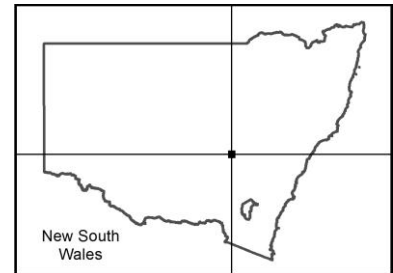


# Statement of Management Intent

## Eugowra 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 Eugowra 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:** Eugowra Nature Reserve was reserved on 8 September 1972.

**Size:** 116 hectares.

Eugowra Nature Reserve is located approximately five kilometres north-west of Eugowra town centre and 30 kilometres east of Forbes. It lies within the NSW South Western Slopes Bioregion. It also falls within the administrative areas of Forbes Shire Council, Cowra Local Aboriginal Land Council and Central West Local Land Services.

This land was formerly Crown tenure and was established as a nature reserve under the *Fauna Protection Act 1948*. Eugowra Nature Reserve spans part of a ridge in an area of vegetated, rocky, hill country. The reserve protects woodlands in an area that has been largely cleared of native vegetation for agricultural use or fragmented due to forestry activities or fire.



#### 4. Values

- Eugowra Nature Reserve is comprised of open woodland vegetation communities that provide a nectar source and breeding and foraging habitat for woodland animal species. Typical species in these communities include black cypress pine (*Callitris endlicheri*), tumbledown red gum (*Eucalyptus dealbata*), red stringybark (*Eucalyptus macrorhyncha*), white box (*Eucalyptus albens*) and currawang (*Acacia doratoxylon*).
- Although no threatened fauna species have been recorded within Eugowra Nature Reserve, the following eight species of threatened birds have been recorded within five kilometres: black falcon (*Falco subniger*), glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*), turquoise parrot (*Neophema pulchella*), brown treecreeper – eastern subspecies (*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*), speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*), white-fronted chat (*Epthianura albifrons*), grey-crowned babbler – eastern subspecies (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*) and diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*). Eugowra Nature Reserve provides habitat for these species.
- The most notable feature of the reserve is the well-developed and diverse granitic landscape. The reserve occupies a rocky granite outcrop, rising from undulating flats. Features include rock outcrops consisting of granite tor fields, located on crests and upper slopes, and rounded and fairly flat areas known as ‘whalebacks’.

- Eugowra Nature Reserve experiences low levels of visitation centred around low-impact, self-reliant, nature-based activities such as birdwatching. The low levels of visitation may be attributed to difficulties in accessing the reserve and the close proximity of other reserves with established visitor facilities such as Nangar National Park. The reserve is bounded by private land and there are no public roads to the reserve boundary. There are no visitor facilities provided in Eugowra Nature Reserve.

## 5. Issues

- Foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) are known to occur within Eugowra Nature Reserve.
- Eugowra Nature Reserve sits within 700 hectares of remnant native vegetation surrounded by extensively cleared land. In 2002 it was subject to a hot fire that burnt the majority of the reserve. The impacts of this fire are still evident.

## 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with Eugowra Nature Reserve [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Western Rivers Region.
- 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 Forbes Office on 02 6851 4429 or Camp Street, Forbes.

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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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