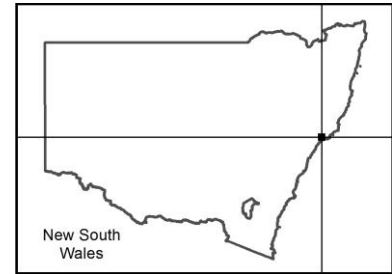


Statement of Management Intent



Tilligerry 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 Tilligerry 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: Tilligerry National Park was reserved on 1 July 2007.

Size: 141 hectares.

Tilligerry National Park is located approximately 25 kilometres north-east of Newcastle. It falls within the NSW North Coast Bioregion, and within the administrative areas of Port Stephens Council, Hunter Local Land Services and Worimi Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Tilligerry National Park was created from former Crown land as a result of the NSW Comprehensive Regional Assessment process, and reserved under the *National Park Estate (Lower Hunter Region Reservations) Act 2006*. Tilligerry National Park is a small, narrow park that lies on the banks of Tilligerry Creek and parallel to the north-east section of Tilligerry State Conservation Area (SCA). These reserves are linked by a narrow corridor near the eastern boundary of the national park.

The park is comprised of coastal estuarine habitat and mangroves. It contributes to the overall biodiversity of the region, providing opportunities for wildlife migrating between Tilligerry SCA, Tilligerry Nature Reserve and Worimi National Park.



4. Values

- Tilligerry National Park protects habitat for the threatened koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*). The adjoining Tilligerry SCA is recognised as significant koala breeding habitat in NSW in the *National Koala Conservation and Management Strategy 2009–2014*. The national park further extends critical koala habitat in the region.
- The adjoining Tilligerry SCA protects habitat for a variety of threatened species including the spotted-tailed quoll (*Dasyurus maculatus*), brush-tailed phascogale (*Phascogale tapoatafa*)

and little bentwing-bat (*Miniopterus australis*). Tilligerry National Park provides opportunities for these species migrating in the region.

5. Issues

- Pest animals recorded in the park include European red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*).
- The coastal environmental weed sharp rush (*Juncus acutus*) occurs in isolated infestations within the park.
- Inappropriate land-use practices upstream impact the water quality of Tilligerry Creek, which also has an impact on park values.

6. Key management directions

- Manage fire in accordance with the Tomaree National Park and Tilligerry Nature Reserve [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.
- Continue to consult with the local community and stakeholders upstream whose land use impacts on water quality in Tilligerry Creek.
- 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 Nelson Bay Office on 02 4984 8200 or Level 1, 12B Teramby Road, Nelson Bay NSW.

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.

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 540 4
OEH 2014/0228
May 2014