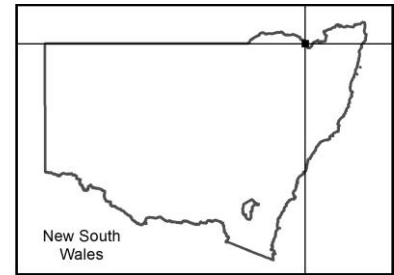


# Statement of Management Intent



## Maroomba State Conservation Area

### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Maroomba State Conservation Area (SCA). This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the SCA 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

State conservation areas are reserved under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas that:

- contain significant or representative ecosystems, landforms or natural phenomena or places of cultural significance
- are capable of providing opportunities for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment, the sustainable use of buildings and structures, or research
- are capable of providing opportunities for uses permitted under other provisions of the NPW Act.

Under the NPW Act ([section 30G](#)), state conservation areas are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, protect natural phenomena and maintain natural landscapes
- conserve places, objects and features of cultural value
- provide for the undertaking of uses permitted under other provisions of the NPW Act (including uses permitted under section 47J such as mineral exploration and mining), having regard to the conservation of the natural and cultural values of the state conservation area
- provide for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with conservation of the area’s natural and cultural values and with uses permitted in the area
- provide for sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to conservation of the area’s natural and cultural values and with other uses permitted in the area
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

Land is reserved as a state conservation area primarily where mineral values preclude reservation as another category. The NPW Act requires a review of the classification of state conservation areas every five years in consultation with the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*.

### 3. Context

**Reservation details:** Maroomba SCA was reserved on 26 October 2007.

**Size:** 1895 hectares.



Maroomba SCA is located 15 kilometres west of Bonshaw and 45 kilometres east of Yetman in the New England region, north-west New South Wales. Maroomba SCA is located within the Nandewar Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Toomelah Local Aboriginal Land Council, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and Inverell Shire Council.

Maroomba SCA lies just south of the Dumaresq River and the Queensland – New South Wales border. Formerly freehold land, the area was reserved as part of the compensatory habitat for vegetation clearing associated with a TransGrid transmission line. Land use in the Yetman area is associated with wool and cattle industries, cropping and logging.

The park is an island of remnant vegetation in a landscape that has largely been cleared for agricultural purposes and is surrounded by farmland. Nearby reserves include Dthinna Dthinnawan

Nature Reserve and Dthinna Dthinnawan Community Conservation Area Zone 1 National Park, Bural Yurral Nature Reserve and Bural Yurral Community Conservation Area Zone 1 National Park and Kwiambal National Park.

#### 4. Values

- Maroomba SCA is located within a major regional vegetation corridor connecting Kwiambal National Park to the Dthinna Dthinnawan group of parks.
- Maroomba SCA provides habitat for 19 threatened animal species including the koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), eight birds and ten bats. Two of these species are listed as endangered in New South Wales, and two species are also listed as threatened nationally. Threatened bats recorded include the endangered hairy-nosed freetail bat (*Mormopterus eleryi*) and vulnerable Corben's long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*). Threatened birds recorded include the speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*), varied sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*) and little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*).
- Maroomba SCA also provides breeding and feeding habitat for the white-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*), a migratory waterbird listed under international agreements with China, Japan and the Republic of South Korea.
- There are five broad vegetation communities described for Maroomba SCA, several of which have been substantially cleared in the surrounding region.
- Heritage sites of potential historic significance include an old mill site and an old house with shearing shed, fences, orchards and old farm relics.

#### 5. Issues

- Pest animal species recorded in Maroomba SCA include feral cats (*Felis catus*), feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) and European red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*).
- Weed species present (as scattered populations) include Coolatai grass (*Hyparrhenia hirta*).
- A TransGrid high-voltage transmission line traverses the SCA; maintenance activities could contribute to the spread of weeds if not effectively managed. TransGrid transmission lines are generally covered by a formal easement granted under section 153(1) of the NPW Act and their maintenance subject to a statewide agreement between TransGrid and NPWS.
- Boundary fences are not stockproof in some sections and Maroomba SCA experiences sheep and cattle incursions from neighbouring properties.
- Heritage sites recorded within Maroomba SCA have not been assessed to determine their historic significance.

#### 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Maroomba SCA [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Tablelands Region. Reactive pest programs are also implemented where needed and in response to emerging issues.
- Liaison will continue with TransGrid regarding maintenance of the transmission line easement and the associated access trail in accordance with the agreement.
- Neighbours will be consulted regarding the maintenance of boundary fences to exclude stock from the SCA. Subject to available resourcing, assistance may be provided to neighbours to install stock-proof park boundary fencing in accordance with the NPWS Boundary Fencing 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 and 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 Tenterfield Office on (02) 6736 4298 or 10 Miles Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372.

---

**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 504 6  
OEH 2014/0192  
May 2014