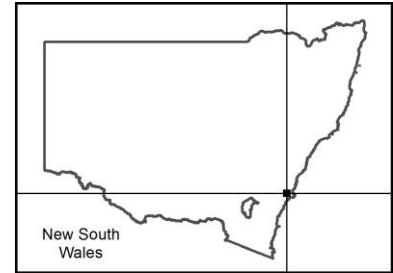


Statement of Management Intent



Colymea 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 Colymea 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: Colymea State Conservation Area was reserved on 1 January 2001.

Size: 1674 hectares.



Colymea SCA is located approximately 12 kilometres south-west of Nowra on the NSW South Coast. It falls within the Sydney Basin Bioregion. It also falls within the administrative areas of Shoalhaven City Council, South East Local Land Services and Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The SCA was formerly Colymea State Forest, originally dedicated in 1917. Colymea SCA was reserved under the *National Park Estate (Southern Region Reservations) Act 2000* as a result of the Comprehensive Regional Assessment process undertaken for the Southern Regional Forest Agreement. The park adjoins areas of cleared rural and rural residential land and extensive areas of bushland. Large areas of Crown land and land owned by the Nowra Local Aboriginal Land Council join Colymea SCA to Morton National Park and form connections between the two parks.

4. Values

- Colymea SCA protects habitat for a variety of fauna species including the threatened glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathami*), yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*), little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*), powerful owl (*Ninox strenua*), striated fieldwren (*Calamanthus fuliginosus*), sooty owl (*Tyto tenebricosa*) and brush-tailed rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*).
- Colymea SCA protects important habitat for River-flat Eucalypt Forest on Coastal Floodplains of the NSW North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions, an endangered ecological community.
- The park protects significant flora species including the endangered Bynoe's wattle (*Acacia bynoeana*) and tangled bedstraw (*Galium australe*) and the vulnerable Albatross mallee (*Eucalyptus langleyi*). There is also a historic record of Deane's paperbark (*Melaleuca deanei*) occurring in the park.
- The recently described endangered shrub species *Hibbertia stricta* subsp. *furcatula* occurs within Colymea SCA. The park contains the largest known populations of this species; this is one of only two known populations of this species recorded.
- The park provides for recreational opportunities such as horse riding, cycling, bushwalking and vehicle touring.

5. Issues

- Pests known to occur include foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.) feral goats (*Capra hircus*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*).
- Weeds known to occur include mistflower (*Ageratina riparia*), crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), exotic vines (various species) and lantana (*Lantana camara*).
- The SCA is subject to a range of illegal and unauthorised activities including firewood collection, rubbish dumping and unregistered vehicle use.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Bamarang and Wogamia Nature Reserves and Colymea State Conservation Area [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): South Coast Region.
- Monitoring of *Hibbertia stricta* subsp. *furcatula* will continue within Colymea SCA to ensure populations are not impacted by recreational activity or management actions.
- Weeds within Colymea SCA will be controlled, with the focus on protecting threatened species and endangered ecological communities 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 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 Nowra Area Office on (02) 4428 6300 or 55 Graham Street, Nowra or PO Box 707, Nowra NSW 2541.

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.

Published by:

Office of Environment and Heritage
59 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232
Phone: (02) 9995 5000

ISBN 978 1 74359 452 0
OEH 2014/0140
May 2014