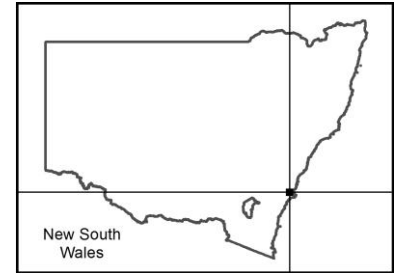


# Statement of Management Intent



## Triplarina 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 Triplarina 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:** Triplarina Nature Reserve was reserved on 1 January 2001.

**Size:** 131 hectares.

Triplarina Nature Reserve is located adjacent to the residential area of West Nowra, approximately 3 kilometres south of Nowra on the NSW South Coast. It falls within the Sydney Basin Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Shoalhaven City Council, South East Local Land Services and Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The main watercourse through Triplarina Nature Reserve is Flat Rock Creek. The creek is dammed downstream from the reserve. The stored water is owned by Shoalhaven City Council and does not

form part of the reserve. Below the dam, Flat Rock Creek joins Nowra Creek then flows into the Shoalhaven River.

The reserve is comprised of former sections of Shoalhaven State Forest (dedicated in 1950) and is named after the endangered flora species Nowra heath myrtle (*Triplarina nowraensis*). The reserve adjoins remaining sections of the Shoalhaven State Forest and areas of residential, rural and industrial development and forms part of a system of conservation reserves in the area south of the lower Shoalhaven River.



#### 4. Values

- Triplarina Nature Reserve protects habitat for the threatened glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*), yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*) and black bittern (*Ixobrychus flavicollis*).
- Triplarina Nature Reserve contains several significant plant species including the endangered Nowra heath myrtle, the critically endangered orchid *Pterostylis vernalis*, and the vulnerable leafless tongue-orchid (*Cryptostylis hunteriana*).
- Recreational activities undertaken within Triplarina Nature Reserve include walking and cycling. There is a walking track along the eastern edge of the stored water and a limited number of basic interpretive signs at track heads.

## 5. Issues

- Wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.), foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*) occur in Triplarina Nature Reserve.
- Weeds present in the reserve include garden escapees, bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), lantana (*Lantana camara*), mother-of-millions (*Bryophyllum delagoense*), coral tree (*Erythrina x sykesii*) and ribbon plant (*Chlorophytum comosum*).
- Due to its urban setting, the reserve has relatively high levels of use including a range of inappropriate activities such as rubbish dumping, unauthorised vehicle activity, illegal firewood collection and dog walking.
- Given its urban setting, fire management, including the maintenance of asset protection zones and strategic fire advantage zones, is important to protect life and property.
- There are several apiary sites within the reserve. These sites are recognised as an existing interest under the NPW Act. The NPWS Beekeeping Policy allows existing sites to continue but does not allow any new or additional sites to be established.
- There are a number of public road reserves that dissect the reserve into numerous blocks. These road reserves have not been 'made' and do not coincide with constructed roads. It would be desirable for them to be included within the reserve to consolidate the area and provide logical reserve boundaries. They are currently managed as though they are part of the reserve.
- Shoalhaven City Council water supply infrastructure, that predates reservation, traverses the reserve. An agreement for ongoing maintenance and access to this infrastructure is being developed.
- NPWS currently allows access through the reserve as the only practical means of access to a private property off Albatross Road. This arrangement acknowledges a pre-existing use at the time of reservation.
- The asset protection zone off Yalwal Road is Part 11 land (under the NPW Act) because it provides a continuation of pre-existing vehicular access to the rear of a number of neighbouring properties.

## 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Triplarina Nature Reserve [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): South Coast Region. Current priorities for control include lantana, spider plant and mother-of-millions. Pests are currently controlled with the focus on protecting threatened species.
- Beekeeping sites will be managed in accordance with the NPWS Beekeeping Policy.
- In consultation with the relevant authorities and local council, NPWS will seek to have all public road reserves within the reserve closed and transferred to NPWS estate.
- Work will continue with Shoalhaven City Council to finalise and implement a formal easement and agreement for the ongoing maintenance of, and access to, existing water supply infrastructure within the reserve.
- The existing access arrangements with neighbours will continue.
- Cycling on management trails will continue to be permitted, and these trails will be appropriately signposted. Cycling will not be permitted on the walking track along the dam.

- Management trails, the walking track and other operational assets will be maintained.
- 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 Nowra Area Office on (02) 4428 6300 or 55 Graham Street, Nowra or PO Box 707, Nowra NSW 2541.

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**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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