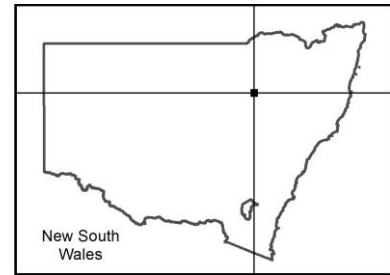


Statement of Management Intent



Timallallie National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1

1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Timallallie National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1. 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

Zone 1 community conservation areas are reserved as national parks 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, 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. In doing so, opportunities are provided for appropriate and sustainable recreation.

3. Context

Reservation details: Timallallie National Park was reserved on 1 December 2005.

Size: 39,395 hectares.



Timallallie National Park is located approximately 20 kilometres north of Coonabarabran in the northern inland of NSW and forms part of the traditional area of the Gamilaroi People (also known as Gomeroi and Gamilaraay). It falls within the Brigalow Belt South Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Narrabri and Warrumbungle shire councils, Central West and North West local land services and covers the boundaries of the Pilliga, Baradine and Coonabarabran local Aboriginal land councils. The park forms part of an extensive Native Title Claim by the Gomeroi people (NC11/6-1).

Timallallie National Park was previously state forest tenure and was reserved under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005*. The park forms part of a network of reserves known as the Pilliga Forest, which includes the adjoining Pilliga Nature Reserve and Pilliga East State Forest. The Pilliga Forest is the largest native forest west of the Great Dividing Range and is an important refuge for wildlife.

The park features natural springs, including Wittenbra Springs and contains Bugaldie Creek, which is part of one of the largest waterways in the Pilliga reserve systems (ephemeral). Timallallie National Park is open to the public and provides visitor infrastructure and amenities to enhance visitor appreciation of the Pilliga landscape. The area has been logged since 1880.

4. Values

- Timallallie National Park protects habitat for the endangered regent honeyeater (*Anthochaera phrygia*) and black-striped wallaby (*Macropus dorsalis*). Threatened species recorded within the park includes the Pilliga mouse (*Pseudomys pilligaensis*), koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), Corben's long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*), glossy black-cockatoo (*Calyptorhynchus lathamii*), little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*), varied sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*), grey-crowned babbler (eastern subspecies) (*Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis*) and speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*).
- Timallallie National Park contains Box-Gum Woodland and Fuzzy Box on alluvial soils of South West Slopes, Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South endangered ecological communities.
- Lowland Darling River Aquatic Endangered Ecological Community listed under the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* occurs within the park.
- The parks of the Pilliga forest are of spiritual significance and contemporary importance to the Aboriginal community. Sites of significance recorded in the area include scarred trees, grinding grooves, artefact scatters and shelters.
- Historic sites within the park are associated with the forestry and agricultural industry and include sleeper dumps, survey marker trees, roads, trails, graves and remnants of a hut and fire towers in the Salt Caves area.
- The Pilliga Forest is used by bird enthusiasts and a number of local bird routes transect the park. Commercial operators are licenced to operate in the park.
- Salt Caves Hill is an important hill-topping site for butterflies.
- Timallallie National Park is a popular park for visitors to enjoy the Pilliga Forest system. It is one of the few parks in the Pilliga region that has picnic and toilet facilities.
- At the Dandry visitor area, facilities include artworks and interpretative information along the Sculptures in the Scrub walking track. This track showcases the scenic Dandry Gorge and features a unique collection of sculptures inspired by the Aboriginal cultural history of the area and ruggedness of the Pilliga Forest. Dandry visitor area also provides picnic and barbeque facilities, toilets and a camping area.
- At the Salt Caves visitor area picnic, barbeque and toilet facilities are provided along with a camping area, walking track, interpretive information and the Pilliga Forest Lookout Tower.
- The public roads within the park have been used to host community mountain bike events; the Tour de Gorge and the Tour de Tower.

5. Issues

- Pest animal species recorded in Timallallie National Park include foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral pigs (*Sus scrofa*), goats (*Capra hircus*), rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) and feral cats (*Felis catus*).
- Weed species recorded in the park include common prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*), tiger pear (*Opuntia aurantiaca*), St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), mothers of millions (*Bryophyllum delagoense*), blue heliotrope (*Heliotropium amplexicaule*), Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*) and exotic burrs (*Xanthium* spp.).
- The number of visitors to the key visitation sites of Dandry Gorge Sculptures in the Scrub and the Pilliga Forest Lookout Tower continues to grow. Day use, bush camping facilities, walking tracks and interpretive material are offered at both sites.

- There are instances of illegal fire wood collection, rubbish dumping and illegal hunting occurring within Timallallie National Park.
- The reserve was gazetted as Timallallie National Park under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Area Act 2005* which does not reflect the historically correct spelling which is 'Timmallallie'.
- Licensed beekeeping activities continue to occur within Timallallie National Park.
- The digital mapping of Part 11 lands associated with the Pilliga Forest Lookout Tower is inaccurate and needs to be reviewed. These Part 11 lands are vested in the Minister administering the NPW Act and do not form part of the reserved park area. This also needs to be reviewed as the fire tower is associated with park management and therefore should be reserved as part of the park.
- Fire intensity and frequency of un-prescribed burns is a threat to the park's ecology.
- Previous management of the park as productive native forest under state forest tenure has resulted in disturbed areas and a reduction in the number of large trees and hollows thus impacting on habitat values.
- No conservation strategies have been prepared for areas of heritage significance within the park.

6. Key management directions

- Fire is being managed in accordance with the [Fire Management Strategy](#) for Pilliga East.
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Plains Region. Current priorities for the park include foxes, feral pigs, tiger pear, prickly pear and Noogoora burr.
- Access to Dandry Gorge and Salt Caves visitor sites will be maintained.
- Visitor numbers to the Sculptures in the Scrub and Pilliga Forest Lookout Tower will be monitored and visitor infrastructure managed in line with visitation levels and patterns.
- The local Aboriginal community will be consulted and involved with the planning, management and decision making for Timallallie National Park.
- Further research into the natural and cultural values of the park will be supported and encouraged in consultation with the Aboriginal community and the wider local community, to promote use of the park for cultural activities in accordance with NPWS policy and guidelines.
- Where resources permit, known sites will be assessed to determine their historic significance and conservation strategies will be developed where required.
- Law enforcement programs will be implemented to discourage illegal activities within the park.
- Where resources permit, an endangered ecological community distribution maps will be prepared for targeting pest control programs and for fire management.
- The need for boundary fence works will be monitored and boundary fence agreements pursued with adjoining landowners where needed, subject to available funding and in accordance with the boundary fencing policy.
- The digital mapping of the Part 11 land associated with the Pilliga Forest Lookout Tower will be reviewed.
- Reserving the Part 11 lands as part of the park will be investigated.
- Bush camping is permitted within the park.

- Trails within the park where horse riding is permitted in accordance with the [NPWS Horse Riding Policy](#) will be identified.
- Amending the name of the park to comply with the historical spelling, 'Timmallallie', will be investigated.
- Apiary sites will be licenced and managed in accordance with the NPWS [Bee Keeping Policy](#) and licence conditions.
- 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 and wildlife or to prevent damage to park assets.
- A plan of management will be prepared to set out the on-going 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 on-going 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 Baradine Office on (02) 6843 4000 or 50-58 Wellington Street, Baradine NSW 2396.

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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