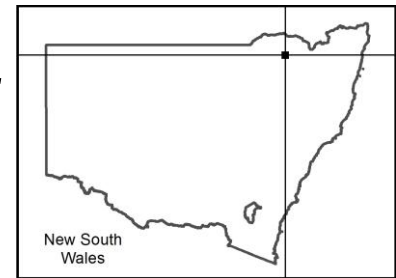


Statement of Management Intent



Bullala National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1

1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Bullala Community Conservation Area Zone 1 National Park (Bullala National Park). This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the park until a plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 \(NPW Act\)](#). The NPWS [Managing Parks Prior to Plan of Management Policy](#) 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

Zone 1 community conservation areas are reserved as national parks under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding or representative ecosystems, natural or cultural features or landscapes or phenomena that provide opportunities for public appreciation, inspiration and sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment. Under the NPW Act ([section 30E](#)), national parks are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena and maintain natural landscapes
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations
- promote public appreciation and understanding of the park’s natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of Zone 1 community conservation areas is to conserve nature and cultural heritage. In doing so, opportunities are provided for appropriate and sustainable recreation.

3. Context

Reservation details: Bullala National Park was reserved on 1 December 2005.
Size: 5900 hectares.



Bullala National Park is located approximately 80 kilometres north-west of Inverell. It falls within the Brigalow Belt South Bioregion and the administrative areas of Gwydir Shire Council, Moree Local Aboriginal Land Council and North West Local Land Services.

Bullala National Park was reserved under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005* and comprised the former Bullala State Forest. A further 3276 hectares of private land was later added to Bullala National Park. The park comprises western woodland communities characterised by smooth-barked apple (*Angophora leiocarpa*), spinifex (*Triodia mitchellii* var. *pubivagina*), stringybark she-oak (*Allocasuarina inophloia*), black cypress pine (*Callitris endlicheri*) and Blakely's red gum (*Eucalyptus blakelyi*). Ephemeral waterways run east to west through the park and Bullala Creek flows south into Mosquito Creek and on to the Gwydir River.

The park is an important remnant of original vegetation located on the interface between the cleared pastoral and cropping lands of the Moree and Croppa Creek plains and the wooded landscape to the east. The park has strong linkages to the south-east (and Nandewar Bioregion),

via the adjoining Strathmore State Forest, to Warialda National Park and Warialda State Conservation Area. Licensed beekeeping occurs within Bullala National Park and is considered an existing interest under the NPW Act because it pre-dates reservation of the park.

4. Values

- Bullala National Park protects habitat for a variety of threatened species including the black-striped wallaby (*Macropus dorsalis*), glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*), little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*), turquoise parrot (*Neophema pulchella*), masked owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae*), speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*), eastern subspecies of the grey-crowned babbler (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*), koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), squirrel glider (*Petaurus norfolcensis*), yellow-bellied sheath-tail-bat (*Saccolaimus flaviventris*), large-eared pied bat (*Chalinolobus dwyeri*), little pied bat (*Chalinolobus picatus*) and eastern cave bat (*Vespadelus troughtoni*).
- The park protects the endangered ecological community Carbeen Open Forest Community in the Darling Riverine Plains and Brigalow Belt South Bioregions. Also present are significant areas of old growth woodland.
- The park protects populations of the endangered shrub species, the Yetman wattle (*Acacia jucunda*) and a large population of *Prostanthera cryptandroides* ssp. *euphrasioides* which is naturally rare and of restricted distribution.
- Although no Aboriginal sites are recorded in the park, scarred trees, grinding grooves and an open camp site exist nearby.

5. Issues

- Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*), feral cats (*Felis catus*) and wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.) are known to be present in the park.
- The park has infestations of African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*), common prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*), tiger pear (*Opuntia aurantiaca*), tree pear (*Opuntia tomentosa*), spiny burrgrass (*Cenchrus incertus* and *C. longispinus*), Coolatai grass (*Hyparrhenia hirta*) and exotic burrs (*Xanthium* spp.).
- There are occurrences of illegal pig hunting, firewood collection and motorbike riding off management trails within the park.
- Drainage has been upgraded on a number of management trails, however erosion occurs at creek crossings particularly as a result of flooding, and along some management trails within the park.
- An access road from Gil Gil Creek Road to the Runnymede Quarry traverses the park and is used by haul trucks. A portion of the road is vested in the Minister administering the NPW Act under Part 11 of that Act. The road does not form part of the reserved area of the park but its management is subject to the NPW Regulation and the requirements of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EP&A Act).

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Bullala National Park and State Conservation Area [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Plains Region. Current priorities for the park include weed management to reduce impacts on the Carbeen Open Forest endangered ecological

community and wild dog and feral pig control for the protection of neighbours' livestock and crops.

- Apiary sites within Bullala National Park will be managed in accordance with the NPWS [Beekeeping Policy](#).
- NPWS will continue to cooperate with neighbours and undertake regulatory enforcement and surveillance of Bullala National Park as required to reduce the occurrence of illegal activities within the park.
- The need for boundary fencing works will be monitored. Subject to available resourcing, assistance may be provided to neighbours to install park boundary fencing in accordance with the NPWS Boundary Fencing Policy.
- NPWS will continue to work with the owners of Runnymede Quarry, Gwydir Shire Council and other authorities to resolve access and other issues arising from operation of the quarry.
- 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 park. 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 park by promoting and raising public awareness of its special values.

For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of this park or this statement, contact the NPWS Narrabri Office on (02) 6792 7300 or 1/100 Maitland Street, Narrabri (accessible via Dewhurst Street) or PO Box 848, Narrabri, NSW 2390.

Disclaimer: This is a statement of intent to guide the management of the park 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 park's location and basic features only, and are not suitable for use when navigating to or exploring within parks.

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