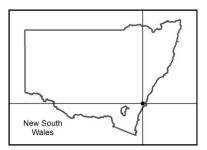




Statement of Management Intent



Bamarang Nature Reserve

1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Bamarang Nature Reserve. This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the reserve until a plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the <u>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act)</u>. The NPWS <u>Managing Parks Prior to Plan of Management Policy</u> states that parks and reserves without a plan of management are to be managed in a manner consistent with the intent of the NPW Act and the 'precautionary principle' (see Principle 15).

2. Management principles

Nature reserves are reserved under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding, unique or representative ecosystems, species, communities or natural phenomena. Under the NPW Act (section 30J), nature reserves are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, and protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- promote public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the reserve's natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of nature reserves is to conserve nature. Nature reserves differ from national parks in that they do not have the provision of visitor use as a management purpose or principle.

3. Context

Reservation details: Bamarang Nature Reserve was reserved on 1 January 2001.

Size: 373 hectares.

Bamarang Nature Reserve is located approximately 8 kilometres west of Nowra on the NSW South Coast. It falls within the Sydney Basin Bioregion. It also falls within the administrative areas of Shoalhaven City Council, South East Local Land Services and Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Bamarang Nature Reserve comprises three separate sections of land and includes an island in the Shoalhaven River. The reserve adjoins areas of Crown land and areas of residential, rural and industrial development and lies adjacent to the Shoalhaven River. Roads, powerlines and water

mains traverse the reserve. Bamarang Nature Reserve was formerly Crown tenure and the site of gravel quarries that were in operation until 1980. Bamarang Nature Reserve was reserved under the *National Park Estate* (Southern Region Reservations) Act 2000 to protect a sample of the area's vegetation communities and habitats which includes threatened species.



4. Values

- Bamarang Nature Reserve protects habitat for the threatened gang-gang cockatoo (Callocephalon fimbriatum), glossy black-cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus lathami) and little lorikeet (Glossopsitta pusilla).
- Bamarang Nature Reserve protects important habitat for River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions, an endangered ecological community.
- The endangered shrub Nowra heath myrtle (*Triplarina nowraensis*) occurs within Bamarang Nature Reserve. This species is scattered along the banks of almost the entire length of Sandy Creek and upstream for approximately 100 metres on some western tributaries.
- The reserve is one of several protected areas that form part of a corridor of natural land extending along the Shoalhaven River.

 Several Aboriginal sites have been recorded within the reserve. These include axe-grinding grooves, cave shelters with deposits and art, scarred trees, open campsites, a stone arrangement and a burial site.

5. Issues

- Foxes (Vulpes vulpes), wild dogs (Canis lupus sspp.) and feral cats (Felis catus) are known to occur within the reserve.
- Lantana (*Lantana camara*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and exotic vines (various species) occur within the reserve.
- Algal blooms are visible in parts of Sandy Creek within Bamarang Nature Reserve.
- Due to the close proximity of Bamarang Nature Reserve to areas of urban development, there are occurrences of illegal rubbish dumping, unauthorised horse riding, illegal firewood collection and illegal motorbike-riding along trails within the reserve.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Bamarang and Wogamia Nature Reserves and Colymea State Conservation Area Fire is managed in accordance with the Bamarang and Wogamia Nature Reserves and Colymea State Conservation Area Fire Management Strategy.
- Pest management programs are implemented in accordance with the <u>NPWS Regional Pest</u> <u>Management Strategy</u>: South Coast Region.
- Weeds within Bamarang Nature Reserve are controlled with the focus on protecting endangered ecological communities and threatened flora species within the reserve.
- Algal blooms within Sandy Creek will be investigated, and liaison will occur with appropriate authorities if the blooms are found to be having adverse impacts.
- Beekeeping will be managed in accordance with the NPWS Beekeeping Policy.
- All management activities will be preceded by the preparation of an environmental assessment or heritage assessment where this is a requirement of NPWS policy or legislation.
- Environmental repair and threat management programs, such as erosion mitigation measures, pest management, and activities arising from threatened species requirements may be implemented in accordance with NPWS policies and procedures.
- Non-intrusive works may be undertaken where necessary to protect cultural heritage items from further deterioration, to ensure the safety of visitors, to protect wildlife or to prevent damage to park assets.
- A plan of management will be prepared to set out the ongoing management objectives for the reserve. The plan of management is a statutory document under the NPW Act which will be available for public comment. NPWS will also encourage the community to contribute to the ongoing conservation of the reserve by promoting and raising public awareness of its special values.

For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of this reserve or this statement, contact the NPWS Nowra Area Office on (02) 4428 6300 or 55 Graham Street, Nowra or PO Box 707, Nowra NSW 2541.

Disclaimer: This is a statement of intent to guide the management of the reserve prior to the development of a plan of management. Any statements made in this publication are made in good faith and do not render the Office of Environment and Heritage liable for any loss or damage. Provisions in the final plan of management may vary from those identified in this document as a result of new information and community consultation. The maps in this statement are intended to show the reserve's location and basic features only, and are not suitable for use when navigating to or exploring within parks.

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