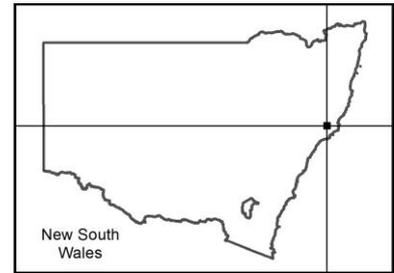




# Statement of Management Intent



## Ghin-doo-ee National Park

### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Ghin-doo-ee 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 [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

National parks are reserved 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](#)), national parks are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, and 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 national parks is to conserve nature and cultural heritage. Opportunities are provided for appropriate visitor use in a manner that does not damage conservation values.

### 3. Context

**Reservation details:** Ghin-doo-ee National Park was reserved on 1 January 1999.

**Size:** 4819 hectares.

Ghin-doo-ee National Park is located approximately 35 kilometres west of Forster and 20 kilometres north-west of Buladelah. It falls within the NSW North Coast Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Great Lakes Council, Hunter Local Land Services and Forster and Karuah local Aboriginal land councils.



Ghin-doo-ee National Park provides a valuable habitat corridor that links with Myall Lakes National Park and surrounding state forest, extending north through private property to The Glen Nature Reserve. The park was formerly part of Myall River State Forest and associated with timber harvesting which is characterised by changes in the floristic structure to maximise timber production and extensive road and trail networks. The reserve supports a variety of threatened fauna species and vegetation communities representative of the region.

#### 4. Values

- Ghin-doo-ee National Park protects habitat for a variety of threatened species including the koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), yellow-bellied glider (*Petaurus australis*) grey-headed flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*) and the golden-tipped bat (*Kerivoula papuensis*).
- The park contains a rich flora including several rare or threatened plants such as the restricted *Eucalyptus fergusonii* ssp. *fergusonii* and potential habitat for Craven grey box

(*E. largeana*), tapering-leaved bottlebrush (*Callistemon acuminatus*) and the endangered white-flowered wax plant (*Cynanchum elegans*).

- A significant proportion of the forests in the park remain in old-growth condition. The park also protects habitat for Sydney blue gum forest (*E. saligna*), grey ironbark (*E. siderophloia*) and subtropical rainforest vegetation communities.
- There are historic items within the reserve, including timber road bridges, a former flora reserve and a forestry campsite, which are representative of the logging history of the region.

## 5. Issues

- Cabbage Tree telecommunication towers and associated powerlines are located in the park. Maintenance of this infrastructure has the potential to impact park values.
- Ongoing arson and escaped private-property hazard reduction burns have resulted in areas of the park being burnt too frequently.
- Wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.) and feral cats (*Felis catus*) are known to occur within the park.
- Weed species known to occur in the park include crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*), lantana (*Lantana camara*), narrow-leaved cotton bush (*Gomphocarpus fruticosus*) and mixed exotic grass species.
- Bell Miner Associated Dieback occurs in an isolated portion of the park.
- Inappropriate and illegal activities within the park include vandalism, arson and motorbike riding. Motorbikes are also causing damage to road surfaces leading to erosion.
- The public road network provides links through the park to adjoining areas via other tenures including private property and state forest.

## 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Ghin-doo-ee National Park [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the priorities of the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Lower North Coast Region. A cooperative wild dog control program is implemented as required in accordance with the regional pest management strategy to help protect stock on neighbouring properties. Weed species are controlled with the primary focus of protecting Sydney blue gum forest and subtropical rainforest vegetation communities and maintaining access to management trails.
- Seek the inclusion of Ghin-doo-ee National Park as part of Myall Lakes National Park.
- There will be minimal visitor development and provision of infrastructure in the park consistent with its remote location and natural environment. Substantial recreation opportunity is provided in areas within close proximity to the park.
- Management of Cabbage Tree telecommunication towers and associated powerlines is in accordance with relevant legislation and departmental guidelines. Expansion of facilities will be confined to the existing footprint, defined by the existing cleared area.
- Maintain and upgrade identified public roads and management trails to a standard suitable for management purposes and ensure any public road network that depends on links through adjoining tenure is permissible.

- Implement a coordinated law enforcement program within the park and surrounding reserves to target a range of issues including illegal motorbike activities.
- Continue to provide support to manage and liaise with beekeepers in the Great Lakes area in accordance with the NPWS Beekeeping Policy.
- 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 Great Lakes Office on 02 6591 0300 or Booti Booti National Park, The Lakes Way, Pacific Palms NSW 2428.

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**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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