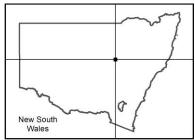




# Statement of Management Intent



# **Drillwarrina National Park**

# **Community Conservation Area Zone 1**

#### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Drillwarrina Community Conservation Area Zone 1 National Park (Drillwarrina National Park). This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the park until a plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the <u>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (NPW Act)</u>. The NPWS <u>Managing Parks Prior to Plan of Management Policy</u> 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

Zone 1 community conservation areas are reserved as national parks under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding or representative ecosystems, natural or cultural features or landscapes or phenomena that provide opportunities for public appreciation, inspiration and sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment. Under the NPW Act (section 30E), Zone 1 community conservation areas are managed to:

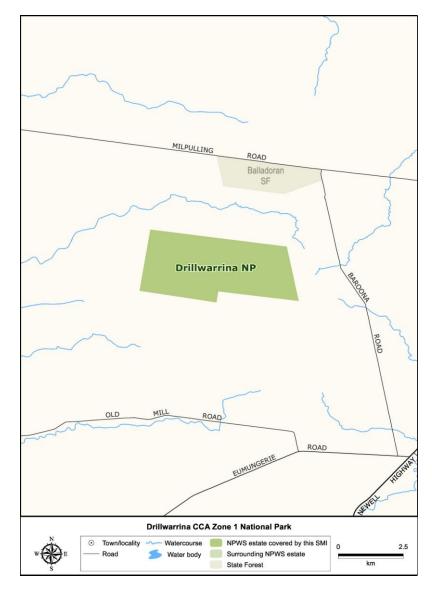
- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena and maintain natural landscapes
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations
- promote public appreciation and understanding of the park's natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of Zone 1 community conservation areas is to conserve nature and cultural heritage. In doing so, opportunities are provided for appropriate and sustainable recreation.

#### 3. Context

Reservation details: Drillwarrina National Park was reserved on 1 December 2005.

Size: 1077 hectares.



Drillwarrina National Park is situated approximately 40 kilometres north of Dubbo. It falls within the Brigalow Belt South Bioregion, and the administrative areas of Gilgandra Local Aboriginal Land Council, Gilgandra Shire Council and Central West Local Land Services.

Prior to reservation, the land that is Drillwarrina National Park was Drillwarrina State Forest. This land was reserved under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005*. The park has an extensive logging history for its ironbark and box tree vegetation, which has resulted in pine communities dominating and lowering the canopy structure of the park. Drillwarrina National Park is surrounded by farming properties used for grazing.

#### 4. Values

 Drillwarrina National Park protects habitat for the glossy black-cockatoo (Calyptorhynchus lathami), speckled warbler (Chthonicola sagittata), grey-crowned babbler (eastern subspecies) (Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis) and varied sittella (Daphoenositta chrysoptera).

- Drillwarrina National Park protects important habitat for the endangered ecological community White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum Woodland.
- Drillwarrina National Park is dominated by ironbark forest communities that support white cypress pine (*Callitris glaucophylla*), narrow-leaved ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) and narrow-leaved grey box (*Eucalyptus pilligaensis*).

### 5. Issues

- There are foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral cats (*Felis catus*), and feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*) present within the park.
- Drillwarrina National Park has infestations of common prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*) and African boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*).
- Illegal collection of firewood and shooting of native and pest animals and at signs has been recorded within Drillwarrina National Park.
- Illegal pig hunting with dogs occurs within the park from time to time.

# 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Drillwarrina National Park <u>Fire Management Strategy</u>.
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the NPWS <u>Regional</u>
   <u>Pest Management Strategy</u>: Northern Plains Region. Current priorities include feral pig
   management.
- NPWS will continue to cooperate with neighbours and undertake regulatory enforcement and patrols of Drillwarrina National Park to reduce the occurrence of illegal activities within the park.
- 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 park. 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 park by promoting and raising public awareness of its special values.

For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of this park or this statement, contact the NPWS Coonabarabran Area Office on (02) 6842 1311 or at 30 Timor Street, Coonabarabran NSW 2357.

**Disclaimer:** This is a statement of intent to guide the management of the park 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 park's location and basic features only, and are not suitable for use when navigating to or exploring within parks.

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