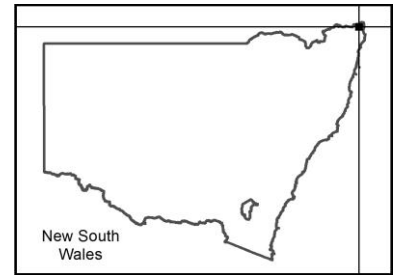




# Statement of Management Intent



## Hattons Bluff Nature Reserve

### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Hattons Bluff Nature Reserve. This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the reserve 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

Nature reserves are reserved under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding, unique or representative ecosystems, species, communities or natural phenomena. Under the NPW Act ([section 30J](#)), nature reserves are managed to:

- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, and protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- promote public appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of the reserve's natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of nature reserves is to conserve nature. Nature reserves differ from national parks in that they do not have the provision of visitor use as a management purpose or principle.

### 3. Context

**Reservation details:** Hattons Bluff Nature Reserve was reserved on 5 March 1999.

**Size:** 18 hectares.

Hattons Bluff Nature Reserve is located approximately 6 kilometres south-west of Murwillumbah. It falls within the South Eastern Queensland Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Tweed/Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council, North Coast Local Land Services and Tweed Shire Council.

This small, remote and isolated reserve lies between the Oxley River and Korrumbyn Creek. It protects part of the Mount Warning (or Wollumbin) Caldera, and complements nearby parks such as Border Ranges National Park and Limpinwood Nature Reserve which form part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia World Heritage Area. This region of New South Wales is

visually striking; the landscape includes vertical escarpments, high waterfalls, plateaus and gullies of dense rainforest that contrast with the rural land that dominates the Tweed and Richmond valley floors. The reserve forms part of a regional wildlife corridor for species migrating west–east across the Tweed Valley.

The Tweed Caldera, which includes the reserve, 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.



#### 4. Values

- The Wollumbin area has high cultural value for many Aboriginal groups in north-east New South Wales and south-east Queensland.
- Hattons Bluff Nature Reserve forms part of a regional wildlife corridor for species migrating across the Mount Warning (or Wollumbin) Caldera escarpment, from Wollumbin National Park to Mount Jerusalem and Mooball national parks. It is expected to support threatened species such as the Albert's lyrebird (*Menura alberti*), koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) and Stephens' banded-snake (*Hoplocephalus stephensii*).

## 5. Issues

- Wild dogs (*Canis lupus* spp.), foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*) are present within the reserve. Cane toads (*Rhinella marina*) and goats (*Capra hircus*) may also be present.
- Weeds that occur in the reserve include crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*), mistflower (*Ageratina riparia*), camphor laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and lantana (*Lantana camara*).
- The reserve is surrounded by private property and access is negotiated with property owners as required.

## 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.
- The Wollumbin Consultative Group represents local Aboriginal interests and will continue to be consulted regarding park planning and management.
- Access trails to the reserve will be mapped, and working relationships with neighbours maintained regarding fire management and park access for management purposes.
- Ongoing access arrangements will be investigated.
- The reserve will not be promoted for public visitation.
- 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 reserve. 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 reserve by promoting and raising public awareness of its special values.

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

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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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