valley -
netting rubbish
from the creek.

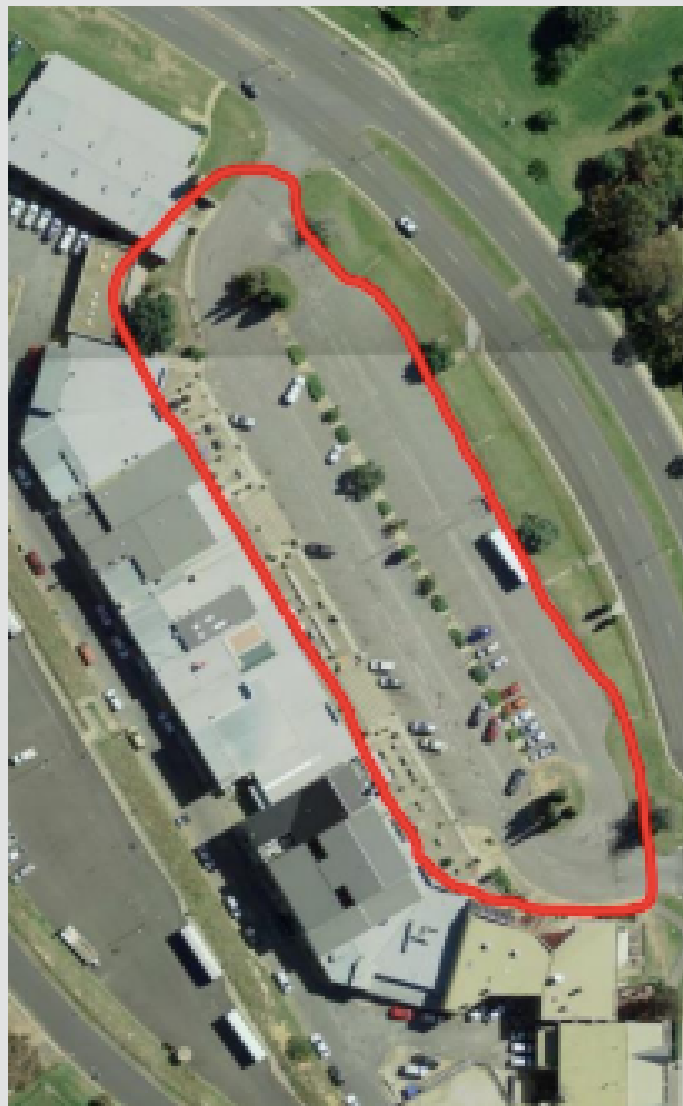
Year-Round Survey Sites



Town Centre

Overview

The town centre is one of two main shopping precincts within Jindabyne that caters to visitors with cafes, restaurants and retail outlets, along with community-based businesses such as a butcher and real estate agencies. As such, this is a frequently visited area throughout the year making it an ideal site for a year-round location. Bins are located throughout the strip mall with recycling and landfill bins provided, but there are no bins throughout the car park. The area was moderately littered with the shopping strip showing low amounts of litter (from visual inspection). The reason this has been considered a hot spot is due to:



- The consistency of visitation to this site, due to the type of amenities there
- Whilst the bins are in good locations throughout the shopping strip there are no bins throughout the car park.
- Bins and bin signage are old and weathered, which may be off putting to users and may impact how they use them.

Litter check results

The summer litter check at Town Centre car park identified 16 items of litter. The most common items identified were:

1. Smoking related items (9 counted)
2. Small glass beverage related items (broken glass) (3 counted)

Stakeholder input

SMRC

- Ideally the bins will be updated as they are damaged and need replacing. SMRC will purchase bins that are the same as the bins on Snowy River Way to maintain cohesiveness across the area.
- Bins are very damaged, particularly from cigarette butts being put out on lids. Lids and signs have been weathered.
- Signage of bins will need to be reviewed before installation to ensure correct disposal of waste.

Community survey results

Community responses to, "Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce litter in these areas?" (relating to the Town Centre or the car park).

Litter bins on the exits to car parks everywhere, like Maccas.
Lease holders in the Park allocate employees to clean up.

Banks of bins in a well planned location, bins in car park and cleaned more regularly in keeping with tourist flows

Banks of bins in a well planned location, bins in car park and cleaned more regularly in keeping with tourist flows

More bins on sidewalks and in car parks

Reinstate bins at bottom half of the Town Centre car park

Bins around foreshore at car parks

Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre car park

Overview

Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre is one of the key hubs of Jindabyne, as many key businesses are located here such as Woolworths and major banks as well as popular retail stores and cafes. This is visited by many people during summer and winter. The Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre car park is considered a year-round litter hotspot due to:

- The car park is an easy location for littering in busier times, due to being busy and a lack of space.
- Bins are unlikely to be installed throughout the car park as they have previously been trialled and caused more issues due to overflowing bins.
- Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre courtyard appears to have very low levels of litter due to numerous bins and frequent servicing, but this is not the case throughout the entire site.

Litter check results

There have been two local litter checks conducted at Nuggets Crossing Shopping Centre in the car park, these checks were conducted in summer and winter. 26 litter items were identified in summer, and 26 were identified in winter. The most common items were:

Summer	Winter
Cigarette Butts - 14	Cigarette Butts - 11
Beverage Containers - 2	Small Plastic Film - 7
Takeaway Plastic Containers - 2	Paper / Cardboard Containers - 2



Community survey results

Community responses to, "Do you have any suggestions on how to reduce litter in these areas?" (relating to Nuggets Crossing or its car park).

More signage about "Do The Right Thing" around Nuggets Crossing.

Litter bins on the exits to car parks everywhere, like Maccas.

Banks of bins in a well planned location, bins in car park and cleaned more regularly in keeping with tourist flows.

Yes. I think the provision of easy to identify types of bins in many many locations would help. All over the car parks. Not just in a single location. The bins should be large and have pictures of the type of waste they are for e.g. a picture of a coffee cup or takeaway container etc.

More bins on sidewalks and in car parks.



Recommendations for Sustainable Snowies

Recommendations for a successful and functional community group

Own It and Act Assessment

The Own It and Act Assessment tool developed by the EPA which ...
“recognises that litter prevention is not merely an individual responsibility. Best practice requires organisations to embed litter prevention principles, policies and practices into business-as-usual.

It also requires networks and collaboration to build supportive conditions for litter prevention across sectors that ensure litter prevention & anti-litter behaviour is sustained for the long term.”

The tool, which has been completed by all key stakeholders to assess their current involvement in litter prevention key enablers leadership, commitment, permission and process.

The assessment has provided a platform for constructive discussion around where the community group and key organisations current and future intentions lie with litter prevention. The following key enablers have been assessed by the community group’s key stakeholders and an overview of the outcomes has been described below.

It is recommended that a version of the Own it and Act assessment should be undertaken once a year to assess the ongoing commitment that the stakeholders have.

Leadership

Currently there is no designated leader of Sustainable Snowies. The current functionality of the group shows that a lack of structure within the group has not impacted the effectiveness of the group coordination in litter prevention projects. Going forward, the group does not intend to develop the community group to a level indicated in the Own It and Act Assessment i.e., an entity with structured positions.

Commitment

Sustainable Snowies and their key organisations remain committed to engage with litter prevention projects that have been outlined in the Strategy and Action Plan. This is evident through their support and input into these documents and their ongoing agreement outlined in the Sustainable Snowies MOU.



Permission

Whilst support of the litter prevention Strategy stretches widely across the region, particularly with the various stakeholders involved in Sustainable Snowies, the levels of permission of organisations varies. There is confidence from key stakeholders within the community group to dedicate a budget for the following years towards litter prevention projects that have been outlined in the Action Plan.

Process

There has been an improvement in the understanding of correct litter prevention processes due to the education provided in the Strategy and Action Plan and a certain level of education provided by the Project Officers throughout the project. Organisation key staff involved within Sustainable Snowies have been encouraged to pass on this knowledge to relevant staff within their organisations.

Sustainable Snowies Memorandum of Understanding

The Sustainable Snowies Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been designed for collaboration between organisations on various sustainability issues within the region, with litter being highlighted as one of the current major issues. An ongoing annual assessment of the MOU is required to consider the group's purpose and assess any changes. The revision of the MOU should be addressed yearly in a Sustainable Snowies and consider any feedback and to ensure the group and organisations are still in line with the commitment.

Recommendations for a successful implementation of a litter prevention strategy

These recommendations have been made by considering the historical data available and data collected from local litter checks, feedback gained from the community and key stakeholders, and incorporations of the statewide plan for litter. All of the key litter prevention mechanisms have various recommendations associated with them that Sustainable Snowies should implement. The implementation of these recommendations is outlined in the Action Plan.



Infrastructure

- All new public place bins need to be assessed under the better practice guide for public place recycling,²¹ or a comparable assessment method made.
- Infrastructure instalments in the region need to be selective. The requirements need to consider type of bins and their configuration, the quantity and type of litter at the site, types of necessary signage and location.
- Signage for litter prevention infrastructure must use the EPA hey tosser messaging where feasible.

Cleanliness

- Current cleaning or litter collections conducted by businesses should focus on the locations highlighted as hotspots. Ongoing local litter checks conducted by Sustainable Snowies along with data collection of clean up events will continue to identify areas that need to be targeted.
- An assessment of litter prevention should be made when upgrading a public space, consultation with key stakeholders for the area should be made and reference to the better practice guide for public place recycling should be used.

Involvement

- Sustainable Snowies should provide continual support to the numerous local clean up events and promote them through key stakeholders marketing channels.
- A designated Sustainable Snowies clean-up day should be organised for the local community to engage them in the reasons for litter reduction.
- Incorporate a marketing strategy that is relevant to the area and to incorporate themes of the 'Hey tosser' campaign that more accurately represent local organisations imaging.

²¹ [Better Practice Guide for Public Place Recycling.\(nsw.gov.au\)](https://www.nsw.gov.au/better-practice-guide-for-public-place-recycling).

Education & Awareness

- Continual education of the implementation of the litter prevention strategy is needed to deliver information from clean up days, data collections in local litter checks and celebrating implementation of litter prevention strategies. This education should also be fed through the key stakeholders marketing channels where relevant.
- The Sustainable Snowies litter prevention project outcomes should be released throughout the key stakeholders marketing channels.
- Identify common littered items from data collected from either the data presented in the action plan, annual clean ups, or local litter checks and develop campaigns to reduce these items in the specific location through educating a targeted audience.
- Support the community and organisations that aim to provide awareness and education to the community about litter prevention in the region.

Enforcement

- Expand the use of current “report a litterer” signage and “under surveillance” signage throughout the region where required.
- Encourage the use of ‘report a tosser’ app.

These recommendations rely on the ongoing collection of litter data and the collaboration of stakeholders in litter prevention implementation of mechanisms. The action plan will provide a template of how to store and reference this collected data and how to successfully collaborate with necessary stakeholders in a systematic approach.

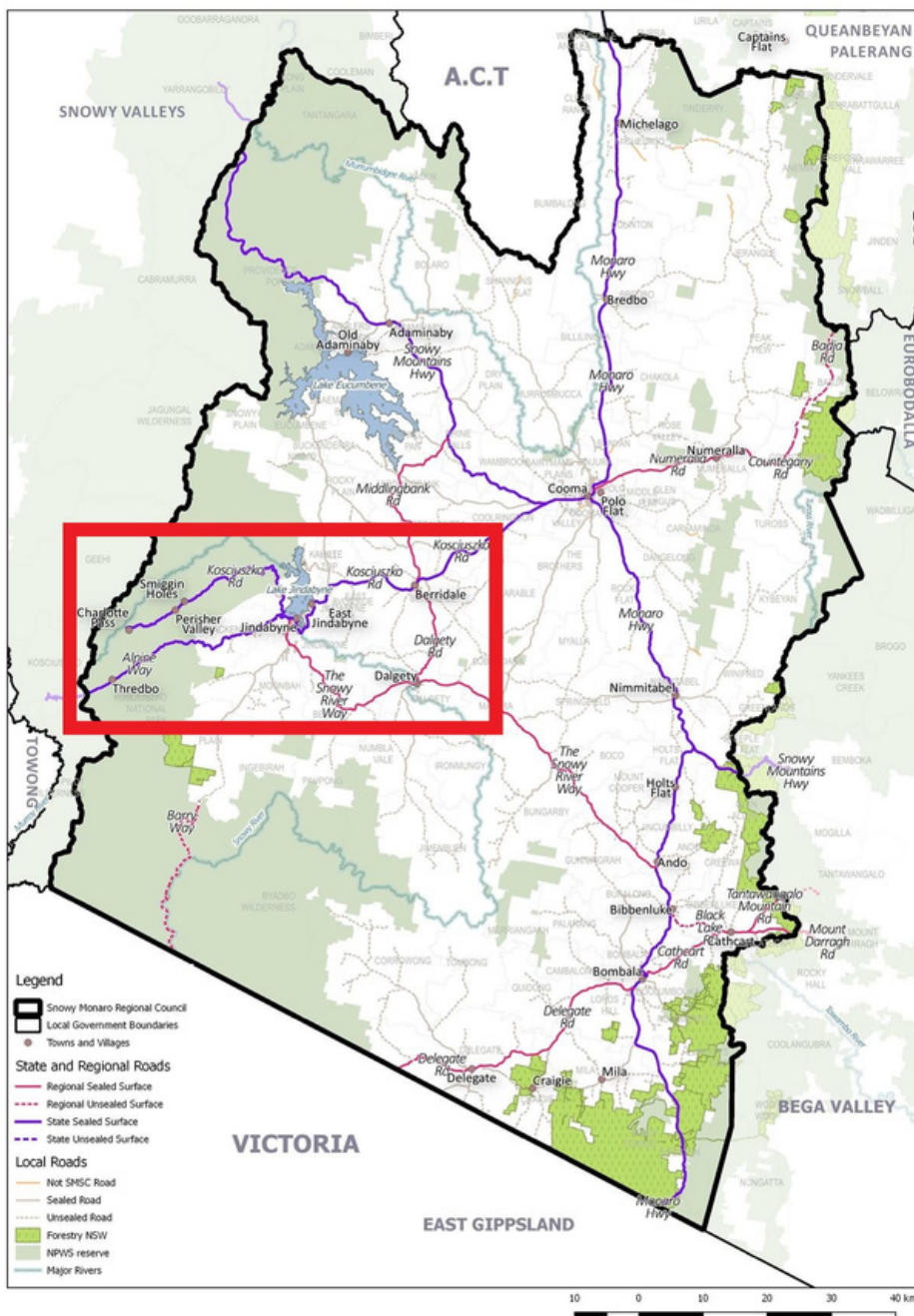


**HEY
TOSSER!**
It's a dirty look

Appendix

Appendix 1: Map depicting physical scope of project.

State and Regional Classified Roads in Snowy Monaro Region





Appendix 2: Operation Frostbite Stakeholder Engagement Report

Operation Frostbite – Draft Report – Excerpt

Campaign Feedback -Snowy Monaro Regional Council

Belinda Ingram provided feedback on the campaign during a phone conversation on 5 December 2016. The outcomes of this discussion can be summarised as follows:

- A sufficient amount of collateral was provided for the campaign and this collateral was effective at communicating the campaign message.
- The public were particularly receptive to car litter bags, and these were distributed relatively quickly.
- Belinda did not notice a change in people's behaviour, and did not consider that there was any less litter observable from the previous year.
- Communication with the EPA was good. Council would collaborate with EPA on such a project again in future if the opportunity arose, however there should be more opportunity for face to face communication as opposed to phone/email.
- Any future campaigns should provide for more lead time. At least three months is required to prepare for such a campaign.
- Mandy Thurling had a positive response to the campaign, and during a phone conversation on 6 December 2016 provided the following feedback:
 - The campaign message was well communicated and was particularly prevalent on social media, specifically on Facebook.
 - The public liked receiving the car litter bags, and they were easy to hand out.
 - The campaign was considered to be a success as there was less visible litter compared to the previous year, particularly in areas surrounding the airport.

Mt Kosciuszko National Park Services

Following the campaign, a yearly clean-up was undertaken with National Parks in collaboration with Perisher and Thredbo resorts. The clean-up targets litter in the National Park that results from the snow season. Litter collected during this exercise is weighed and used as a measurable indication of the amount of litter for the year. The total amount of litter collected following the 2016 snow season was estimated at 580 kg. This is significantly less than the amount of litter collected in previous years, which is typically 1,000 kg to 2,000 kg.

However the amount of litter observed during the clean-up was considered to be consistent with that of previous years. The weighted data should therefore be viewed with caution, as it may have been due to a miscalculation or misinterpretation and may not be representative of amounts of actual litter.

Stakeholder questionnaires

Stakeholder questionnaire forms were provided to local council representatives for distribution to local businesses, at the end of the campaign period. These questionnaires sought to assess the effectiveness of the campaign, and consolidate feedback from relevant stakeholders. Only three responses were received for the questionnaires, from Berridale Pharmacy, Berri Ripe café and Berridale Post Office.

Findings from the questionnaire can be summarised as follows:

- Posters were displayed at these businesses as part of the campaign
- Slightly less litter was observed in the area directly around the business, the neighbourhood and on the roadways to and from the snow fields
- Waste disposal options were fairly adequate in the Berridale area
- The following collateral was noticed during the snow season
 - Banners
 - Signs at the ski fields
 - Radio advertisements
 - Posters
 - Advertisement in the Snowy Times
 - Bin stickers
 - Advertising on Facebook

No further recommendations were provided

Conclusions and Recommendations

Stakeholder engagement for Operation Frostbite campaign was considered to have been undertaken successfully. Collaboration with local councils was an effective means of achieving broader community engagement and communicating the campaign message. A variety of businesses and organisations were engaged as part of the campaign, and the campaign objectives were considered to have been achieved through display of campaign posters and Facebook content.

Banners were highly sought after by council representatives, and in many cases reused at other council events. Bags were also well received by members of the public and were easy to hand out. Report littering cards, credit card holders and posters were the most difficult to distribute. Posters were often taken down or moved before the end of the campaign. A4 sized posters were preferred by businesses over the A3 size, as these were likely to fit more easily in shop front windows or at checkout counters. Social media was also considered to have a high impact, especially Facebook, which the local councils use as a primary means of communicating with the public.

Fast food chains and rest stops represented key stopping points to and from the snow fields. However most service stations could not partake in the campaign due to company policies that require permission on a corporate level before any advertising material can be displayed in store. Commitment should be sought from service stations, and possibly fast food chains, on a corporate level prior to any future campaigns.

Active public engagement and education was undertaken by QPRC and WSC representatives at McDonalds Queanbeyan and the Sutton Forest rest stop, respectively. The intention was not to issue infringement notices or official cautions but to talk about littering issues, reporting littering and hand out collateral. This approach was well received by business owners and members of the public.

More face to face time was needed with councils and local businesses, which was limited in this campaign due to distance. The EPA maintained a covert presence during the campaign to facilitate littering observations, and the issue of infringement notices and official cautions. However the findings of this assessment indicate that a more visible presence by the EPA may have improved public perception and awareness and provided more regulatory support to local councils and businesses.

Appendix 3: Final Report – CRJO Monaro Litter Program Report

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT - EXCERPT

(c) Evidence of outcomes:

Please provide any local litter check data, attitudinal data, photos, publicity for education activities as evidence of your project delivery and success.

OUTCOMES				
Objective	Pre-Project Implementation	Md Project Implementation Optional	Post-Project Implementation	0% Reduction /Increase
Reduce litter by 40%	Average 31 littered items per monitoring site		Average 10 littered items per monitoring	69%
Increase local participants using Report to EPA Litter app by 20%	Information provided by the EPA May - July 2019: 2 May - July 2018: 4		May - July 2020: 5	Unclear if there is a change in numbers yet, it looks like a slight increase of reporters compared to 2018 and 2019, numbers a low though
Increase number of notifications via the App	June - July 2018: 8 June - July 2019: 3		June - July: 4	Unclear at this stage if there has been an increase, no clear trend





(d) Lessons Learnt:

What have you learnt, or what would you do differently?

Bushfires and the recent Covid19 pandemic have delayed implementation of the project.

Weather/roadworks etc can delay installation of signage etc;

Litter counts are impossible in the winter period in the Snowy Mountains, due to snow cover the local litter check is not usable there, this significantly impacted the initial litter project plan;

CRJO has built good relationships with RMS, Council, NP staff, the snow villages (Perisher/Thredbo) which can be useful for future litter/waste related programs;

RMS did not want any permanent road signage along the Monaro Hwy, only signage at rest areas were allowed. This probably limits the reach of the signage installed- it would be good to get some consistency along all major roads throughout the State.

Appendix 4: Event Report – Jindabyne Scavenge

Event Report – Jindabyne Lakeside Scavenge – Excerpt 17 April 2021, 9am - 1pm

Executive Summary

The Jindabyne Lakeside Scavenge took place at Banjo Paterson Park on Saturday, 17th April 2021. The event was the fifth Scavenge held in partnership with Snowy Monaro Shire Council. The event was funded by the NSW Government and The Festival of Place – Summer Fund.

On the day, 53 participants checked-in via the QR code placed at the Registration Station however based on feedback from those involved in the event delivery we estimate that approximately another 25 participants were present throughout the day. 11 volunteers, 2 musicians, 1 local community group, and 7 local businesses contributed to bringing the event to life.

Overall 80 kg of waste and 15 kg of recycling was collected, which totals 95 kg of rubbish removed from the Jindabyne foreshore and the surrounding area.

Overall Feedback

The Jindabyne Lakeside Scavenge was the first event delivered by the Seaside Scavenge since COVID19 pandemic. The event was well planned and executed by a local coordinator Emma Stafford. Typically we organise these events in September, however, due to the funding deadline of April we needed to run the event earlier. This resulted in less litter collected (pre-winter) and lower engagement of participants. Despite the lower levels we were very pleased with the outcome, particularly as this Lakeside Scavenge was run by a local resident. The energy and enthusiasm displayed by the individuals involved in delivering the event demonstrates an eagerness to re-connect communities and deliver impactful and purpose driven events. A number of the stakeholders expressed interest in contributing to future Scavenges, indicating satisfaction with how the event was executed.

Emma Stafford, local event coordinator, provided three suggestions to council:

- Council to establish a waste stream for vapes (e-cigarettes)
- Council to alert clean-up groups to potential collection of asbestos and supply appropriate receptacles for disposal
- Council process for applying for event permit was confusing and prevented sincere efforts to promote the event due to approval only being given on the Tuesday prior to event delivery.
- Council to streamline the event application process.

The event was held in an ideal location, with passers by attracted to the event by the bright colours, art, music and activities. Feedback from the participants was positive overall, with people appreciating the range of free activities available on the day.

We hope to continually strengthen our relationship with the Snowy Monaro Regional Council in order to regularly deliver impactful programs that strengthen and inspire the local community.

40 Oceans of thanks from the Seaside Scavenge Crew!

Emma Stafford and AJ Linke, Founder and CEO of Seaside Scavenge - ajlinke@seasidescavenge.org

Appendix 5: Community Consultation - survey responses

Question 1: Do you think litter in the Snowy Mountains is an important issue to the community?

Yes	65
No	3

Question 2: Out of the following areas which would you consider a hotspot for litter?

JCS SURROUNDS	14	3	17	8%
JOHN CONNORS OVAL	7	8	15	7%
NUGGETS CROSSING CAR PARK	20	11	31	14%
THREDBO CAR PARK	13	6	19	9%
LEESVILLE CENTRE	9	8	17	8%
TOWN CENTRE	22	7	29	13%
FORESHORE PARK	23	11	34	16%
EAST JINDABYNE SERVICE STATION	7	4	11	5%
POOH BAY	14	8	22	10%
LIONS PARK BERRIDALE	4	7	11	5%
OTHER	0	10	10	5%

Question 3 Out of the following itmes which litter item to you see most often in these areas?

	ONLINE	STALL	TOTAL	%
PLASTIC BOTTLES	47	16	63	17%
GLASS BOTTLES	28	9	37	10%
PLASTIC LIDS	19	9	28	7%
TAKEAWAY CONTAINERS	33	8	41	11%
PLASTIC BAGS	24	13	37	10%
DISPOSABLE COFFEE CUPS	33	13	46	12%
DISPOSABLE CUTLERY	8	3	11	3%
CIGARETTES	39	12	51	13%
WRAPPERS	36	14	50	13%
OTHER	8	9	17	4%



Question 2: Out of the following areas which would you consider a hotspot for litter?

	STALL	ONLINE	TOTAL	%
EDUCATION	7	7	14	14%
CLEANING	5	12	17	17%
INFRASTRUCTURE	18	24	42	42%
ENFORCEMENT	5	6	11	11%
INVOLVEMENT	5	11	16	16%



Litter Prevention Project
Sustainable Snowies

2021

Design layout completed by Tall Red Poppy Marketing and Lemonade Marketing
www.tallredpoppymarketing.com.au www.lemonademarketing.com.au