



NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Jindalee National Park

Plan of management



Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we work and live.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Jindalee National Park and surrounding lands and watercourses are all part of an ancient landscape that has traditionally been under the care of the Wiradjuri People, known as the people of the 3 bila (rivers) which border their lands: the Wambool (Macquarie River), Kalari (Lachlan River) and Murrumbidjeri (Murrumbidgee River) (AM 2023). Aboriginal people have a deep spiritual and cultural connection to this Country. Their ancestors have lived here for thousands of years, and in doing so, form part of this living landscape.

Connections to Country and the significance of the park to Aboriginal peoples – past, present and future – are respected by NPWS and acknowledged. NPWS supports and acknowledges the role of Aboriginal people in identifying traditional connections and custodians for this place.

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Summary

This plan of management was adopted by the Minister for the Environment, the Hon Penny Sharpe MLC, on 19 August 2025.

Jindalee National Park is protected in perpetuity through its reservation under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* (NPW Act). The park is managed to achieve the objects of this Act which are centred on conserving the natural and cultural values of the park, as well as fostering public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of these values (Appendix A).

As required under the Act, this plan of management was prepared and adopted after consideration of:

- the matters listed under section 72AA of the NPW Act including the management principles for national parks (Appendix B)
- representations received on the Jindalee National Park draft plan of management which was placed on public exhibition from October 2024 to February 2025
- advice on the Jindalee National Park draft plan of management provided by the Southern Ranges Regional Advisory Committee.

In 2024 several provisions of the NPW Act were amended to clarify the content that is to be included in plans of management. As a result, the format of this final plan differs slightly from the draft plan that was placed on public exhibition. However, the objectives, strategies and operations outlined in this plan remain largely consistent with those proposed in the draft plan, with some small refinements made as a result of feedback received during the public exhibition process.

This plan of management will provide strategic direction for management of the park. All operations undertaken in the park will be consistent with this plan of management.

1. Jindalee National Park

Jindalee National Park is located approximately 10 km north of the township of Cootamundra. The park is situated in the South Western Slopes bioregion and lies in the heart of the agriculturally productive NSW sheep-wheat belt.

The park occupies an area of 1,076 ha, which is divided into 2 portions by Berthong Road (see Figure 1). The larger western portion is located south of Burley Griffin Way and west of Berthong Road, while the smaller eastern portion is located east of Berthong Road.

Some features of the park include:

- The park is a part of the traditional Country of the Wiradjuri People and contains obvious evidence of Aboriginal occupation and use of the area.
- The park was declared a forest reserve in 1877 and was reclassified as a state forest in August 1918. It was then reserved as a national park under the *National Park Estate (South-Western Cypress Reservations) Act 2010* which commenced on 1 January 2011 to protect remnants of native woodland vegetation across the highly modified South Western Slopes bioregion.
- Land surrounding the park has been extensively cleared for agriculture.
- The park has a high diversity of plants and contains box – gum woodland, a critically endangered ecological community listed under the NSW *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.
- The park provides habitat for native woodland bird species, including the critically endangered regent honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*). Threatened squirrel gliders (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) and eastern pygmy-possums (*Cercartetus nanus*) are also found in the park, along with the pine donkey orchid (*Diuris tricolor*) which is listed as vulnerable under the Biodiversity Conservation Act.
- The park has previously been used for mining, forestry and grazing, and has a long history of recreational use by local communities.
- The park continues to provide a range of opportunities for people to connect with nature while participating in passive or active recreation. A network of mountain bike tracks has been formalised in the eastern portion of the park and other activities such as bushwalking and birdwatching are available across all areas of the park.
- The park lies within the administrative areas of the Cootamundra–Gundagai Regional Council, the Riverina Local Land Service, the Young Local Aboriginal Land Council and the South West Slopes Bush Fire Zone.

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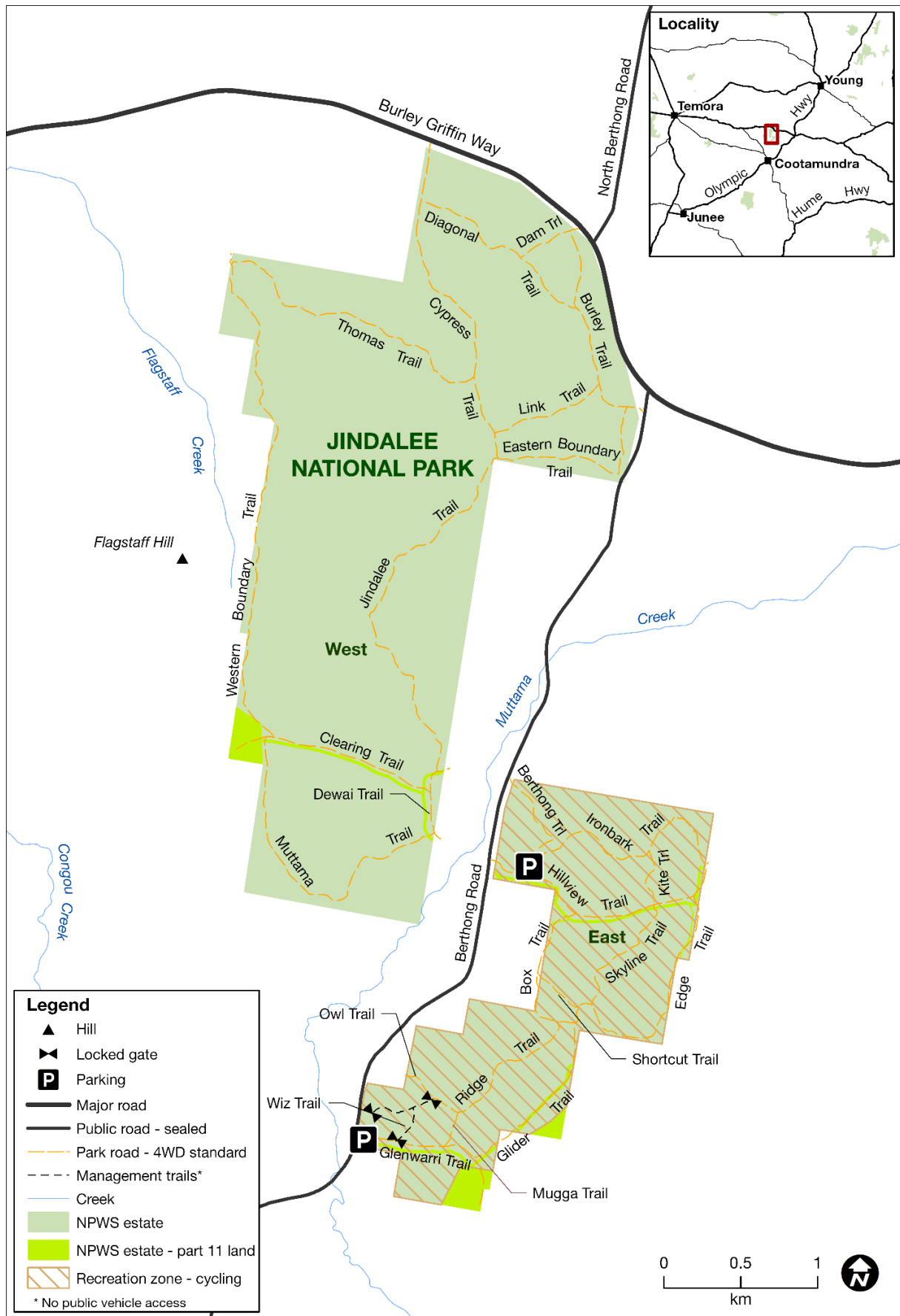


Figure 1 Jindalee National Park

2. Challenges for conservation in the South Western Slopes bioregion

Jindalee National Park is in the South Western Slopes bioregion. Information provided on the South Western Slopes bioregion has been taken from *The bioregions of New South Wales* (NPWS 2003).

The extensive South Western Slopes bioregion has an area of 8,103,373 ha across New South Wales and Victoria, with the NSW portion of the bioregion occupying about 10% of the state. The bioregion is a large area of foothills and ranges comprising the western fall of the Great Dividing Range to the edge of the Riverina bioregion. The South Western Slopes bioregion is dominated by a sub-humid climate characterised by hot summers and no dry season. Mean annual rainfall varies from up to 1,200 mm in the east, to 400 mm in the west. Geology, soils and vegetation are complex and diverse across the bioregion.

The South Western Slopes bioregion has some of the most highly cleared and altered lands in New South Wales. As a result, native vegetation remains generally in small, isolated patches and ecosystem function and genetic health can be lost due to small patch size. Weeds, feral animals, changed fire regimes and clearing of vegetation are some of the many challenges for conservation in the bioregion.

The bioregion is home to several threatened species of native animals and plants. A low level of conservation tenures together occupy only 2.4% of the bioregion. National parks and nature reserves account for over half of this area, with the remainder predominantly managed through private landholder conservation agreements.

3. Management themes

3.1 Protecting the natural environment

Landscape and soils

Jindalee National Park is located within the highly modified South Western Slopes bioregion, a landscape that has been extensively cleared of native vegetation for agriculture. The park sits generally between 400 m and 510 m above sea level and has no permanent running water. Numerous minor drainage lines dissect the park, feeding into Flagstaff and Muttama creeks (see Figure 1).

The park experiences some soil erosion, trail damage and impacts to surface drainage during heavy storms and from inappropriate vehicle use by some visitors. Lower impact activities such as bushwalking occur with minimal detrimental impact to soils. In the eastern portion of the park cycling tracks have been formalised to minimise impacts to soil stability. The potential impact of horse riding on park soils and drainage is of concern. As such, horse riding is limited to park roads and management trails.

Climate change poses a threat to the park as it intensifies the effects of threats such as drought, fire and weeds on the remnant landscape. The management of these threats is discussed further in this plan.



Photo 1 A section of cycling track in Jindalee National Park. Boen Ferguson/DCCEEW

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Objective

- Soil structure and sensitive landscapes are conserved.

Strategies

- Monitor impacts to soils from park use and recreation. Manage as needed, including road and track maintenance, signage and temporary closures. (High priority)
- Manage and minimise illegal activities, such as unregistered vehicle/motorbike use in the park, using community engagement, signage, barriers and law enforcement. (High priority)

Native plants

The park forms part of a fragmented network of conservation reserves in the region, which protect significant remnants of native vegetation. Land surrounding the park has been extensively cleared for farming, and the eastern and western portions of the park are separated by cleared agricultural land.

The NSW State Vegetation Type Map represents the distribution of each plant community type across all tenures in New South Wales (see link in 'More information' section). The 2 dominant plant community types identified within the park are described in Table 1.

Table 1 Dominant plant community types identified in Jindalee National Park

PCT ID	Description	Vegetation classes
342	Mugga ironbark – mixed box woodland on hills in the Cowra – Boorowa – Young region of the NSW South Western Slopes bioregion	Upper Riverina dry sclerophyll forests
217	Mugga ironbark – western grey box – cypress pine tall woodland on footslopes of low hills in the NSW South Western Slopes bioregion	Western slopes dry sclerophyll forests

PCT ID = plant community type identification number.

Small areas of PCTs 322, 266 and 277 are found in the park's western portion.

The park contains the critically endangered ecological community white box – yellow box – Blakely's red gum grassy woodland and derived native grassland in the NSW North Coast, New England Tableland, Nandewar, Brigalow Belt South, Sydney Basin, South Eastern Highlands, NSW South Western Slopes, South East Corner and Riverina bioregions listed under the Biodiversity Conservation Act.

This vegetation community is also likely to conform to the definition of the white box – yellow box – Blakely's red gum grassy woodland and derived native grassland community listed as critically endangered under the Commonwealth's *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. Populations of this community have been significantly reduced and remnants are often degraded and highly fragmented. This box – gum woodland community within the park provides important habitat for a diverse range of threatened species, particularly in relation to breeding opportunities in tree hollows.

The pine donkey orchid has been found in the western portion of the park and is listed as vulnerable under the Biodiversity Conservation Act. The orchid is a terrestrial species, growing from the ground rather than from rocks or vegetation (see Photo 2). It grows in sclerophyll forest among grass, often in association with native cypress pine. It requires a grassy component in the ground layer to provide it with physical protection and moisture-retaining litter. Further surveys for pine donkey orchids, should funding allow, are expected

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to reveal more information on the species' presence and distribution within the park. Park management activities will be undertaken to avoid and minimise potential threats to the species.



Photo 2 Pine donkey orchid (*Diuris tricolor*). Jackie Miles/DCCEEW

Prior to reservation of Jindalee National Park, threats to native plants and ecological communities in the park included mining, grazing and forestry. The native vegetation is expected to benefit from the cessation of these activities, which will allow the existing trees to mature and the emerging trees and understorey to regenerate. Other threats such as feral animals and weeds, firewood collection, and inappropriate recreational activities are ongoing and will be managed in accordance with park management policies and priorities. Some active planting has been carried out in the park and further restoration activities will be undertaken as funding and resources allow.

For more information on threatened plants and ecological communities, visit the department's *Threatened species* webpage (see link in 'More information' section).

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Objective

- Native vegetation communities and populations of threatened flora are maintained or improved.

Strategies

- Conduct surveys of the pine donkey orchid as funding allows, to confirm presence and distribution of the species. (Medium priority)
- Manage activities to avoid and minimise potential threats to the pine donkey orchid. (High priority)
- Manage recreation in the park in accordance with this plan to minimise impacts from visitor use. (Very high priority)
- Promote visitor awareness of threatened flora and ecological communities by installing interpretive materials in key locations within the park. (Medium priority)
- Consider funding opportunities for appropriate planting and restoration projects (Medium priority).
- Manage and minimise illegal activities, such as tree felling and firewood collection, using community engagement, signage and law enforcement. (Medium priority)
- Undertake fire management activities, including having regard to the *Jindalee National Park fire management strategy*. (Very high priority)

Native animals

The park is an important refuge for native animals in a region extensively modified for agriculture. Intensive clearing and fragmentation of the region's landscape has resulted in the decline of many species, including many woodland bird populations. Remaining woodland fragments, such as Jindalee National Park, are important for critically endangered species listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act such as the regent honeyeater and swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*).

Records of known native animals in the park include 9 amphibian species, 6 reptile species, 112 bird species and 20 mammals. The threatened animals recorded in the park and their status under state and federal conservation legislation at the time of writing are provided in Appendix C. For a detailed, up-to-date species list, refer to the *NSW BioNet* website (see link in 'More information' section).

Hollow-bearing trees are particularly important for the conservation of many woodland-dependent threatened species. The end of forestry activities and the regulation of illegal firewood collection is allowing the park's trees to mature, senesce and develop hollows over the long term.

Too-frequent or too-intense fires may result in disruption to animal life cycles and cause further loss of habitat. Fire and other ongoing threats such as feral animals, weeds and inappropriate recreational activities will continue to be managed in accordance with park management policies and strategies.

For more information on threatened fauna species, visit the department's *Threatened species* webpage (see link in 'More information' section).

Objective

- Native animal habitat and populations of threatened fauna are maintained or improved.

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Strategies

- Promote visitor awareness of threatened fauna by installing interpretive materials in key locations within the park. (Medium priority)
- Consider funding opportunities for appropriate fauna protection and habitat restoration projects. (Medium priority)
- Manage and minimise illegal activities, such as tree felling and firewood collection, using community engagement, signage and law enforcement. (High priority)

Feral animals and weeds

Feral animals and weeds can have impacts across the range of park values, including soils, biodiversity, heritage and scenic values.

Priorities for weed control in the park are informed by regional strategies and local considerations such as the presence of threatened species. Weeds in the park include Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*), apple of Sodom (*Solanum linnaeanum*), capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), thistle (*Onopordum* spp.), viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*) and blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.).

Priorities for the control of feral animals in the park are also informed by regional strategies. Target species include red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral cats (*Felis catus*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), hares (*Lepus europaeus*) and feral deer species. Boundary fencing is in place to stop grazing livestock entering the park from surrounding agricultural land.

Objective

- The health of ecosystems is maintained or improved.

Strategies

- Work with adjoining landowners to manage common boundaries and exclude livestock from the park. (High priority)
- Control priority feral animals and weeds. (High priority)

3.2 Looking after our culture and heritage

Aboriginal heritage values

Jindalee National Park lies within the traditional Country of the Wiradjuri People, the largest Aboriginal group in New South Wales by area and population. The Wiradjuri People have lived in Australia for more than 40,000 years (AM 2023). The name of the nearby town Cootamundra is derived from the Wiradjuri word gudhamangdhuray, which means ‘many long-necked turtles’ (RMRA 2023).

Historical use by Aboriginal people of the area now gazetted as Jindalee National Park is not well understood, however, there is evidence of Aboriginal occupation and use of the park and its resources. This evidence includes 18 culturally modified trees in the western portion of the park that were mapped following a survey in 2014. Culturally modified trees are trees that have been scarred, carved or manipulated by humans. There are numerous reasons why Aboriginal people took bark from trees, it being a versatile and plentiful material that could be used for a wide variety of commonplace tasks, including the construction of shelters, watercraft and containers (Long 2005).

Illegal tree felling, firewood collection, and vandalism are an ongoing threat to culturally modified trees in the park. The exact location of the trees will remain undisclosed for their protection. However, generating a greater understanding of the value of these trees will be an aim of any programs that promote the park and its values. Additional law enforcement measures to reduce firewood collection in the park will be undertaken as resources allow.

Further oral history collection and surveys could reveal more information about the significance of the park and its values. NPWS will encourage and participate in programs that build a better picture of the cultural landscape and its features in the park.

Objective

- The understanding and protection of Aboriginal cultural values and sites within the park is improved.

Strategies

- Work with the local Aboriginal community to increase the understanding and protection of cultural values and sites within the park with further surveys or studies, as funding and resources allow. (High priority)
- Increase visitor awareness of local Aboriginal cultural heritage, including by installing appropriate interpretive signage in key locations within the park. (Medium priority)
- Manage and minimise illegal activities, such as tree felling and firewood collection, using community engagement, signage and law enforcement. (Very high priority)

Historic values

The park has a varied history of use since European settlement, including grazing, gold mining, timber collection and use as a forestry reserve (Spooner 2014). Parts of the park were historically known to the local community as ‘The Ironbarks’ and ‘Wattle Valley’, known for attractive displays of the Cootamundra wattle (*Acacia baileyana*), and various recreational opportunities for visitors.

While there is evidence of past mining, forestry and livestock grazing within the park, no built items of potential historic heritage value have been identified. NPWS will manage any

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historic heritage features located in the park in accordance with their assessed level of significance and importance.

Objective

- The understanding of historic heritage values in the park is improved.

Strategies

- Increase understanding of heritage values in the park with further surveys or studies, as funding and resources allow. (Low priority)

3.3 Providing for visitor use and enjoyment

Recreation values

The park has a long history of providing recreational opportunities such as cycling, bushwalking, camping, birdwatching, 4-wheel driving, horse riding and orienteering. A network of cycling tracks was constructed in the eastern portion of the park prior to its reservation as a national park.

After the establishment of Jindalee National Park, NPWS conducted an environmental impact assessment on the existing cycling track network in the park. This assessment determined that most of the tracks were well situated and suitable to be retained. Following upgrades to address environmental and safety risks, a network comprising approximately 25 km of cycling tracks was formalised for use within the smaller eastern portion of the park. This area is designated as a cycling zone (see Figure 1). The cycling track network in this zone is limited to no more than 30 km of track. This allows for reasonable realignments or adjustments of the network if needed in the future. Cycling is allowed on signposted cycling tracks within this zone and on all management trails and park roads.

Sustainable mountain biking opportunities in NPWS parks are guided by the NPWS *Cycling policy*, *Cycling strategy*, and *Guidelines for implementation*. Any significant changes to the network are limited to what can be achieved under the NPWS *Cycling policy*, subject to environmental and cultural heritage impact assessments and other design and assessment criteria. Such changes also require consultation with key stakeholders, including the regional advisory committee. Unauthorised tracks will be closed and rehabilitated as necessary.

Consistent with the priorities laid out in the NPWS *Cycling strategy*, NPWS staff will engage with local mountain biking groups to strengthen cyclist stewardship of the park. Programs may be established to engage volunteers in the maintenance of cycling experiences and to aid in the remediation of closed tracks. For more information on the NPWS *Cycling policy*, refer to the NPWS park management policies link in the 'More information' section.

Cycling tracks in the park will be designated as 'preferred-use' tracks. This means that while the tracks are designed primarily for cycling, other users are not excluded from using them. Also, unlike shared-use trails, it means wide widths and easy walking grades need not be maintained. Some tracks may be designated one-way where appropriate.

Horse riding is undertaken to a limited extent in the park. Horse riding is permitted on park roads and management trails (as shown on Figure 1). Horse riding is not permitted on cycling tracks or in any other part of the park. Public vehicle use is restricted to registered vehicles on park roads and is not permitted on management trails.

Camping facilities have not been provided in the park; however, a small amount of informal camping does occur in previously disturbed areas. Camping is not permitted in carparks or

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day-use areas. Camping must not interfere with park operations, visitor safety, or the conservation of park values and will be regulated with local signage and compliance activity as required. Overnight camping with horses is not permitted in the park.

NPWS may design and build up to 2 campgrounds in the future, with the location(s) to be determined following a review of candidate sites. Environmental impact assessment will accompany any proposal for campground development. Final locations will consider environmental, cultural, operational, and safety factors, as well as park users and neighbours. If established, camping will be restricted to the campgrounds to minimise impacts from visitation across the remainder of the park.

Car parks and track heads will be provided at the main cycling access points off Berthong Road (see Figure 1). Toilets may also be provided in the future if necessary to manage impacts. Additional track heads, formalised parking and other day-use facilities may be established across the park as required. The need and location for these will be determined by NPWS assessments in response to visitor demand and after an assessment of environmental and cultural impacts.

NPWS will monitor visitor behaviour, pressure on facilities, and environmental and cultural responses to visitation. Recreational activities in the park will continue to be monitored and managed to minimise environmental impacts, conflict between user groups, and illegal or unauthorised use of the park. The summary of permissible activities in Section 4 sets out the recreational and commercial activities permitted in the park and any requirements to undertake the activities.

Objective

- Visitor use of the park is ecologically sustainable and provides opportunities for public appreciation of park values.

Strategies

- Permit cycling on cycling tracks by track head and individual track signage across the network. (High priority)
- Designate cycling tracks as preferred-use, with tracks designated one-way as appropriate. (High priority)
- Monitor visitor use and manage access and visitor facilities to ensure that park values are maintained. (High priority)
- Engage with local mountain biking stakeholder groups to assist in the planning and management of cycling tracks in the park. (High priority)
- Maintain the track network within the limits outlined in this plan of management. (High priority)
- Establish additional day-use facilities if it becomes necessary in the future to manage the impacts associated with visitors and ensure a positive visitor experience. This includes the option of toilets at the main track head site. (Medium priority)

3.4 Park access and infrastructure

There are 2 signposted entry points off Berthong Road to access the eastern portion of the park. The western portion of the park has 2 signposted entries via Burley Griffin Way and one entry via Berthong Road. For authorised park entry points, see Figure 1.

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NPWS has mapped the internal park road and management trail network that will be maintained for public vehicle access and management purposes, as shown on Figure 1. Trail use will be authorised locally with the use of signs and gates.

At the time of writing there are several land parcels and management trails vested in the Minister administering the National Parks and Wildlife Act for the purposes of Part 11 of that Act. These lands are not part of the gazetted park, but their management is subject to this plan of management and the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019. Figure 1 shows the status of the lands at the time of writing, with some being the subject of land swap negotiations. If or when agreement on those swaps is reached, the tenure of those lands would be updated in the relevant NSW land title and NPWS systems.

A reserve access strategy may be developed to confirm the status of all existing access routes and identify opportunities to consolidate future access for management and public access.

The park boundary is fenced to stop livestock from entering the park and to discourage visitors from venturing onto adjacent private property. NPWS staff will liaise with neighbours and ensure fences are maintained consistent with the NPWS *Boundary fencing policy*. For more information on NPWS park management policies, refer to the 'More information' section.

Park infrastructure as it relates to recreation is outlined further in Section 3.3.

Objective

- Park infrastructure meets NPWS needs while supporting the protection of park values and providing for appropriate visitor access.

Strategies

- Maintain the park road network and use signs and gates to manage the use of management trails. (High priority)
- Implement the reserve access strategy to secure park access for public use and management purposes. (Medium priority)
- Work with adjoining landowners to manage common boundaries and exclude livestock from the park. (High priority)
- Design and build up to 2 campgrounds where and when demand requires, with consideration given to environmental, cultural, operational, and safety factors, as well as park users and neighbours. (Medium priority)

4. Summary of permissible activities

All activities undertaken by NPWS, contractors, licenced businesses, visitors and other organisations within parks are considered by the NPW Act to be operations. The NPW Act specifies that operations may not be undertaken in a park with a plan of management unless those operations are in accordance with that plan.

The National Parks and Wildlife Regulation, together with this plan, specify the operations that are prohibited in the Jindalee National Park. This plan also specifies the operations that will be permitted in the park and the conditions that will apply.

NPWS undertakes a broad range of routine park management operations necessary to manage the park and achieve this plan's objectives. These include but are not limited to visitor safety works, education, feral animal control, weed control, asset maintenance and refurbishment, fence construction, fire management and suppression, and revegetation. All routine park management necessary to manage the park and achieve the objects of the NPW Act are permitted.

Table 2 below outlines the key operations that are not permitted, those that may be permitted and the conditions that may apply to permitted operations. NPWS may set additional conditions for permitted activities at any time if necessary to facilitate the effective management of the park or to help achieve the objects of the NPW Act.

Permitted operations that meet the definition of development under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (EPA Act) are also subject to the planning and approval requirements of the EPA Act. This may include the preparation of a review of environmental factors or other forms of environmental assessment.

4.1 Recreational activities

There are many recreational activities that can be undertaken in the park without consent from park managers. Other activities can occur if consent is provided by NPWS. All activities that occur in the park are subject to relevant policies and legislation.

Conditions may be applied to ensure an activity is undertaken safely and to minimise environmental risks and risks to others. Consent may be refused after consideration of the proposed activity and its likely environmental, visitor safety and park management impacts.

Activities may be subject to operating conditions or limits from time to time. Examples include closing access to parts of the park during periods of bushfire risk, bad weather or maintenance or improvement works.

Activities not shown in Table 2 may also be regulated by signage within the park or by consent.

Information regarding activities that require consent and obtaining consent is available on the NPWS website or by contacting the relevant NPWS office.

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Table 2 Park use regulations – recreational activities

Type of activity	Allowed	Note/exceptions
Barbecues – portable	Yes	Gas, liquid fuel and electric BBQs are permitted in the park, unless a total fire ban or park fire ban is in place.
Camping	Yes	Camping is not permitted in established carparks or day-use areas. Camping will be limited to designated campgrounds if and when they are established in the park. Overnight camping with horses is not permitted.
Cycling/mountain biking	Yes	Cycling is permitted on park roads, management trails and tracks designated for cycling. All organised group events, such as club rides, require consent irrespective of group size.
Dog walking	No	Domestic animals are not allowed in NSW national parks. A person may be accompanied by their trained assistance animal provided they meet the requirements of proof and other conditions set out in the NPWS <i>Pets in parks policy</i> .
Drones	With consent	Drones may be used for park management and emergency or law enforcement purposes. The use of drones for activities that support park management objectives may be authorised via a consent (conditions, exclusion areas and civil aviation regulations apply). Recreational use of drones will not be authorised.
Four-wheel driving	Yes	Four-wheel driving is limited to registered vehicles on park roads. Vehicle use off-road is not allowed.
Fossicking	No	Not permitted.
Group gatherings – non-commercial (e.g. family or social gatherings, school groups)	Yes	Consent is required for groups of more than 20 people.
Horse riding	Yes	Horse riding is permitted on park roads and management trails. Horse riding is not permitted on cycling tracks or in any other part of the park.
Vehicle access (including motorbikes)	Yes	Motorised vehicle access is limited to registered vehicles on park roads only. Vehicle use off-road is not allowed.
Walking and nature appreciation	Yes	Walking and nature appreciation are permitted in the park, unless signposted otherwise. Cycling tracks are designated as preferred-use for cyclists, but walking is allowed with caution.
Wood fires and solid fuel fires	Yes	Wood fires and solid fuel fires are permitted within the park, however not during solid fuel bans or total fire bans.

4.2 Commercial and non-commercial activities requiring approval

Commercial and non-commercial activities within NSW national parks that require prior approval include guided tours, commercial events, filming and photography, and group gatherings.

Commercial activities such as tours are licensed under the Parks Eco Pass program. This program licenses operators who conduct commercial tours, recreational and educational activities in NSW national parks and reserves (see NPWS visitor website link in 'More information' section).

Commercial filming and photography in parks and reserves requires approval consistent with the NPWS *Filming and photography policy* (see NPWS park management policies link in 'More information' section). Approval to use supporting equipment, such as marquees, amplified sound or drones, will be determined on a case-by-case basis, subject to an assessment of potential impacts on park values and other park users. Use of any supporting equipment will be subject to consent conditions.

NPWS is committed to ensuring that opportunities to experience Aboriginal culture in the park are developed and delivered in a culturally sensitive way. These experiences must respect the authenticity and integrity of local Aboriginal people and their culture, adhere to cultural protocols, and recognise that Aboriginal culture is the intellectual property of Aboriginal people. Licensing of commercial tour operators, and recreational and educational operators includes conditions on the delivery of Aboriginal cultural heritage interpretation and requirements for Aboriginal cultural awareness training.

Under NPWS policy, commercial operators may be required to support understanding of cultural heritage conservation and management, and promote respect for Aboriginal culture and sites. This may include requirements to consult with Aboriginal communities to develop appropriate material and information for participants.

Table 3 lists some common event, function and commercial activities that may be permitted in the park with consent from NPWS or under a licence or lease. It is not a definitive or exhaustive list of permitted commercial or other activities. Information on relevant policies, required approvals and fees is available on the NPWS website.

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Table 3 Park use regulations – events, functions and commercial activities

Type of activity	Group size	Type of approval required
Commercial and charity events, including walking, running and cycling events open for public participation	All groups irrespective of size may apply for consent or licence. Limits on group size may be implemented by NPWS.	Consent or licence
Commercial activities including nature appreciation, cultural tours, filming and photography	All groups irrespective of size may apply for consent or licence. Limits on group size may be implemented by NPWS.	Consent or licence
Private, non-commercial organised events (e.g. club based and students)	All groups of 20 or more.	Consent
Research (scientific, educational, conservation or park management)	All groups irrespective of size may apply for consent or licence. Limits on group size may be implemented by NPWS.	Consent or licence
All other events and gatherings involving groups of more than 20 people	All groups of 20 or more.	Consent

References

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More information

- Environment and Heritage website
 - Threatened species
 - NSW BioNet
- National Parks and Wildlife Service visitor website
- NPWS park management policies
- NSW State Vegetation Type Map – SEED data portal, accessed December 2023
- Privacy and security – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water webpage

Appendix A: Objects of the National Parks and Wildlife Act

The objects of the National Parks and Wildlife Act, set out in section 2A of the Act are:

- a. The conservation of nature, including, but not limited to, the conservation of—
 - i. habitat, ecosystems and ecosystem processes, and
 - ii. biological diversity at the community, species and genetic levels, and
 - iii. landforms of significance, including geological features and processes, and
 - iv. landscapes and natural features of significance including wilderness and wild rivers,
- b. the conservation of objects, places or features (including biological diversity) of cultural value within the landscape, including, but not limited to—
 - i. places, objects and features of significance to Aboriginal people, and
 - ii. places of social value to the people of New South Wales, and
 - iii. places of historic, architectural or scientific significance,
- c. fostering public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of nature and cultural heritage and their conservation,
- d. providing for the management of land reserved under this Act in accordance with the management principles applicable for each type of reservation.

Appendix B: Management principles for national parks

Section 30E of the National Parks and Wildlife Act states that a national park is to be managed in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) the conservation of biodiversity, the maintenance of ecosystem function, the protection of geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena and the maintenance of natural landscapes,
- (b) the conservation of places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value,
- (c) the protection of the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations,
- (d) the promotion of public appreciation and understanding of the national park's natural and cultural values,
- (e) provision for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with the conservation of the national park's natural and cultural values,
- (f) provision for the sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to the conservation of the national park's natural and cultural values,
- (fa) provision for the carrying out of development in any part of a special area (within the meaning of the *Hunter Water Act 1991*) in the national park that is permitted under section 185A having regard to the conservation of the national park's natural and cultural values,
- (g) provision for appropriate research and monitoring.

Appendix C: Threatened animal species recorded in Jindalee National Park

The threatened animals recorded in the park and their status under state and federal conservation legislation at the time of writing are provided in Table 4.

Table 4 Threatened animal species recorded in Jindalee National Park

Class	Common name	Scientific name	BC Act status	EPBC Act status
Aves	Black-chinned honeyeater (eastern subsp.)	<i>Melithreptus gularis gularis</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Brown treecreeper (eastern subsp.)	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Diamond firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Dusky woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Flame robin	<i>Petroica phoenoea</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Grey crown babbler (eastern subsp.)	<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Hooded robin	<i>Melanodryas cucullata</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Little eagle	<i>Hieraaetus morphnoides</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Little lorikeet	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Painted honeyeater	<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Aves	Regent honeyeater	<i>Anthochaera phrygia</i>	Critically endangered	Critically endangered
Aves	Speckled warbler	<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Square-tailed kite	<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	Superb parrot	<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Aves	Swift parrot	<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Endangered	Critically endangered
Aves	Varied sittella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Aves	White-fronted chat	<i>Epthianura albifrons</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Mammalia	Eastern pygmy-possum	<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed
Mammalia	Squirrel glider	<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	Vulnerable	Not listed

BC Act = *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* (NSW).

EPBC Act = *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth).

Jindalee National Park plan of management

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