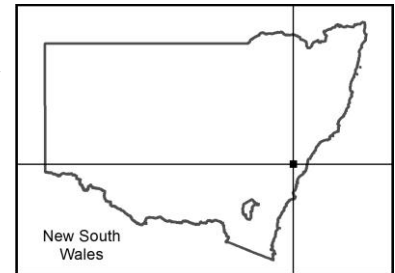




Statement of Management Intent



Wianamatta 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 Wianamatta 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: Wianamatta Nature Reserve was reserved on 26 October 2011.

Size: 181 hectares.

Wianamatta Nature Reserve is located approximately six kilometres north of Penrith and 45 kilometres west of the city of Sydney. It lies within the Sydney Basin Bioregion. It also falls within the administrative areas of Penrith City Council, Greater Sydney Local Land Services and Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Wianamatta Nature Reserve is the former Airservices Australia site at Cranebrook. The site was sold in 2004 and then acquired into the NPWS reserve system in 2009 as an addition to

Wianamatta Regional Park. In 2011 it was re-categorised as a nature reserve. Land surrounding Wianamatta Nature Reserve is comprised of rural and residential land with increasing urban development.

Wianamatta Nature Reserve provides an important refuge for native fauna and flora in the Western Sydney region due to its large size, connectivity and ecological diversity. A significant number of flora and fauna species have been recorded within the reserve, including a variety of threatened species and endangered ecological communities.



4. Values

- Wianamatta Nature Reserve protects a number of endangered ecological communities. It protects 10 per cent of the total remaining population of Castlereagh Swamp Woodland Community. Cooks River/Castlereagh Ironbark Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion and Shale Gravel Transition Forest in the Sydney Basin Bioregion are also found within the reserve.
- Wianamatta Nature Reserve provides important habitat for a variety of threatened shrub species including juniper-leaved grevillea (*Grevillea juniperina* subsp. *juniperina*), *Micromyrtus minutiflora* and Sydney bush-pea (*Pultenaea parviflora*). The reserve is recognised as a key site for the future long-term management of these species in NSW.

The endangered nodding geebung (*Persoonia nutans*) and Bynoe's wattle (*Acacia bynoeana*) are also found within the reserve.

- The reserve protects important habitat for the endangered and regionally endemic Cumberland Plain land snail (*Meridolum corneovirens*). Other threatened fauna species recorded on the reserve include the little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*) and varied sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*). These species are listed as vulnerable under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995*.
- Wianamatta Nature Reserve is an important Aboriginal heritage site; archaeological sites have been recorded including stone artefact scatters that represent the history of Aboriginal occupation in the region.
- Wianamatta Nature Reserve has important social significance for the local community, which has petitioned for the protection of this site for many years.

5. Issues

- Prior to its reservation as a nature reserve, Wianamatta Nature Reserve had uncontrolled public access for many years, leading to weed invasion, trail bike damage and rubbish dumping.
- Weed species recorded within the reserve, or that pose a significant risk of invasion from adjoining lands including the regional park, include African lovegrass (*Eragrostis curvula*), lantana (*Lantana camara*) and pampas grasses (*Cortaderia* spp.). Of particular concern is African lovegrass, because it is known to compete with threatened shrub species within the reserve.
- Pest species recorded in the reserve include European foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*).

6. Key management directions

- Fire will be managed in accordance with the Wianamatta Nature Reserve [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the priorities of the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Metropolitan South West.
- Implement bushland restoration activities to target weed species and restore the endangered ecological community Castlereagh Swamp Woodland Community. These activities will include opportunities for community participation.
- Funds have been allocated for land remediation to address past land-use damage within Wianamatta Nature Reserve.
- A new cable fence has been built around the reserve to protect threatened species, such as juniper-leaved grevillea, from impacts from vehicles accessing the site.
- Implement a site management plan for the 20-hectare 'canopy managed zone' identified for the conservation of *Micromyrtus minutiflora*.
- Install bat roosting boxes in the identified habitat enhancement sites within the reserve and monitor use of the sites.
- 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 Cumberland Area Office on 02 4572 3100 or Scheyville National Park, Scheyville Road, Scheyville NSW.

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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