

Conservation Action Plan

Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)

This plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of s.78C of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 (Reg.) in relation to an Asset of Intergenerational Significance (AIS) as declared under s.153G of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Site details

AIS site	AIS-E0-072, AIS-E0-073, AIS-E0-074
Site location	An area of 29 hectares in Marshalls Creek Nature Reserve An area of 17 hectares in Susan Island Nature Reserve An area of 8 hectares in Wingham Brush Nature Reserve
NPWS contact	Ranger, Tweed Byron Area, North Coast Branch Ranger, Clarence Area, North Coast Branch Ranger, Manning Great Lakes Area, Hunter Central Coast Branch

Environmental values

This table sets out the environmental values for which the land was listed as an AIS (Reg. 78C(3)(a)).

Identified value(s)	Value description
Important habitat for Grey-headed flying-fox	The grey-headed flying-fox is the largest Australian bat. The species occurs in subtropical and temperate rainforests, tall sclerophyll forests and woodlands, heaths and swamps. The grey-headed flying fox is a vulnerable mammal with habitat on national park estate supporting the most important populations for this species. Breeding sites are crucial to the conservation of the species. Maternity camps on secure tenure are ideal locations and potential harbour for displacement of contentious camps.

Key risks to environmental values

This table sets out the key risks to the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(b)).

Key risk(s)	Description
Weeds	Habitat degradation and competition through invasion, establishment, intensification and/or spread of weeds to the extent that availability of forage or refuge areas are reduced, and area of suitable breeding habitat is reduced.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes to weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that increases the frequency, severity, and/or extent of floods, fire, and/or drought events, may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of grey-headed flying-foxes at the sites.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities, visitor use and activities on adjoining lands that leads to degradation of habitat and/or disturbance to individuals and grey-headed flying fox camps.
Interactions with native species	Competition and degradation of habitat by little red flying fox through roosting, foraging and defoliation of trees may lead to a reduction in suitable habitat and affect the persistence of grey-headed flying-fox at the sites.

Conservation activities

This table sets out the conservation activities required to:

1. Control, abate or mitigate the key risks and
2. maintain, restore and remediate the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(c)).

Key risk(s)	Impacted site(s)	Conservation activities
Weeds	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove weed species to the extent required to ensure weeds do not have a negative impact on the grey-headed flying fox by targeted application of physical and chemical weed control.
Anthropogenic climate change	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If required, implement heat stress response measures for camps likely to be affected by a forecast heat stress event.
Disturbance	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance or visitor use is having an adverse impact on grey-headed flying-fox. If adverse impacts are observed implement actions to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installation of signs, threatened species marker posts, or barriers to delineate exclusion areas to minimise disturbance from maintenance activities and visitor use. • If required, liaise with local council and planning authorities to ensure activities on adjoining land do not have an adverse impact on the grey-headed flying-fox population and habitat. • If required, develop educational material and install signage to educate and raise awareness of the impact to grey-headed flying-fox from disturbance and how to minimise impacts.
All risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If required, undertake habitat restoration or improvement through supplemental planting and other practical methods to extend foraging and roosting habitat and/or connect to habitat on adjoining lands.

Other land management activities

Within the declared land there are existing assets and infrastructure of NPWS and other external service providers, including public utilities.

Maintenance operations (including inspection, emergency works and routine and standard maintenance) that are exempt development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and which are performed on and around existing assets and infrastructure, are authorised under this conservation action plan (CAP) provided such operations are undertaken in a manner that aims to minimise the risk to the declared environmental values of the land and with any other required consents or approvals.

All maintenance operations on the declared land are to be undertaken in accordance with this CAP

Measuring and reporting

This table sets out the requirements for measuring and reporting on health and condition (Reg. 78C(3)(d)).

Attribute	Metric	Method
Health and condition of the Grey-headed flying-fox population	Population estimate	Design, and implement annually, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of grey-headed flying-fox in the population.

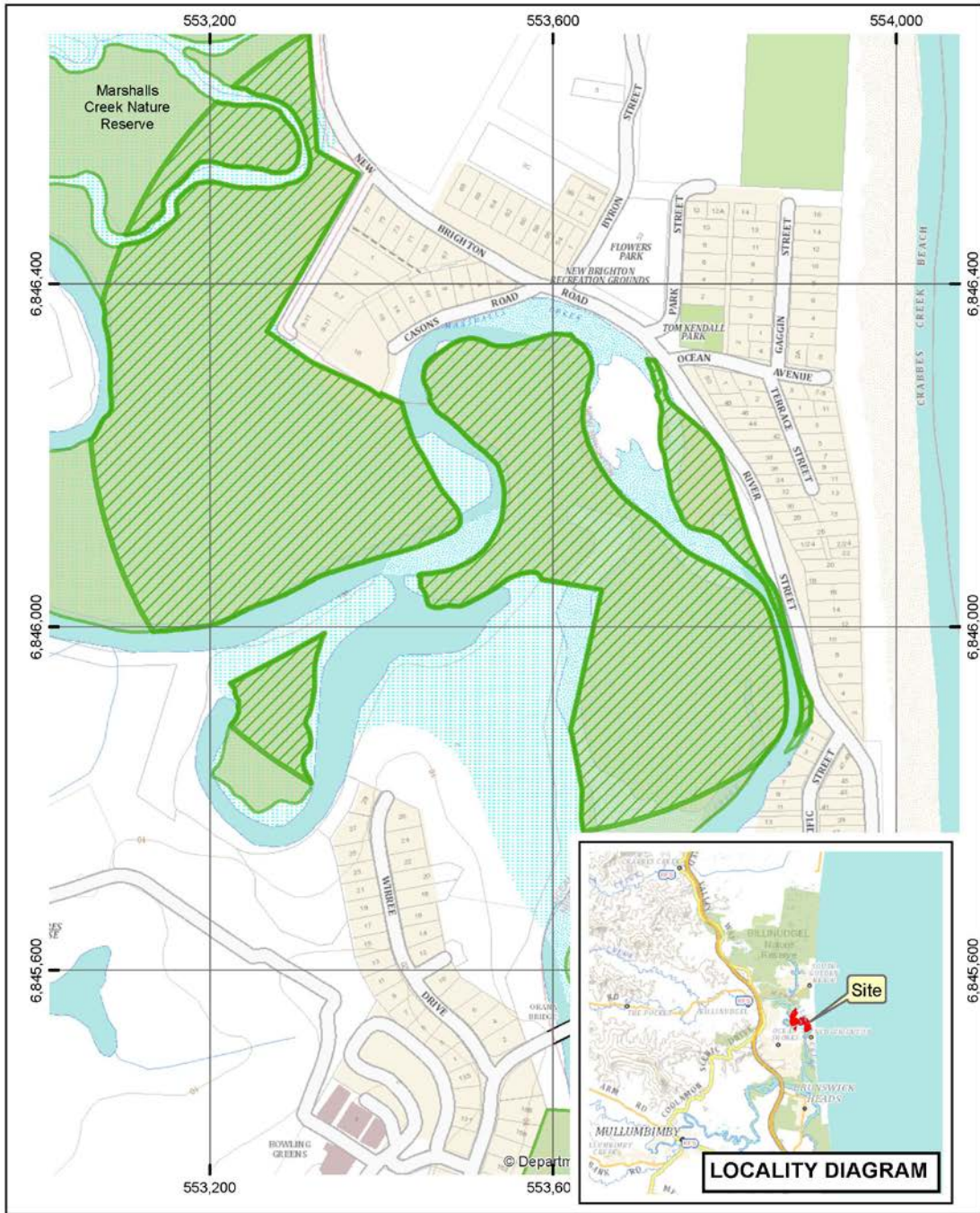
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land and its overall trajectory.

Evaluation of conservation action plans



This CAP will be amended or replaced as new information becomes available that helps improve our management of the identified assets (Reg. 78H).

The Secretary must appoint a scientist, or a panel of scientists, to conduct a review, as soon as possible after the period of five years from the first approval of a CAP, to examine whether CAPs have been effectively implemented (Reg. 78J(1)).

Grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*)
Conservation Action Plan





Legend

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

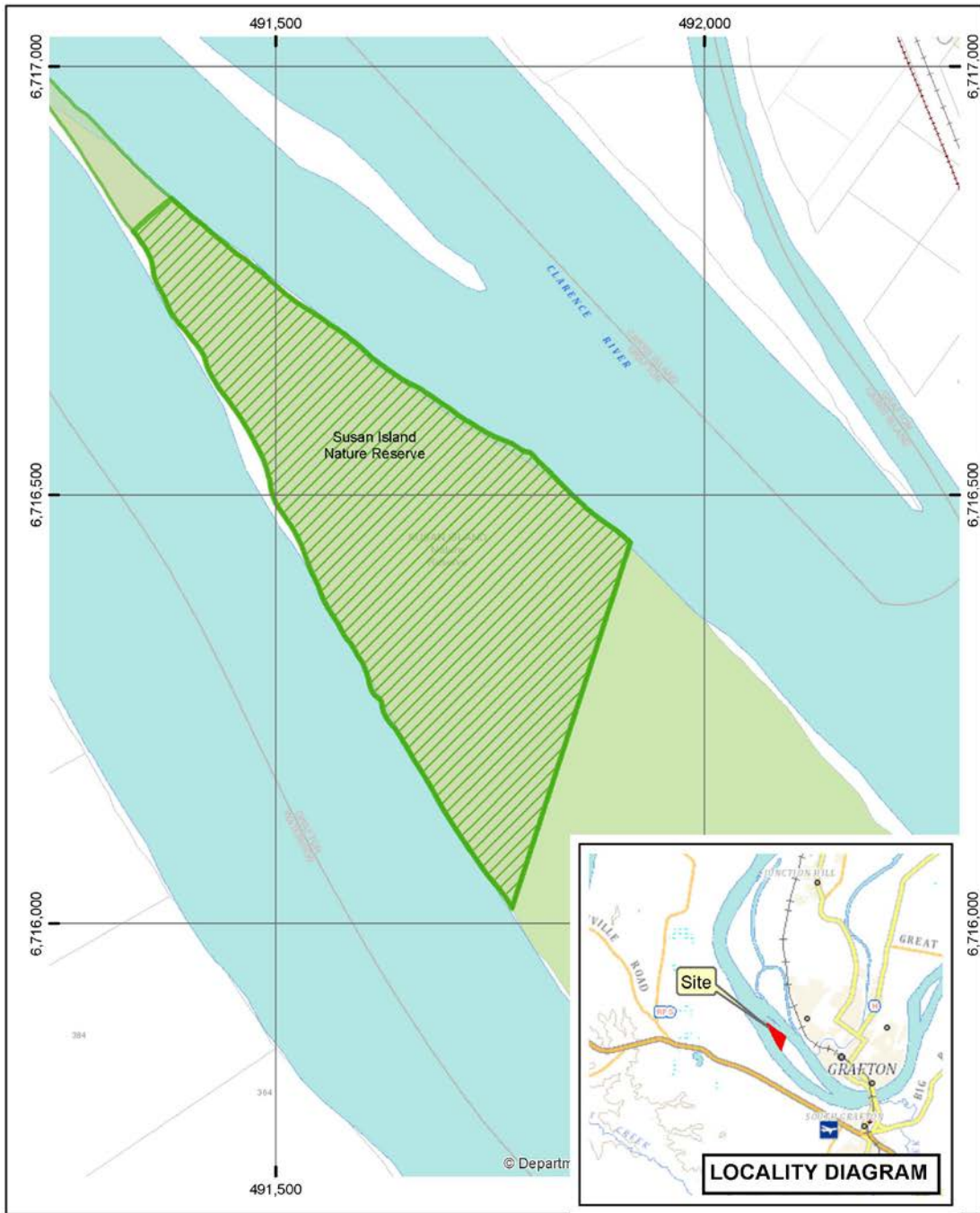
AIS-E0-072
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Grey-headed flying-fox
(Pteropus poliocephalus)
Marshalls Creek Nature Reserve

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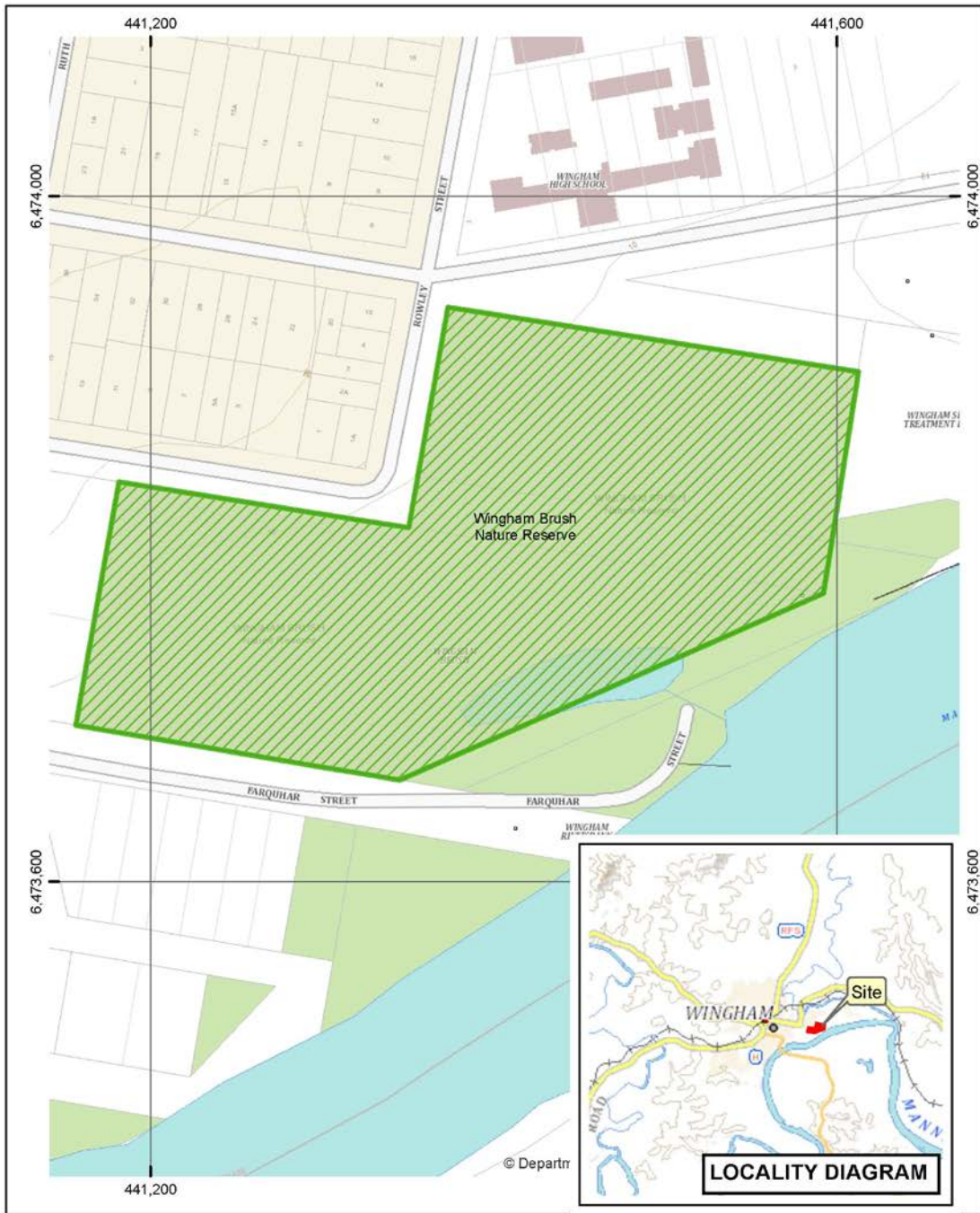



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<p>Legend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declared Land NPWS Estate 	<p>AIS-E0-073 Asset of Intergenerational Significance Grey-headed flying-fox (<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>) Susan Island Nature Reserve</p> <p><small>Copyright of Department of Planning Industry and Environment. This map is not guaranteed to be free from error or omission. The Department and its employees disclaim liability for any loss or damage arising from the use of this map and any consequences of such acts or omissions.</small></p>	<p>N</p> <p>0 0.065 0.13 0.195 km</p>
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Legend

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

AIS-E0-074
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Grey-headed flying-fox
(Pteropus poliocephalus)
Wingham Brush Nature Reserve

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Date prepared	August 2022
Date approved	17 December 2022
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage
Due for review	April 2027

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