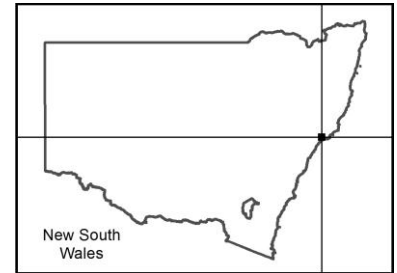


# Statement of Management Intent



## Tilligerry 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 Tilligerry 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:** Tilligerry Nature Reserve was reserved on 5 March 1999. An additional five hectares was reserved under the *National Park Estate (Lower Hunter Region Reservations) Act 2006*.

**Size:** 513 hectares.

Tilligerry Nature Reserve is located approximately 35 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.

The reserve was formerly Crown land. Part of the reserve boundary adjoins the Port Stephens–Great Lakes Marine Park with the northern and western boundaries adjoining the Tilligerry Creek

Habitat Protection Zone. The boundary in the central part of the reserve adjoins Fenninghams Island and Wallis Creek Sanctuary Zone. Tilligerry Nature Reserve is comprised of mangrove saltmarsh habitat, swamp sclerophyll forest and dry sclerophyll forest vegetation communities which protect habitat for a variety of threatened species and endangered ecological communities.



#### 4. Values

- Tilligerry Nature Reserve provides important habitat for the threatened koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), wallum froglet (*Crinia tinnula*), powerful owl (*Ninox strenua*) and masked owl (*Tyto novaehollandiae*).
- The reserve protects two endangered ecological communities: Swamp Oak Floodplain Forest of the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions and Coastal Saltmarsh in the New South Wales North Coast, Sydney Basin and South East Corner Bioregions. It also protects Blackbutt Forest and Mangrove habitats.
- The reserve attracts walkers staying at the adjoining Fenninghams Island caravan park.

#### 5. Issues

- Pest animals occurring in the reserve include European foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*).

- Weed species occurring in the reserve include lantana (*Lantana camara*), bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *rotundata*), camphor laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and crofton weed (*Ageratina adenophora*).
- There have been past occurrences of illegal rubbish dumping and unauthorised vehicle use within the reserve.

## 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.
- 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 Nelson Bay Office on 02 4984 8200 or Level 1, 12B Teramby Road, Nelson Bay NSW.

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**Disclaimer:** This is a statement of intent to guide the management of the reserve 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 reserve's location and basic features only, and are not suitable for use when navigating to or exploring within parks.

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