

Meeting summary - Sydney, 23 - 25 May 2022

The National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council provides the Minister for Environment and Heritage and the NPWS executive with independent, informed advice on the priorities, design and evaluation of NPWS policies, strategies and programs to help achieve the objects of the National Parks and Wildlife Act. Council also plays a key advocacy role through engagement with stakeholder organisations.

The chair, Cr Phyllis Miller provided a summary of her meeting with the Minister for Environment and Heritage, the Hon. James Griffin, involving discussion of the Minister's priorities and Council's expertise, commitment and advocacy networks.

Council discussed key aspects of new procedures to review draft plans of management, following recent changes to the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

NPWS officers facilitated Council discussion and recommendations on:

- The Draft amendment to the Kosciusko National Park Plan of Management - Snowy 2.0
- The NPWS Cycling strategy, policy and guidelines
- Update on park management policies
- NPWS's 2022-23 plan of management program.

Site Visit: Council visited Royal National Park on Tuesday 24 May and reviewed heritage values and park management issues at Wattamolla, Bonnie Vale and Audley precincts. Council was briefed on conservation initiatives and park management issues, including:

- Precinct and campground rehabilitation
- Coastal protection works and infrastructure investment
- The ecological health monitoring program
- Species reintroduction planning
- Reserve management
- Pest management programs and stakeholder engagement.

More information:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NPWS/NPWSAdvisoryCouncil.html

Council members

Cr Phyllis Miller OAM (Chairperson): Experience in planning and local government, nominated by Local Government NSW

Mr Ted Rowley (Deputy Chairperson): Expertise and experience in rural and regional development and planning issues.

Assoc Prof Rosemary Black: Expertise and experience in environmental education and community involvement in environmental education.

Mr Brian Everingham:

Expertise in non-government organisations concerned with the conservation of nature, nominated by NSW National Parks Assoc.

Cr Romola Hollywood:

Experience in planning and local government, nominated by Local Government NSW

Mr Paul Knight: Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee member

Assoc Prof Julie Old:

Scientific qualifications in an area associated with the conservation of nature.

Ms Cathy Parsons: Expertise and experience in bush fire management.

Ms Bronwyn Petrie:

Expertise and experience in agriculture and rural issues, nominated by the NSW Farmers' Association

Mr Craig Thomas: Representing peak recreational bodies.

Ms Dianne Thompson OAM:

Expertise in non-government organisations concerned with the conservation of nature, nominated by the Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales.