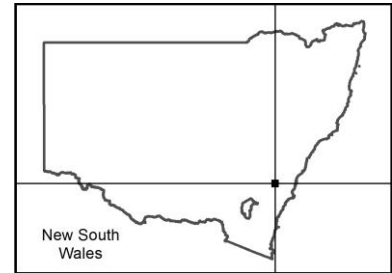


Statement of Management Intent



Kerrawary 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 Kerrawary 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 [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

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

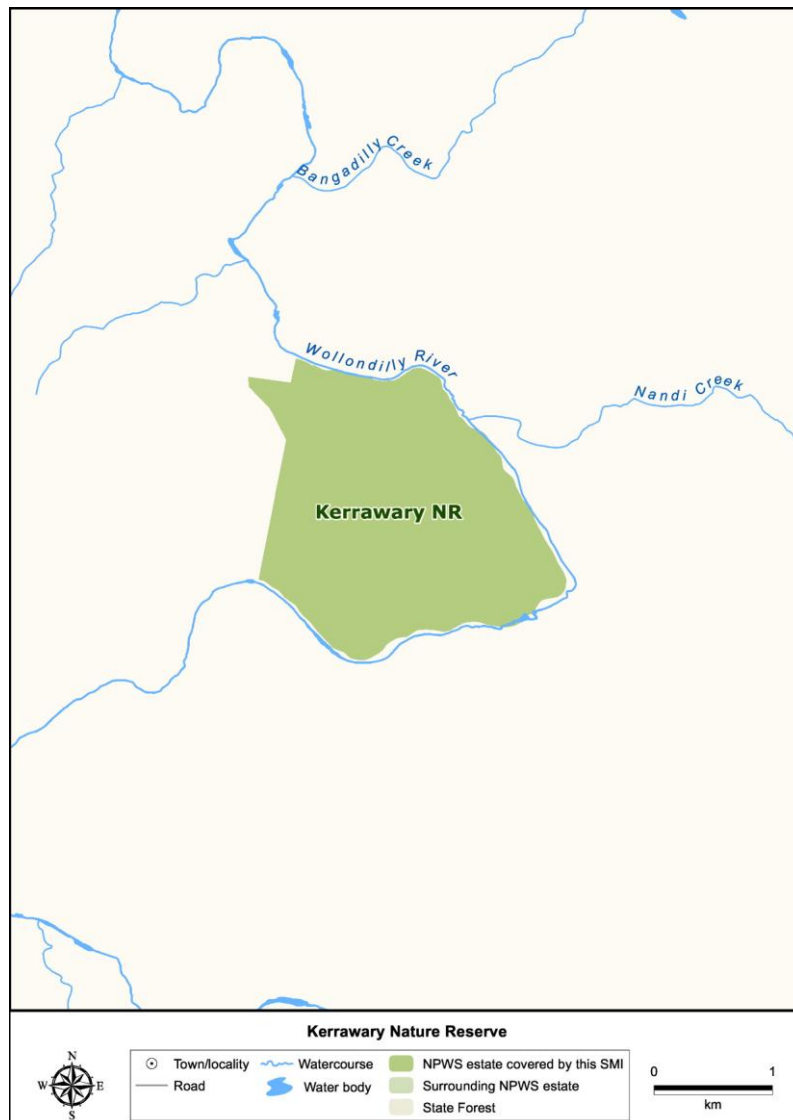
Reservation details: Kerrawary Nature Reserve was reserved on 13 August 2010.

Size: 368 hectares.

Kerrawary Nature Reserve is approximately 45 kilometres north-east of Goulburn. The reserve is located on a steep forested ridge and ranges in elevation from 440 metres above sea level at Wollondilly River to 700 metres above sea level. It falls within the South Eastern Highlands Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Upper Lachlan Shire Council, South East Local Land Services and Pejar Local Aboriginal Land Council. The reserve is also within the area of the Gundungurra Indigenous Land Use Agreement.

The reserve is surrounded by a mosaic of cleared, semi-cleared and some forested rural lands. The majority of the land neighbouring the western and eastern boundaries is cleared grazing land. The reserve is bounded on three sides by the Wollondilly River. The reserve was previously Crown land managed by NSW Trade and Investment (Crown Lands Division).

The vegetation of the reserve is typically dry tableland communities, with a eucalypt-dominant canopy layer and sparse grassy or shrubby understoreys. The majority of the vegetation is dominated by silvertop ash (*Eucalyptus sieberi*), blue-leaved stringybark (*E. agglomerata*), black she-oak (*Allocasuarina littoralis*) and narrow-leaved geebung (*Persoonia linearis*). The north-west corner is characterised by brittle gum (*E. mannifera*) and broad-leaved peppermint (*E. dives*).



4. Values

- During the Comprehensive Regional Assessment process undertaken for the North East New South Wales Regional Forest Agreement, the lowland dry shrub forest was assessed as being of conservation significance in the Goulburn region. This community was identified along the riparian zone of the Wollondilly River in the reserve but has not been identified in any other reserved area. It is dominated by red bloodwood (*Corymbia gummifera*) and turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*). Based on existing vegetation mapping, the endangered

ecological community White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland is also predicted to occur.

- A preliminary plant survey (*Summary of Vegetation – Kerrawary Nature Reserve* (Mills 2013)) did not identify any threatened plant species in the reserve.
- There have been no detailed native animal surveys of the reserve, however one threatened species, the yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*) has been recorded. Threatened animal species recorded within five kilometres of the reserve and considered likely to occur in or use the reserve include the diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*), gang-gang cockatoo (*Callocephalon fimbriatum*) and regent honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*).
- The reserve lies within the traditional country of the Gundungurra Aboriginal people. There have been no comprehensive archaeological surveys and no cultural sites are recorded in the reserve, however considering the landscape and known records in the surrounding area it is likely that sites exist.
- The reserve has aesthetic value, providing a prominent forested backdrop within a rural landscape. Visitation is very low due to issues with access (see below) and the remote location.

5. Issues

- Weeds known to occur in the reserve that are primarily associated with the riparian corridor of the Wollondilly River include blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), willow (*Salix* spp.), fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*) and sweet briar (*Rosa rubiginosa*). Serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*), spear thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) and flatweed (*Hypochaeris radicata*) are also known to occur.
- Feral goats (*Capra hircus*), European red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) have been recorded and it is likely that the European rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and possible that wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.) also occur.
- There is incomplete knowledge of the native animal species using the reserve and their ecological requirements.
- The reserve is relatively small and isolated with the surrounding areas cleared or semi-cleared, making it more vulnerable to disturbances and to pressures from adjacent land uses.
- There is no legal access to the reserve.
- Stock-proof fencing is absent in some sections along the reserve boundary. Livestock straying onto the reserve has been identified as a potential issue, however at this stage it is not a significant problem.
- TransGrid has a high-voltage electricity transmission line traversing the south-west corner of the reserve. Potential impacts of the transmission line are minimised through a statewide agreement between TransGrid and NPWS for inspection and maintenance of existing transmission lines and infrastructure.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Goulburn Group of Reserves Type 1 [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): South Coast Region.

- Native plant and native animal surveys will be undertaken and encouraged to determine the presence of endangered ecological communities and significant species.
- In consultation with the Aboriginal community, opportunities to survey and record Aboriginal sites within the reserve will be investigated.
- Relevant parties will be consulted and involved as required under the Gundungurra Indigenous Land Use Agreement.
- Access to the reserve for management purposes will be formalised. The reserve will not be promoted for public visitation.
- Park identification, safety and regulatory signage will be installed where required.
- Subject to available resourcing, assistance may be provided to neighbours to install stock-proof reserve boundary fencing in accordance with the NPWS Boundary Fencing Policy.
- Liaison with TransGrid will continue regarding the maintenance of the power transmission line and its easement.
- 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 Highlands Area Office on (02) 4887 8244 or Nowra Road, Fitzroy Falls 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.

Published by:

Office of Environment and Heritage
 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
 PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232
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ISBN 978 1 74359 492 6
 OEH 2014/0180
 June 2014