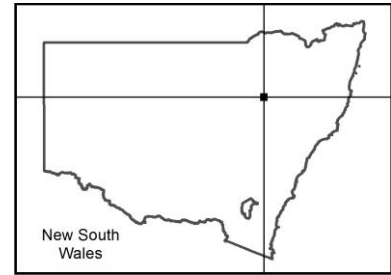


Statement of Management Intent



Garrawilla 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 Garrawilla Community Conservation Area Zone 1 National Park (Garrawilla 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](#)), Zone 1 community conservation areas 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.

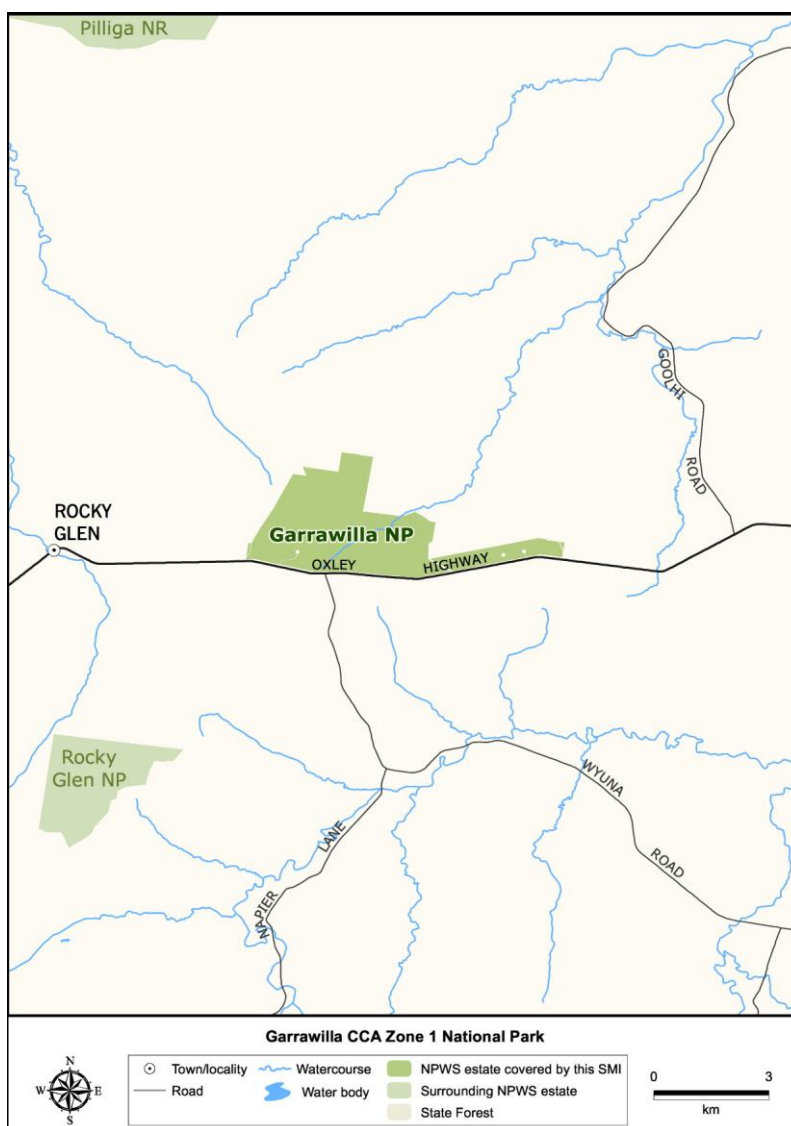
The primary purpose of Zone 1 community conservation areas is to conserve nature and cultural heritage. In doing so, opportunities are provided for appropriate and sustainable recreation.

3. Context

Reservation details: Garrawilla National Park was reserved on 1 December 2005.

Size: 937 hectares.

Garrawilla National Park is situated approximately 40 kilometres north-east of Coonabarabran along the Oxley Highway. It falls within the Brigalow Belt South Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Coonabarabran Local Aboriginal Land Council, Central West Local Land Services and Warrumbungle Shire Council.



Garrawilla National Park was formerly Garrawilla State Forest. It was reserved as national park under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005*. It provides important linkage between the more western parks and the parks of the Pilliga region within a highly modified landscape that has been extensively cleared for agriculture.

The park protects five native woodland communities: Black Cypress Pine – White Bloodwood Woodland, Rough-Barked Apple and Blue-Leaved Ironbark, Motherumbah – White Bloodwood, White Bloodwood – Motherumba and White Cypress Pine – White Box Woodlands. Garrawilla National Park also has sites of Aboriginal cultural significance.

4. Values

- White Cypress Pine – White Box Woodlands occur in the park. These woodlands contain components which are recognisable as the endangered ecological community White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland (Box – Gum Woodland) listed under the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (TSC Act). The less shrubby components of these areas potentially conform to the definition of the critically endangered community White Box – Yellow Box – Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland (commonly known as Box Gum Grassy Woodland) listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Populations of these woodlands have been significantly reduced and remnants are often degraded and highly fragmented. This woodland community provides important habitat for a diverse range of threatened species, particularly in relation to breeding opportunities in tree hollows.
- Garrawilla National Park also protects other significant vegetation associations comprised of rough-barked apple (*Angophora floribunda*), narrow-leaved ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*), Dwyer's red gum (*E. dwyeri*), Blakely's red gum (*E. blakelyi*), dirty gum (*E. chloroclada*) and black cypress pine (*Callitris endlicheri*), forming an important habitat linkage between reserves.
- The park protects significant habitat comprised of good quality shrub and ground vegetation, tree hollows, fallen and hollow logs and rocky outcrops. A number of threatened bird species have been recorded in the park including the little eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*), glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*), turquoise parrot (*Neophmea pulchella*), brown treecreeper (eastern subspecies) (*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*), speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*), grey-crowned babbler (eastern subspecies) (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*), varied sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*), scarlet robin (*Petroica boodang*) and diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*). These species are listed as vulnerable under the TSC Act.
- Survey work for Aboriginal cultural sites has been conducted in association with management activities. Targeted surveys of high potential sites, including creek lines and ridge tops, was undertaken in 2009. Garrawilla National Park contains 12 recorded sites of Aboriginal cultural significance. It is possible that additional sites may be found.

5. Issues

- While vegetation survey work for this park has been conducted, further work is required to determine the presence or extent of endangered ecological communities to better inform park management activities such as fire management.
- A fauna survey was conducted in March 2010. Further survey would add to the knowledge of the values of this park.
- Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) are widespread throughout Garrawilla National Park, and there are also scattered populations of goats (*Capra hircus*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*), and isolated populations of feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*).
- Garrawilla National Park has scattered infestations of common prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*) throughout the woodland areas.
- Rubbish dumping is a significant issue in Garrawilla National Park with large amounts of building waste and some hazardous items being regularly dumped in two disused quarry sites in the park.
- Illegal firewood collection is an ongoing problem in Garrawilla National Park.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Garrawilla National Park [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Plains Region.
- 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 Coonabarabran Office on (02) 6842 1311 or 30 Timor Street Coonabarabran, NSW, 2357.

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.

Published by:

Office of Environment and Heritage
59 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232
Phone: (02) 9995 5000

ISBN 978 1 74359 472 8
OEH 2014/0160
June 2014