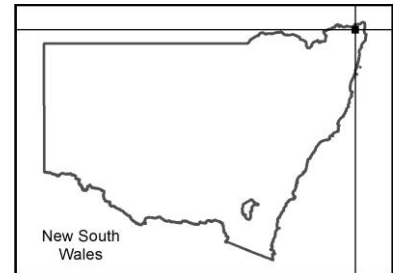


Statement of Management Intent



Wollumbin State Conservation Area

1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Wollumbin State Conservation Area (SCA). This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the SCA 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

State conservation areas are reserved under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas that:

- contain significant or representative ecosystems, landforms or natural phenomena or places of cultural significance
- are capable of providing opportunities for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment, the sustainable use of buildings and structures, or research
- are capable of providing opportunities for uses permitted under other provisions of the NPW Act.

Under the NPW Act ([section 30G](#)), state conservation areas are managed to:

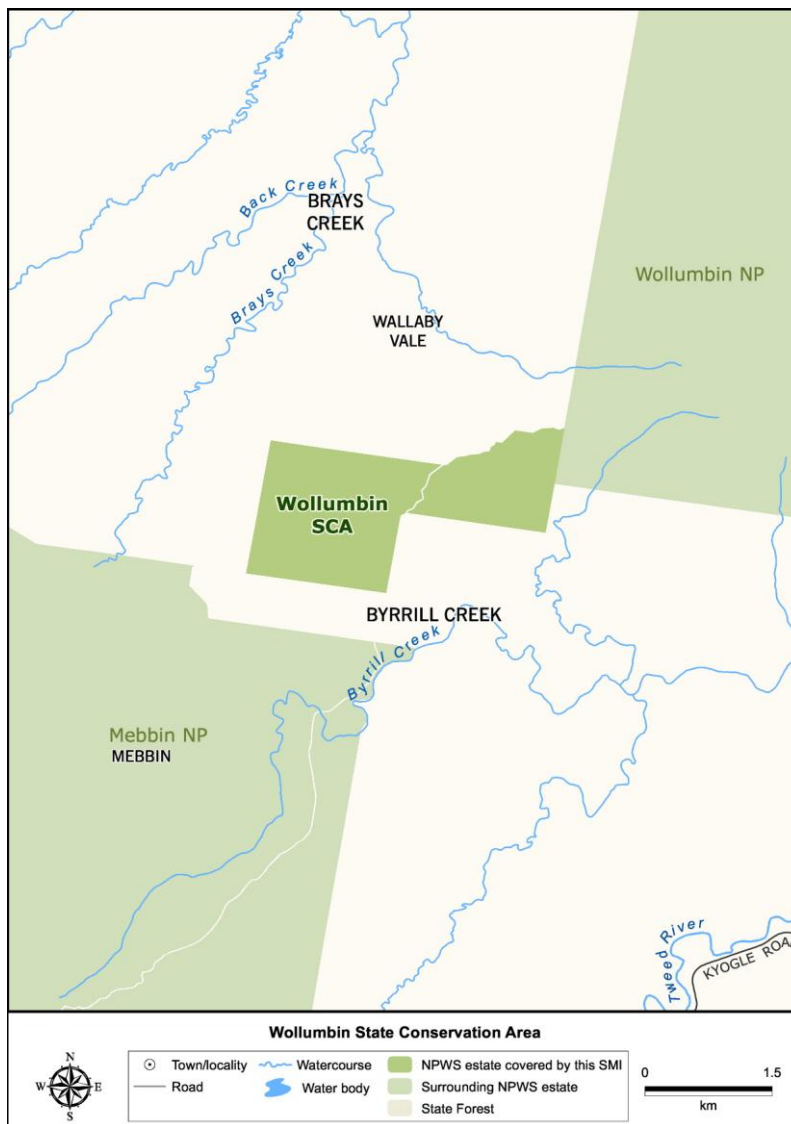
- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, protect natural phenomena and maintain natural landscapes
- conserve places, objects and features of cultural value
- provide for the undertaking of uses permitted under other provisions of the NPW Act (including uses permitted under section 47J such as mineral exploration and mining), having regard to the conservation of the natural and cultural values of the state conservation area
- provide for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with conservation of the area's natural and cultural values and with uses permitted in the area
- provide for sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to conservation of the area's natural and cultural values and with other uses permitted in the area
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

Land is reserved as a state conservation area primarily where mineral values preclude reservation as another category. The NPW Act requires a review of the classification of state conservation areas every five years in consultation with the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992*.

3. Context

Reservation details: Wollumbin State Conservation Area was reserved on 1 July 2003.

Size: 368 hectares.



Wollumbin State Conservation Area is located approximately 25 kilometres south-west of Murwillumbah. It falls within the South Eastern Queensland Bioregion, and the administrative areas of Tweed/Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council, Tweed Shire Council and North Coast Local Land Services.

The SCA was created from former state forest as a result of the Comprehensive Regional Assessment process undertaken for the North East New South Wales Regional Forest Agreement, and reserved under the *National Park Estate (Reservations) Act 2003*.

The Tweed Caldera, which includes the park, has high cultural value for many Aboriginal groups in north-east New South Wales and south-east Queensland. The park plays a significant role within the broader cultural landscape.

The park borders Wollumbin National Park and extends west towards Mebbin National Park. It provides an important regional wildlife corridor linking the Tweed and McPherson ranges to the Tweed Valley.

The park is part of a continuous chain of protected areas that includes Border Ranges National Park, Limpinwood Nature Reserve and Numinbah Nature Reserve within New South Wales and various properties within Queensland. Some of these parks form part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area, which is the most extensive area of subtropical rainforest in the world, representing ancient rainforest remnants.

4. Values

- The Wollumbin area has high cultural value for many Aboriginal groups in north-east New South Wales and south-east Queensland.
- The SCA protects habitat for the threatened koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), little bentwing-bat (*Miniopterus australis*), southern myotis (*Myotis macropus*) and powerful owl (*Ninox strenua*).
- The SCA supports wet sclerophyll forest (shrubby subformation), rainforest and dry sclerophyll vegetation.

5. Issues

- Wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.), foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral cats (*Felis catus*) and cane toads (*Rhinella marina*) are present in the park.
- The SCA contains infestations of crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*), mistflower (*Ageratina riparia*), molasses grass (*Melinis minutiflora*), groundsel bush (*Baccharis halimifolia*), camphor laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), lantana (*Lantana camara*) and wild tobacco bush (*Solanum mauritianum*). Most of these infestations are associated with disturbed areas such as roadsides and former logging trails.
- Bell Miner Associated Dieback is present within the SCA.
- Illegal four-wheel drive and trail bike activity occurs in the SCA.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Wollumbin (Mount Warning) National Park, Wollumbin State Conservation Area, Hattons Bluff and Mount Nullum nature reserves [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Rivers Region. Current priorities for the SCA include monitoring Bell Miner Associated Dieback.
- Regulatory patrols and enforcement action will continue as required, to reduce the occurrence of illegal activities such as trail bike riding within the SCA.
- The Wollumbin Consultative Group represents local Aboriginal interests and will continue to be consulted regarding park planning and management.
- 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 SCA. 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 SCA by promoting and raising public awareness of its special values.

For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of this SCA or this statement, contact the NPWS Tweed Office on (02) 6670 8600 or 1/135 Main Street or PO Box 724, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

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

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