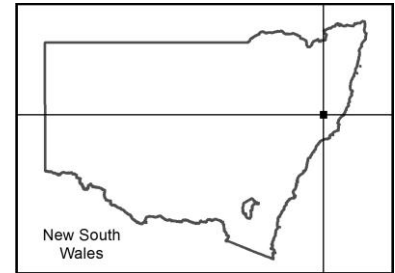


Statement of Management Intent



Khatambuhl 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 Khatambuhl 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: Khatambuhl Nature Reserve was reserved on 5 March 1999.

Size: 801 hectares.

Khatambuhl Nature Reserve is located approximately 23 kilometres north of Gloucester. It falls within the North Coast Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Greater Taree City Council, Hunter Local Land Services and Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Khatambuhl Nature Reserve extends from the northern side of the Manning River, less than one kilometre east of Brett Nature Reserve. The reserve contains a range of vegetation, including dry and subtropical rainforests as well as drier eucalypt forest associations. This region within the NSW North Coast is substantially unmodified and contains dense vegetation and rugged terrain. The

reserve forms part of a significant vegetated corridor that extends from the Manning River floodplain to the Great Dividing Range, linking a diverse habitat assemblage and supporting a number of threatened fauna species.



4. Values

- Although no formal records exist of threatened species occurring within Khatambuhl Nature Reserve, nearby reserves including Woko National Park and Brett's Nature Reserve protect habitat for the endangered brush-tailed rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*) and stuttering frog (*Mixophyes balbus*). Threatened species recorded in these parks include the powerful owl (*Ninox strenua*), masked owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae*) and southern myotis (*Myotis macropus*). Khatambuhl Nature Reserve extends habitat for these species migrating across the region.

5. Issues

- Pest animal species occurring in the reserve include wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.), feral cats (*Felis catus*), European foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) and rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*).

- Weed species occurring in the reserve include lantana (*Lantana camara*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*), morning glory (*Ipomoea indica*), common trad (*Tradescantia pallida*) and exotic grasses.
- There is limited information available regarding the native plant and animal species and other values within the reserve.

6. Key management directions

- Manage fire in accordance with the Khatambuhl Nature Reserve [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the priorities of the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Lower North Coast Region.
- Continue to liaise with the Purfleet/Taree Local Aboriginal Land Council and Elders to discuss management and planning of the reserve.
- Continue to improve knowledge of the reserve's native plants and animals and other values.
- 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 Manning Hastings Area, Taree Office on 6552 4097 or 78 Hargreaves Drive, Taree NSW 2430.

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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