



**Office of
Environment & Heritage**
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service



**AMENDMENTS TO
KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK
PLAN OF MANAGEMENT**

**NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Part of the Office of Environment and Heritage**

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INTRODUCTION

The *Strategic Directions for Horse Riding in NSW National Parks and Reserves* (2012) commits to establishing five wilderness pilots across NSW, to trial horse riding in wilderness locations.

This amendment is to amend the Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management (2006) to establish one wilderness pilot to trial horse riding on the identified route through wilderness for a period of up to two years.

The draft amendments were placed on public exhibition from 7 June to 29 July 2013, and were considered by the Regional Advisory Committee and Advisory Council. This final amendment has taken into consideration their recommendations and modified accordingly. The trial horse riding route includes the Nine Mile Trail (from the Barry Way to the Ingeegoodbee Trail) and the Ingeegoodbee Trail (from the Victorian border to the Cowombat Trail) and is illustrated in Map 8.

An Adaptive Management Framework has been developed to apply to the wilderness pilot to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts on park and social values.

These amendments were adopted by the Minister for the Environment on **10 February 2014** in accordance with Section 73B of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

For further information on these amendments, contact the Southern Ranges Region, NPWS, PO Box 2228, Jindabyne, NSW 2627 (phone 02 6450 5555).

WORDING OF THE AMENDMENTS

Section 5.3 Back Country Zone

1. Section 5.3 describes activities permitted in the Back Country Zone that are prohibited in the Wilderness Zone. It refers to 'horse riding' and 'various commercial recreational activities' as activities that are not permitted in the Wilderness Zone. Delete the following:

Recreation management in this zone differs from that within the Wilderness Zone in that horse riding, motorised boating and various commercial recreational activities and special events are allowed in certain areas, cycling is permitted on most management trails, and the variety, standard and capacity of recreational facilities is greater.

Add the following:

Recreation management in this zone differs from that within the Wilderness Zone in that motorised boating and various commercial recreational activities and special events are allowed in certain areas, cycling is permitted on most management trails, and the variety, standard and capacity of recreational facilities is greater. Horse riding is permitted in parts of the Back Country Zone, as well as some Wilderness areas as part of the horse riding in wilderness pilot

described in 8.7.1(2). Commercial activities as part of the horse riding in wilderness pilot described in 8.7.1(2) are also permitted.

Section 8.7 Horse Riding - Background

2. Section 8.7 describes where horse riding is permitted in the park. Amend the third paragraph to state:

Recreational horse riding is prohibited in the Main Range and certain other alpine and subalpine areas within the park. Recreational horse riding is also prohibited in declared wilderness areas (the Wilderness Zone) except as permitted through the wilderness pilot, described in 8.7.1(2). With the exception of the Thredbo alpine resort area where horse riding is currently permitted under lease conditions, most of the horse riding areas in the park are located within the Back Country Zone.

Section 8.7.1 Horse Riding – Management Objective

3. Section 8.7.1 identifies the policies and actions in relation to horse riding. Insert the following as an additional paragraph, numbered 2, and renumber subsequent paragraphs (3 to 14):

Trial recreational horse riding within the wilderness zone for the purpose of a wilderness pilot, including:

- Only on the trails identified in Map 8, being Nine Mile Trail from the Pinch River to the Ingeegoodbee Trail heading south to the Victorian border and north to the Tin Mine Huts near the start of the Cascades/Cowombat Flat Trail.
- Each horse riding group, either commercial or non-commercial will have a maximum of eight horses only;
- Camping with horses not allowed within 500 metres of the huts or further than 100 metres from the existing management track;
- For a period of up to two years, commencing on a date to be publicly notified; and
- In accordance with the Adaptive Management Framework applied to the pilot.

Add to Contents (page viii):

8 Wilderness Pilot Route..... Inside Cover

Schedule 4 Appropriate Recreational Activities – Table S4.1

4. The table indicates which recreational activities are permitted in each zone. Change the horse riding row in the wilderness column to:

yes (on management trails only as part of the wilderness pilot described in 8.7.1(2)).

Schedule 4 Appropriate Recreational Activities – Table S4.2

5. The table indicates which commercial activities are permitted in each zone. Change the horse riding row in the wilderness column to:

group or commercial activities with consent on management trails only as part of the horse riding wilderness pilot described in 8.7.1(2).

Schedule 4 Appropriate Recreational Activities – Table S4.2

6. Amend note 12 in the legend to:

No commercial activities are permitted in the Wilderness Zone, except as part of the horse riding wilderness pilot described in 8.7.1(2).

Schedule 6 Standard of Visitor Facilities – Table S6.3

7. Amend third dot point under Notes to state:

Management trails in the Wilderness Zone are for management, emergency and other authorised vehicles only but may be available to the public for walking, and in some instances, cycling, and horse riding (as part of the horse riding wilderness pilot described in 8.7.1(2)).

