

**WALLAGA LAKE NATIONAL PARK, GOURA NATURE RESERVE,
BERMAGUEE NATURE RESERVE**

PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

November, 1999

This plan of management was adopted by the Minister for the Environment on 23rd November 1999.

Acknowledgments:

This plan of management was prepared by officers of the Field Services Division and Narooma District of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

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ISBN 0 7313 6015 X

FOREWORD

Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve are located on the south coast of NSW about 35 km south of Narooma, near the town of Bermagui. Goura Nature Reserve lies on the lower southern slope of Mount Dromedary (Gulaga), Wallaga Lake National Park occupies the western shores and part of the catchment of nearby Wallaga Lake and Bermagabee Nature Reserve covers most of the catchment of Baragoot Lake, a small estuary south of Wallaga Lake.

The three areas conserve samples of open forest, rainforest and estuarine wetland which provide habitat for a diverse range of native animal species, most notably the threatened long-nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus* and koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*. The plan of management provides for protection of habitat values by minimising internal tracks, control of introduced species, appropriate fire management and limiting human disturbance.

Wallaga Lake and Mount Dromedary are important landscape features in Aboriginal culture. The park and Goura Nature Reserve protect part of this cultural landscape and contain a number of Aboriginal sites in their natural setting. Involvement by the Aboriginal community in management of Aboriginal heritage in the three areas will be encouraged. Further, the plan recognises the right of Aboriginal people to continue to carry out appropriate cultural activities in the park and reserves.

Wallaga Lake is popular for local recreational use and tourism. The park protects the western shores and provides lakeshore picnicking and walking opportunities. A development plan will be prepared for construction of basic day use facilities such as picnic areas, interpreted walking tracks and possibly jetties. The plan provides for appropriate guided tourism activities by commercial operators.

This plan of management establishes the scheme of operations for Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve. In accordance with the provisions of Sections 75 and 76 of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, this plan of management is hereby adopted.

BOB DEBUS

Minister for
the Environment

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1. INTRODUCTION

The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, requires that a plan of management be prepared for each national park and nature reserve. A plan of management is a legal document that outlines how the area will be managed in the years ahead.

The procedures for the adoption of a plan of management are specified in the Act and involve five stages:

- * The Director-General gives notice that a plan of management has been prepared.
- * The plan is placed on public exhibition for at least one month and any person may comment on it.
- * The plan and copies of all representations are referred to the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council for consideration.
- * The Director-General submits the plan, together with the recommendations of the Advisory Council, to the Minister.
- * The Minister may adopt the plan after considering the recommendations of the Advisory Council or may refer the plan back to the Director-General and Council for further consideration.

A draft plan of management for Wallaga Lake National Park, Bermagabee Nature Reserve and Goura Nature Reserve was placed on public exhibition for three months until November 1997. Eighteen representations were received during the period of public exhibition which raised sixteen issues.

All comments received were referred to the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council for its consideration and advice. The comments and suggestions of the Advisory Council were, in turn, considered by the Minister before adopting this plan.

Once a plan has been adopted by the Minister, no operations may be undertaken within the national park or nature reserves except in accordance with the plan.

The planning process leading to the development of this plan has involved the collection and use of information, which for reasons of document size, has not been included in the plan. For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of the plan, contact the Service's Narooma Office at the corner of Field Street and Princes Highway, Narooma or by phone on (02) 4476 2888.

2. MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

2.1 NATIONAL PARKS AND NATURE RESERVES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

2.1.1 National Parks

The national park concept was introduced into Australia through the establishment of Royal National Park in 1879.

For the purpose of preparing of plans of management the National Parks and Wildlife Service has adopted the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) 1994 definition of a national park, that is:

"A natural area of land/or sea, designated to (a) protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations, (b) exclude exploitation or occupation inimical to the purposes of designation of the area, and (c) provide a foundation for the spiritual, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities, all of which must be environmentally and culturally compatible."

National parks are part of the regional pattern of land use. The management of a national park aims to minimise disturbance to natural and cultural resources. Other land uses, e.g., agriculture, forestry and mining, are distinguished by an acceptance or encouragement of environmental modification. National parks, therefore, provide for only a limited part of the range of land uses in a region.

2.1.2 Nature Reserves

Fauna reserves in New South Wales were first established under the *Fauna Protection Act* of 1948. Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* of 1967 fauna reserves were reclassified as nature reserves. The *Fauna Protection Act* was replaced by the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* of 1974.

Under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*, nature reserves are areas of special scientific interest containing wildlife or natural environments or natural phenomena. The purposes of nature reserves are defined in the Act as:

- "(a) the care, propagation, preservation and conservation of wildlife;
- (b) the care, preservation and conservation of natural environments and natural phenomena;
- (c) the study of wildlife, natural environments and natural phenomena; and
- (d) the promotion of the appreciation and enjoyment of wildlife, natural environments and natural phenomena.

Nature reserves are valuable refuge areas, where natural processes, phenomena and wildlife can be studied. They differ from national parks which include as a major objective the provision of appropriate recreation opportunities.

2.2 WALLAGA LAKE NATIONAL PARK, BERMAGUEE NATURE RESERVE AND GOURA NATURE RESERVE

2.2.1 Location and District Setting

Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagquee Nature Reserve are located on the south coast of NSW about 350 km south of Sydney and 35 km south of Narooma (see Summary Map). The closest town is Bermagui.

The area is popular with tourists and holiday makers who are attracted by the rural scenery, historic villages and the recreation opportunities along the coastline. Two heavily visited national parks, Mimosa Rocks National Park and Bournda National Park, are located to the south. The large escarpment parks of Deua and Wadbilliga and many areas of state forest provide more remote recreation opportunities away from the coastline.

Wallaga Lake National Park was reserved in 1972 and has an area of 1237 ha.

Goura Nature Reserve was gazetted in 1966, primarily to protect the habitat and populations of the endangered long nosed-potoroo *Potorous tridactylus*. The reserve has an area of 560 ha.

Bermagquee Nature Reserve was dedicated in 1967 and is 818 ha in area.

2.2.2 Importance of Wallaga Lake National Park, Bermagquee Nature Reserve and Goura Nature Reserve

Wallaga Lake National Park and the two nature reserves protect samples of coastal range and hill country in the catchments of Wallaga and Baragoot Lakes. Their major conservation values are outlined below.

Biological values

The park and reserves conserve habitat for a diverse range of native plant and animal species. All three areas contain rainforest, Goura Nature Reserve has stands of tall open forest and the park has areas of estuarine wetland.

Several biogeographically significant plant species occur in the area (Keith and Ashby, 1992). Eight are regionally uncommon. These are green wattle *Acacia irrorata* which is common in the Bermagui area (including the park and nature reserves) but not elsewhere in the region, yellow-wood *Acronychia oblongifolia*, which occurs in rainforest in Goura Nature Reserve and in the national park, koda *Ehretia acuminata* (Goura), sandalwood *Santalum obtusifolium* (Goura), *Solanum stelligerum* (Wallaga Lake), *Sicyos australis* (Wallaga Lake), river oak *Casuarina cunninghamiana*, which occurs along major watercourses in the park and Goura Nature Reserve, and swamp oak *Casuarina glauca*. Swamp oak reaches its southern limit at Wallaga Lake.

Several other species are at or near their southern limit of distribution in the area. These are ironwood *Backhousia myrtifolia*, found in rainforest in all three areas, *Parsonsia straminea* (found in the park and Bermagquee Nature Reserve) and *Xanthosia atkinsoniana*, which is probably at its southern limit in Bermagquee Nature Reserve (Keith and Ashby, 1992).

Goura Nature Reserve, along with surrounding land, supports a population of the long-nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus*. This is one of the most threatened of the medium sized ground dwelling mammals in NSW. Its range has been considerably

reduced as a result of habitat degradation and the introduction of domestic and feral predators. The species exists now in a number of isolated populations along coastal NSW. The far south coast is regarded as the State's stronghold for the conservation of this species. Potoroos also occur in Wallaga Lake National Park and Bermaguer Nature Reserve but these areas do not contain prime habitat.

Koalas *Phascolarctos cinereus* occur in the district and have been recorded in the park. They are also likely to occur in the two reserves. Other threatened species known to occur in the three areas are the tiger quoll *Dasyurus maculatus* and common bent-winged bat *Miniopterus schreibersii* (in Goura). The powerful owl *Ninox strenua*, glossy black cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus lathamii*, swift parrot *Lathamus discolor* and olive whistler *Pachycephala olivacea* have been recorded close by and probably occur in the park and reserve.

Aboriginal cultural values

A large number of Aboriginal middens are located around the foreshores of Wallaga Lake, evidence of the importance of the lake as a food source. Wallaga Lake has high contemporary social significance to the local Aboriginal community at Wallaga Lake Koori Village, as Aboriginal people have lived continuously in the area since before European occupation. The park is of particular importance as it conserves the lake shores in a natural condition.

Goura Nature Reserve protects the lower southern slopes of Mount Dromedary (Gulaga). Gulaga and Wallaga Lake are important features in Aboriginal culture, forming part of a complex which includes several major landscape features in the district. Gulaga is related by myth to Little Dromedary (Najanuka) and Montague Island (Barunguba) and to Merriman Island in Wallaga Lake, Mumbulla Mountain (Biamanga) and Pigeon House Mountain (Balgan). Gulaga is one of the most significant places of the Yuin tribes, whose land stretches from the Victorian border to the Shoalhaven river. Gulaga is sacred on many levels, as the place of origin for the Yuin people, an area of ritual activity, a teaching site and the home of Creative Beings (Bird Rose, 1990). While the crest and upper slopes are of greatest importance, Goura's contribution to protection of the mountain is significant.

European cultural values

The three areas have a long history of forestry and some agricultural use. Remains include stumps, bark dumps, fence posts and building footings.

Landscape and catchment values

The park and the two reserves contribute to the maintenance of areas of naturally vegetated landscape in the district. In particular the park conserves the western shores of Wallaga Lake, greatly increasing the lake's scenic value and attractive natural setting for water-based recreation. The park also plays an important role in protecting the western shores and watershed of the lake from erosion.

Bermaguer Nature Reserve provides a forested backdrop for Baragoot Lake, a much smaller estuary south of Wallaga Lake. It covers the major part of the lake catchment, protecting the lake from excessive sediment loads and therefore accelerated infilling.

Local recreation and tourism

Wallaga Lake is the largest and deepest lake on the far South Coast. It is a popular tourist destination and an important recreation feature for the growing local

population. The naturally vegetated foreshores of Wallaga Lake National Park provide boat anchoring, picnicking and walking opportunities.

Summary Statement of Significance

Wallaga Lake National Park is of regional or local conservation significance as summarised below:

- the lakeshore section of the park contains a large number of Aboriginal sites and is culturally significant to the local Aboriginal community,
- the park provides habitat for several threatened animal species and protects populations of biogeographically significant plant species;
- the park has areas of rainforest and estuarine wetland;
- the park protects the western shores and part of the catchment of Wallaga Lake;
- the lake foreshores of the park make a major contribution to the recreation and tourism value of Wallaga Lake.

Goura Nature Reserve has state and regional conservation significance as follows:

- the reserve contains significant areas of rainforest and tall open forest;
- several plant species which are regionally uncommon or at their southern limit of distribution occur in the reserve;
- the reserve is of state significance for the conservation of the endangered long-nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus*;
- the reserve provides habitat for other endangered animal species including the koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*,
- the reserve protects the lower southern slopes of Gulaga, a culturally important mountain to Yuin Aboriginal people.

Bermagabee Nature Reserve is of regional or local conservation significance as:

- it provides habitat for threatened animal species and protects populations of biogeographically significant plant species and contains an area of rainforest;
- it protects most of the catchment of Baragoot Lake.

3. OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

3.1 GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The following general objectives relate to the management of national parks and nature reserves in New South Wales:

- * protection and preservation of scenic and natural features;
- * conservation of wildlife;
- * maintenance of natural processes as far as is possible;
- * preservation of Aboriginal sites and historic features;
- * encouragement of scientific and educational enquiry into environmental features and processes, prehistoric and historic features; and
- * provision of opportunities for appropriate use.

3.2 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR WALLAGA LAKE NATIONAL PARK, GOURA NATURE RESERVE AND BERMAGUEE NATURE RESERVE

In addition to the above general objectives, the management of Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagquee Nature Reserve will be subject to the following specific objectives:

- * protection of habitat and populations of the long-nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus*, particularly within Goura Nature Reserve;
- * protection of habitat and populations of the koala *Phascolarctos cinereus*;
- * maintenance of high water quality flowing into Wallaga and Baragoot Lakes and protection of the western shores of Wallaga Lake from erosion;
- * provision for maintenance of traditional Aboriginal links with the land and close involvement of Aboriginal people in management;
- * provision of opportunities for low key day use of the foreshores of Wallaga Lake; and
- * promotion of community awareness of the special status and values of the park and reserves.

3.3 OVERALL STRATEGY

Each of the three areas is small and therefore highly vulnerable to disturbance by activities within and along their boundaries. The major management thrust will be to minimise disturbance from tracks, introduced species, fire and public use. This will be achieved by limiting internal tracks, control of feral animals and survey and control programs for introduced plant species. Public use of the two nature reserves will not be encouraged apart from appropriate research, or traditional use by Aboriginal people.

Particular attention will be given to management for conservation of the long-nosed potoroo and koala by an appropriate fire regime, control of predators and encouraging development of conservation agreements with adjacent land holders.

Opportunities will be provided for low key recreation use in Wallaga Lake National Park. Facility provision will be limited to the lake foreshore area, and to day use only. Emphasis will be placed on interpretation to encourage public appreciation of the natural and cultural values of the area. Involvement of the local Aboriginal community in management of the park will be encouraged, particularly by provision of interpreted tourism activities.

4. POLICIES AND FRAMEWORK FOR MANAGEMENT

This chapter contains the policies and framework for the management of Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve together with relevant background information. Policies are summarised under the following section headings:

- 4.1 NATURAL HERITAGE
- 4.2 CULTURAL HERITAGE
- 4.3 USE OF THE AREA

The policies established in this plan of management provide the framework for management consistent with anticipated resources available to the Service and anticipated community trends over the next five to ten years.

The actions identified are those to which priority will be given in the foreseeable future. Other management actions may be developed over the life span of this plan consistent with the policies set out in the plan.

Where not specifically provided for in this plan, management will also be in accordance with the National parks and Wildlife Act and with general Service policies.

4.1 NATURAL HERITAGE

Natural heritage comprises all aspects of the natural environment including physical features such as geology and soils, plants and animals and the relationship between these. For convenience, management of landscape values and of fire are also considered in this section as these relate primarily to natural features and values.

4.1.1 Geology, Soils and Landform

Wallaga Lake National Park, Bermagabee Nature Reserve and most of Goura Nature Reserve lie on the Ordovician metasediments which underlie much of the district. The sediments consist mainly of folded greywackes and pelites.

Goura Nature Reserve is situated on the lower southwestern slopes of Mount Dromedary (Gulaga) and has outcrops of the Cretaceous Mount Dromedary igneous complex, mainly monzonite.

Soils formed from the Ordovician sediments are generally shallow and of low fertility. Deeper soils occur in the gullies and valleys and, in Goura, these are moderately rich because of the influence of the Mount Dromedary intrusion.

Areas of Quaternary sediments (alluvium, gravel, sand, silt etc) occur along creeklines, particularly Dignams Creek which adjoins the southern edge of Goura Nature Reserve and forms the northern boundary of the park, and along Narira Creek, which adjoins the southern boundary of the park. Bank erosion occurs along Dignams Creek and Narira Creeks and there are high sediment loads in both creeks, possibly as a result of clearing in the catchments. The high sediment loads are causing rapid growth of fluvial deltas in Wallaga Lake.

The southeastern corner of Bermagabee Nature Reserve is part of an area of Tertiary deposits of gravel, sand and clay adjacent to the coastline south of Bermagui.

Because of its location on Mount Dromedary, Goura is highly dissected and ranges in altitude from 20m Above Sea Level on Dignams Creek to 210m on the northeastern boundary. Rainfall is high because of the influence of Mount Dromedary.

Bermagabee Nature Reserve and Wallaga Lake National Park have lower, undulating terrain. The reserve covers much of the catchment of Mangans Creek, the main feeder stream for Baragoot Lake. Baragoot Lake is a small coastal lagoon south of Bermagui.

The park protects the western shores and part of the catchment of Wallaga Lake. This is a large, deep lake that was formed by the drowning of two river valleys at the end of the last ice age (6,000 to 10,000 years ago). The park consists of a main east-west ridgeline, with numerous secondary ridges and deep gullies running north and south to Dignams and Narira Creeks. The lake shores are steep, with little or no beach structure, and consist of many small, sheltered bays. Estuarine wetlands have formed on the areas of accumulated alluvium and silt at the river mouths.

Policy

- * All works will be designed and undertaken in a manner which minimises soil erosion.
- * No clearing will be undertaken on the steep shores of Wallaga Lake in order to protect against erosion.
- * Any facility development adjacent to Wallaga Lake will be set back from the immediate shore or otherwise located to minimise visual impact from the lake.
- * Any toilet facilities provided in the park will be located and designed to avoid water pollution.
- * Where soil erosion occurs as a result of recreation or management use, remedial works such as restriction of use and rehabilitation will be undertaken.

Action

- * The cooperation of relevant land use authorities and landholders will be sought in prevention of erosion and pollution of Narira and Dignams Creeks.

4.1.2 Vegetation

Description

Vegetation types are similar throughout the park and two reserves because of the fairly uniform geology. The more dissected landform and fertile soils of Goura Nature Reserve, however, produce taller forests and a greater proportion of moist forest and rainforest. The park includes some areas of estuarine wetland. Detailed mapping of vegetation communities and biogeographically significant species has not been undertaken.

The ridges and upper slopes in all three areas support open forest of a number of eucalypt species, the most common of which are black ash *Eucalyptus sieberi*, yellow stringybark *E. muellerana*, woollybutt *E. longifolia*, small-fruited stringybark *E. globoidea*, yertchuk *E. considiana*, mountain grey gum *E. cypellocarpa*, red bloodwood *E. gummifera*, coast grey box *E. bosistoana* and rough-barked apple

Angophora floribunda. Understorey species include black oak *Allocasuarina littoralis*, *Banksia spinulosa*, coast tea tree *Leptospermum laevigatum*, *Persoonia pinifolia* and native cherry *Exocarpus cupressifomis*. Ground cover is generally sparse, with small shrubs, grass and bracken *Pteridium esculentum*.

Small areas of spotted gum *E. maculata* and burrawang *Macrozamia* sp. occur in the park and Bermagabee Nature Reserve.

Lower slopes have associations of mainly *E. longifolia*, *E. muellerana*, *E. globoidea*, *E. gummifera*, *Angophora floribunda* and bangalay *E. botryoides*. Some blackbutt *E. pilularis* occurs in the park and Bermagabee Nature Reserve. The shrub layer and ground cover are usually dense, with species such as green wattle *Acacia irrorata*, tall baeckea *Baeckea virgata*, hop goodenia *Goodenia ovata* and *Blechnum castilagineum*.

Deep gullies in all three areas contain closed forest or have a rainforest understorey of lillypilly *Acmena smithii*, sassafras *Doryphora sassafras*, bolwarra *Eupomatia laurina*, ironwood *Backhousia myrtifolia*, cabbage tree *Livistona australis*, tree ferns *Dicksonia antarctica* and *Cyathea* sp. and vines such as *Marsdenia rostrata* and *Smilax australis*.

The bays and south-facing shores of Wallaga Lake in the park have a narrow strip of moist open or closed forest of forest red gum *E. tereticornis*, *E. botryoides*, black apple *Planchonella australis*, water gum *Tristania laurina*, *Acmena smithii*, *Backhousia myrtifolia*, *Casuarina glauca*, sweet pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*, rough tree fern *Cyathea australis* and late black wattle *Acacia mearnsii*. Swamp wattle *Melaleuca ericifolia* is common along much of the shoreline.

Along Narira and Dignams Creek fringing forests of river oak *Casuarina cunninghamiana* and river peppermint *E. elata* forest occur.

Estuarine wetland complexes occur on Snake Island in the mouth of Dignams Creek and on the Narira Creek delta. These comprise saltmarshes of *Sarcocornia quinqueflora* and *Suaeda australis*, sedge and reedlands of *Scirpus nososus*, *Juncus maritimus* and *Phragmites australis*, and areas of *Melaleuca ericifolia*.

Impacts and introduced species

Timber cutting, mainly for sleepers, occurred in all three areas prior to reservation and some parts are still recovering from this.

Much of the area was also subject to rough grazing and small sections were formerly cleared. These are generally regenerating well but some minor invasion of pasture weeds has occurred.

Some blackberry and briars occur in Goura near adjacent freehold land. Snake Island has a large area of lantana and blackberry is found in the Narira Creek delta, mainly outside the park.

Rubbish dumping, including garden refuse, is occurring on a former house site in Bermagabee Nature Reserve (Glenside). This has the potential to introduce weeds to the reserve.

Provision is made in section 4.1.3 for preparation of a weed and vertebrate pest control plan.

Connections to other areas

Each of the areas is fairly small and bounded largely by private land, although connected to state forest and some crown land. Retention of forest cover on adjacent private lands is important for long term viability of the natural systems of the park and reserves, particularly for protection of populations of the threatened potoroo and koala (see 4.1.3).

The park is in several sections, separated by private property. Subdivision and development threatens loss of forest cover on adjacent lands. Protection of strategic areas through planning controls or conservation agreements is needed.

Goura Nature Reserve has a very irregular boundary with high edge to area ratio. This makes it vulnerable to edge effects such as weed invasion, illegal timber cutting, fire escape and incursion of cattle. Bodalla State Forest adjoins the northern boundaries of Goura Nature Reserve. A large part of the forest, about 150m north of Goura, is protected as the Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve. Extension of the flora reserve to adjoin the nature reserve would create a large area of protected land.

Policy

- * The existing diversity of native vegetation communities and species will be conserved. In particular, areas of rainforest, tall moist eucalypt forest, wetland and biogeographically significant plant species will not be disturbed.
- * Regeneration of formerly cleared areas will be encouraged by protection from fire and control of introduced species.
- * Introduced plant species will be controlled with the intention of eliminating them as far as possible from the park and reserves.
- * The Service will liaise with neighbours and land use authorities to encourage retention of areas of native vegetation close to the park and reserve, particularly areas which link the different sections of the park and areas between the park and Goura Nature Reserve.

Action

- * The former Glenside property in Bermaguet Nature Reserve will be cleared of rubbish, ripped and fenced where needed to prevent further rubbish dumping and promote growth of native plants.
- * Survey and mapping will be progressively undertaken for significant species and vegetation communities.

4.1.3 Native and Introduced Animals

Goura Nature Reserve

Goura Nature Reserve is highly dissected and has extensive areas of tall open forest and rainforest between drier forest on the ridges. The high quality habitats support a diverse fauna including a high proportion of uncommon species.

A large number of mammal species has been recorded in Goura Nature Reserve. These include the red-necked wallaby *Macropus rufogrisea*, swamp wallaby *Wallabia bicolor*, arboreal species such as the brush-tailed possum *Trichosurus*

vulpecula, ring-tailed possum *Pseudocheirus peregrinus*, greater glider *Petauroides volans*, sugar glider *Petaurus breviceps*, feather-tail glider *Acrobates pygmaeus* and pygmy possum *Cercartetus nanus*, six species of bat including the eastern horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus megaphyllus*, little bat *Eptesicus vulturinus* and long-eared bat *Nyctophilus geoffroyi*, echidna *Tachyglossus aculeatus*, dusky marsupial mouse *Antechinus swainsonii* and bush rat *Rattus fuscipes*.

Birds recorded include the yellow-tailed black cockatoo *Calyptorhynchus funereus*, white-browed scrubwren *Sericornis frontalis*, yellow-rumped thornbill *Acanthiza chrysorrhoa*, little wattlebird *Anthochaera carunculata*, olive-backed oriole *Oriolus sagittatus*, eastern yellow robin *Eopsaltria australis*, Lewins honeyeater *Meliphaga lewinii*, red-browed firetail *Emblema temporalis*, Australian king parrot *Alisterus scapularis*, eastern whipbird *Psophodes olivaceus* and superb lyrebird *Menura novaehollandiae*.

Less is known of the reptiles and amphibians of the reserve. Those recorded include the red-bellied black snake *Pseudechis porphyriacus*, masters snake *Drysdalia mastersi*, weasel skink *Leiopisma mustelina*, eastern water dragon *Physignathus lesueurii*, brown toadlet *Pseudophyrne bibronii*, Perons tree frog *Litoria peronii* and eastern banjo frog *Limnodynastes dumerillii*.

The threatened southern brown bandicoot *Isodon obesulus* has been recorded in the reserve. This species requires good ground cover and feeds on insects which may be more plentiful after fire. Little is known of its abundance or management needs in the reserve.

Goura Nature Reserve provides high quality habitat for the threatened long nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus*. Dense vegetation cover in the moist forests of the gullies provide crucial refuge areas while the open floristically diverse vegetation of the slopes and ridges provides suitable sites for foraging. A survey carried out in 1993 by Dr Linda Broome found that potoroos are found throughout the reserve but are most common in moist areas with dense shrub cover, rainforest and areas of sedge understorey.

A critical factor in protection of the potoroo population is control of introduced predators, primarily foxes. This must be carefully carried out because of the presence of tiger quolls *Dasyurus maculatus*, another threatened species, in the reserve.

The potoroo habitat extends into adjacent public and privately owned land and potoroos use these areas extensively. Conservation of the potoroo population depends upon the continued existence of both refuge and feeding areas within these lands. Southams and Coppins Creeks, which lie outside the reserve, provide an important water source for the potoroo and other fauna which is critical in periods of drought. Cooperative control of foxes with adjacent landowners will be necessary and discouraging hunting by domestic dogs and cats is also important.

A power line which crosses the southern section of the reserve and part of Wallaga Lake National Park is potentially a barrier to movement of potoroos and other species. Retention of a dense shrub/herb layer is important for provision of cover. The reserve is also divided by the Princes Highway.

Wallaga Lake National Park and Bermaguese Nature Reserve

Wallaga Lake National Park and Bermaguese Nature Reserve have fewer areas of moist forests than Goura but include large areas of diverse dry sclerophyll forest. The fauna is less well known than for Goura. The species array appears to be

similar but relative abundance would differ. Potoroos have not been recorded in either area but are expected to occur.

As stated in section 2.2.2, koalas have been recorded in the park and are likely to utilise the two reserves. Until the beginning of this century koalas were abundant in the lower slopes and valleys of the NSW south coast. The population plummeted due to factors such as habitat destruction, hunting and disease, and koalas are now rarely sighted (Cork et.al., 1995). It is not known whether the population is still declining but National Parks and Wildlife Service biodiversity surveys to be undertaken in the region over the next few years may provide information about status and management needs.

The park has riverine, lake-edge and estuarine wetland habitats. Common water birds recorded include the white faced heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*, black swan *Cygnus atratus*, chestnut teal *Anas castanea*, masked plover *Vanellus miles*, Pacific black duck *Anas superciliosa*, eastern swamp hen *Porphyrio porphyrio* and little pied cormorant *Phalacrocorax melanoleucus*.

Wild dogs have been reported in the park and control programs have been undertaken in Bermagone Nature Reserve in response to stock loss problems on neighbouring properties. Wild dogs can be divided into three groups - dingos, hybrids with domestic dogs, and feral dogs. It is not known which category the dogs in the park and reserves belong to. The Service considers the dingo to be part of the native fauna of NSW which it has a responsibility to conserve. The dingo is not a declared noxious species under the *Rural Lands Protection Act 1989* as long as it remains on Service land. The Service recognises, however, that wild dogs from Service lands sometimes impact on livestock on adjacent areas and accepts the need for management to minimise their attacks on stock. It is Service policy to remove feral dogs from its lands.

Some sections of the boundary of Goura Nature Reserve do not have well maintained fences. Cattle stray onto the reserve and trees have been cut for timber. The Narira Creek boundary is a particular problem and fencing assistance will be required in this area.

Policy

- * The diversity and high quality of habitats for native animals occurring in the park and reserves will be conserved.
- * Priority will be given to management strategies or programs which favour conservation of the long nosed potoroo and koala. As far as possible programs will be designed, however, to conserve the full range of native animal species in the park and reserve.
- * Introduced animals will be controlled where they have a significant impact on native species. Priority will be given to fox control in Goura Nature Reserve.
- * Survey and research will be encouraged into the distribution and management needs of the koala in Service areas and surrounding lands.
- * The Service will seek the cooperation of neighbours and land use authorities to minimise subdivision, clearing and development in areas of potoroo and koala habitat around the park and reserves.
- * Wild dog control may be undertaken on the park or reserve boundaries to reduce the impact to livestock on adjoining land, in accordance with the Service's Field Management Policy on Wild Dogs.

- * Maintenance of effective fencing where necessary along the boundaries will be encouraged. Fencing assistance will be provided where possible.

Action

- * The Service will seek to arrange voluntary conservation agreements for areas of potoroo and koala habitat adjacent to the park and reserves.
- * Reservation under the Forestry Act or addition to the nature reserve of the area of state forest on Southams Creek, between Goura Nature Reserve and Mount Dromedary Flora Reserve, will be sought.
- * A weed and vertebrate pest management plan will be prepared and implemented. Priority will be given to fox control in Goura Nature Reserve. Control programs will be designed to avoid impact on quolls and other non-target species. The Service will seek to involve neighbours in cooperative pest control programs.
- * A maintenance agreement will be prepared for the power line parallel to the highway. The agreement will ensure retention of vegetation cover to allow movement of potoroos across the easement.

4.1.4 Fire Management

Fire is a natural feature of the environment of Wallaga Lake National Park and the two nature reserves. It is essential to the survival of some plant communities but frequent or regular fire can cause loss of particular plant and animal species, significant alteration of moist forest communities and damage to some types of Aboriginal and historic sites. Fire can also threaten visitors and neighbouring land and increase sediment loads in the creeks and lake. Management of fire is a complex issue. It must aim to achieve both long term conservation of natural communities and ongoing protection of life and property within and adjacent to the park and reserves.

The pre-European fire pattern for the area is not known. From research conducted elsewhere it appears likely that the frequency and intensity of fire occurring now is different from traditional Aboriginal burning practices.

Local knowledge indicates that there have been frequent small fires in Goura and in the western section of Wallaga Lake National Park as a result of escape of fires burnt to promote green pick on neighbouring properties. Much of Goura Nature Reserve was burnt in wildfires in 1952 and 1968. Accurate records of fires are available only for the past few decades. Fires occurred every few years during the 1970s and 1980s in Goura and the western part of the park. Fewer fires have been recorded for Bermagabee Nature Reserve and the eastern section of the park. Most of the Wallaga Lake watershed and the western part of Bermagabee Nature Reserve burnt in the early 1980s.

A complete burn of Goura Nature Reserve could be disastrous for the potoroo population and many other native animals. Frequent prescribed burning to prevent this may, however, alter the vegetation and make it unsuitable for the potoroo. The very irregular boundary makes it difficult to protect the reserve by such means as burning along the western edge. Research is needed into the fire management needs of the potoroo and other species occurring in the reserve. In the meantime the densely vegetated gullies of Goura should not be burnt as they provide essential refuge areas for the potoroo. Fire should be managed in other areas to provide

habitat diversity, prevent a large wildfire and protect neighbouring lands. The present pattern of frequent patchy burns on the ridges appears to satisfy these needs.

Fire history shows that major fires approach the park and reserves from the northwest. Fire trails and public roads provide fire control lines and access for fire management. These are combined with natural boundaries such as Dignams and Narira Creeks, the wet gullies in Goura and the Wallaga Lake shore. Because of the irregular boundaries and extensive forested lands adjacent, it is essential that fire management be coordinated with NSW State Forests and other neighbours. Fire management programs are complicated by increasing subdivision in the area, particularly adjacent to the park, which adds to the number of houses and other property requiring protection.

The Service is an active participant on District Fire Committees set up under the *Rural Fires Act 1997*. These aim to coordinate and monitor fire management and fire control on a district basis. A draft fire management plan is being prepared for the park and reserves.

Policy

- * Fire will be managed in accordance with the principles below and relevant fire management plans in order to ensure:
 - the protection of human life and property within and adjacent to the park and reserves;
 - protection of fire sensitive rare species, rainforest, tall open forest and wetland;
 - diversity of age classes of open forest, with retention of some areas in as old an age class as possible;
 - maintenance of populations of potoroos, koalas and other endangered species;
 - protection of Aboriginal sites and recreation facilities.
- * Prescribed burning may be carried out in strategic areas to produce habitat diversity and where essential to reduce fuel loads in order to protect adjacent properties or significant natural or cultural features.
- * Prescribed burning programs in Goura Nature Reserve will be designed to protect potoroo refuge areas and provide potoroo feeding areas.
- * Hazard reduction programs will be based upon assessment of fuel hazard and risks to life and property, and upon the effects of burning on biophysical values.
- * On-going review will be undertaken of the impact of prescribed burning programs on vegetation composition and structure and the suitability of habitat for rare species and uncommon native animals occurring in the park and reserve. Burning programs will be modified where necessary to minimise impacts.
- * Close contacts will be maintained with volunteer bush fire brigades, Council fire officers, State Forests of NSW and neighbouring landholders. The

Service will continue to actively participate in local District Bush Fire Committees.

- * Where appropriate the Service will seek to involve neighbours in cooperative hazard reduction works for mutual protection.
- * The use of heavy machinery for fire suppression will be avoided close to the shores of Wallaga Lake and in areas of wetlands, Aboriginal sites, rainforest and rare plants.
- * Areas disturbed by fire suppression operations will be rehabilitated as soon as practical after the fire.
- * Records will be kept of all fires in the park or reserves.
- * The Service will actively advise against inappropriate development in high fire risk areas close to the national park or nature reserves, in order to protect the values of the park and reserves.
- * Research will be encouraged into the fire management needs of the potoroo, koala and other significant species in the park and reserve.

Action

- * The draft fire management plan for the park and two reserves will be placed on public exhibition by December 2000.

4.2 CULTURAL HERITAGE

Cultural heritage comprises important components of the environment that may have aesthetic, historic, scientific and social significance to present and future generations. Cultural heritage includes both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal history.

4.2.1 Aboriginal Sites

Approximately 60 Aboriginal middens have been recorded on the shore of Wallaga Lake within the park. These consist of predominantly *Anadara trapezia* Sydney cockle shells mixed with charcoal and some bone material. Excavation of middens in similar environmental contexts on the south coast indicates that the sites date to the last 6,000 years (Feary, 1992)

Three Aboriginal sites have been recorded in Goura Nature Reserve - a surface campsite, a scarred tree and a midden.

Little survey has been undertaken for Aboriginal sites in the three areas and it is likely that many more sites occur, particularly artefact scatters on ridgelines and near creeks.

Aboriginal community use

The strong attachment of Aboriginal people to the land is slowly being acknowledged. Archaeological sites are important to Aboriginal communities as they are a testament to their culture's great antiquity. Aboriginal people may also have traditional cultural links with an area and hold knowledge which is important for nature conservation.

The park and reserves fall within the area of the Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council. The Aboriginal community, including residents of the Wallaga Lake Koori Village near the park, take a strong interest in protection of Aboriginal values around the lake shores and elsewhere in the district. It is important for the Aboriginal values of the three areas to be taken into account when determining management strategies and actions.

Members of the Aboriginal community wish to continue to undertake some cultural activities in the three areas. These activities may involve vehicle access and short term camping.

Policy

- * The Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will be consulted and actively involved in all aspects of management of Aboriginal sites and values in the park and reserve. In agreement with the Service, sites may be maintained in accordance with traditional methods.
- * The Service will support the Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council and other relevant Aboriginal community groups in the preservation, continuance and promotion of their cultural lore. Aboriginal people will be able to carry out activities in the park and reserves related to maintenance of Aboriginal culture. Any such activities must comply with the objectives and policies of this plan of management and have minimal environmental impact.
- * Aboriginal sites will be protected from disturbance or damage by human activities.
- * All work involving ground disturbance will be preceded by an inspection for Aboriginal sites. Proposals for management burning will be preceded by an assessment for the presence of scarred trees.
- * The location of Aboriginal sites will not be made public except where:
 - the consent of the Merrimans Local Aboriginal Land Council has been obtained;
 - a conservation study has been prepared and any management works necessary to protect the site from damage have been implemented; and
 - the site will be interpreted to promote public knowledge and appreciation of Aboriginal culture.
- * Aboriginal sites close to areas of public use will be monitored for impacts and protective action will be taken if needed.
- * Research will be encouraged into traditional Aboriginal use of the three areas.

Action

- * A formal mechanism will be established for negotiating ongoing Aboriginal use of the three areas and involvement in management issues which relate to Aboriginal interests.

4.2.2 Non-Aboriginal Historic Places

Non-Aboriginal use of the park and reserves from settlement until gazettal comprised mainly timber-cutting and some grazing. Stumps, bark dumps etc remain as evidence of sleeper cutting activities and fence posts indicate the location of fence lines. Some areas are regenerating after former clearing.

A benchmark containing a portion number is located on a tree in Goura Nature Reserve. It is possibly the one shown on an 1840 map.

A house (Glenside) was formerly located on Bermagabee Nature Reserve near the northern boundary and another house was located on Goura Nature Reserve. Both were of fairly recent date and were removed upon dedication. Items such as footings and concrete slabs remain.

A timber-getters hut was formerly located in Wallaga Lake National Park but was removed shortly after reservation. Its date of construction is not known. Footings, a fireplace and step remain.

The significance of the known remains has not been assessed.

Policy

- * The historic places of the park and reserves will be conserved in accordance with the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS.
- * Historic places and evidence of historic landuse will be assessed prior to any management impact and appropriate conservation action carried out.

Action

- * Historic places will be recorded and entered into the Service's Historic Places Register.

4.3 USE OF THE AREA

Certain public and private uses may be appropriate in Service areas provided that they do no conflict with the objectives and strategy of the plan of management. The major categories of use that can be appropriate in Service areas are:

- education and promotion of the area, the Service and the conservation of natural and cultural heritage;
- involvement of the public in aspects of management;
- certain types of recreation;
- Aboriginal cultural activities;
- research; and
- management operations by the Service and other authorities with statutory responsibilities in the area.

The extent to which these categories of use will be provided for in Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve is indicated below.

4.3.1 Public Use

Goura and Bermagabee Nature Reserves

Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve have no public facilities and have few recreational attractions. Public use is not encouraged in order to protect the significant natural habitat values of each area.

Activities such as motor cycle and horse riding, rubbish dumping and firewood cutting occur to a small extent in the reserves, especially Bermagabee. Closure of tracks not needed for management in Bermagabee will reduce these activities (see 4.3.4). Additional boundary signs are also needed to make visitors aware of the protected status of Bermagabee Nature Reserve.

Wallaga Lake National Park

Recreational use of Wallaga Lake National Park is largely confined to the lake shore. Most of the remainder of the park does not provide views or recreationally attractive features. Vehicle access is currently available via an unsealed east-west track leading from the Princes Highway and branching tracks to points on the lake shore.

Most visitors access the park by boat. The lake shore consists of a system of headlands and bays falling fairly steeply to the water, with a narrow rocky shoreline. The bays provide shelter and privacy for boat users and the lake shores provide landing and picnicking areas. Some walking and overnight camping occurs. Camping has, however, been prohibited since establishment of the park.

A survey of visitors to the Wallaga Lake area undertaken by Wollongong University in 1979 showed that people were attracted primarily by boating and fishing opportunities and the natural scenery. A high level of visitors brought boats with them. While this survey was undertaken some years ago, its findings are likely to be still valid.

No recreational facilities are currently provided in the park. The lake shore area of the park has the potential to provide attractive picnicking and walking facilities which would promote its natural and cultural values. This could be achieved through provision of some basic facilities such as picnic areas, walking tracks and possibly jetties or pontoons, combined with interpretation of shoreline vegetation and suitable Aboriginal sites. The environmental impacts of any facility provision would have to be considered.

Umbarra Cultural Tours, a company managed by the Local Aboriginal Land Council, has expressed interest in extending their current tourism activities on the northern side of the lake to the park shoreline. This would appear to be a very appropriate way of providing recreation opportunities in the park given the high level of interest of the Aboriginal community in the park's management and the growing popularity of cultural tourism. Activities would be likely to include walks and talks about Aboriginal culture and visiting Aboriginal sites on the lake shore.

Any provision of recreational facilities in the park would be confined to day use opportunities. Provision of camping facilities is not appropriate because of the associated impacts of clearing, road upgrading and greatly increased use on this

small park and the presence of existing nearby camping facilities on the coastline. Deua, Wadbilliga and Mimosa Rocks National Parks and Bodalla State Forest provide opportunities for bush camping in the district.

The east-west vehicle track through the park from the highway to the lake shore is largely 4WD standard and receives only low levels of public use. Upgrading of the track to 2WD standard could not be justified given its length (10 km) and the easy access to the lake shore by boat. The recreational value of boating access and lake shore facilities would be enhanced by closure of the eastern section of the track to public use. Closure of the western section would not be possible as it provides access to adjacent private land.

A small amount of horse riding occurs in the park. While it is recognised that horse riders seek quiet bushland tracks, horses can cause significant erosion, weed introduction and disturbance and danger to other users. The park is a small area of protected habitats. There are extensive opportunities for riding on little-used tracks in nearby state forests. Horse riding will therefore be restricted to public access roads.

Policy

- * Recreational use of the two nature reserves will not be encouraged and no facilities will be provided. Public vehicle access will not be permitted on tracks within the reserves, apart from the two roads providing access to private property (see Summary Map).
- * Low key day use of the national park will continue to be permitted and basic lake-shore recreational facilities may be provided. These may include picnic facilities, walking tracks, interpretive signs and jetties. Facilities which require vehicle access for management will be located at the termination of existing tracks. No new service tracks will be constructed.
- * Public vehicle access in the park will be limited to the east west fire trail through the western section of the park and tracks to private property (see Summary Map) except for authorised purposes such as research or for Aboriginal cultural activities (see section 4.2.1).
- * The Service may licence commercial tour operators or community groups to undertake low impact activities in the park, including walks and talks about Aboriginal culture and visiting of Aboriginal sites on the lake foreshore, subject to the concurrence of the local Aboriginal land council.
- * Any walking tracks constructed in the park will be minor tracks associated with the proposed interpretive facilities.
- * Camping will not be permitted in the park or reserves except for authorised purposes such as research or for Aboriginal cultural activities (see section 4.2.1).
- * Horse riding will be permitted on the public access road in the western section of Wallaga Lake National Park.
- * Cycling is permitted on public access roads and management tracks but not on walking tracks. Management tracks may be temporarily or permanently closed to cycling if unacceptable impacts occur.

Action

- * A plan will be prepared for provision of basic lake shore recreation and interpretive facilities, such as landing, picnic and toilet facilities, at up to two locations on the shores of Wallaga Lake. Factors such as demand, environmental impacts, management requirements and interpretive themes will be considered. Proposals will be made available for public comment. Subject to feasibility, environmental impact considerations and public comment, facilities may be constructed.
- * Boundary signs will be erected at strategic locations in Bermaguet Nature Reserve to make the community aware of its status and to discourage illegal use. Where necessary, works will be undertaken to prevent use of tracks not needed for management (section 4.3.4).
- * The management tracks in the eastern section of the park will be gated to prevent public use.

4.3.2 Commercial Fishing

Wallaga Lake supports a commercial fishing industry. Hauling operations are occasionally carried out from sites in the park. At these times professional fishers require vehicle access along the east west track to Yum Point and the two headlands to the north and south.

Policy

- * Persons holding a professional fishing licence who are customary users of the above locations may be licensed to use the existing vehicle tracks to gain access.
- * Licences may be cancelled if vehicle access results in unacceptable environmental impact.

Action

- * Licences will be issued to commercial fishers for use of the vehicle tracks to the Wallaga Lake foreshore.

4.3.3 Research

Wallaga Lake National Park and the two reserves have received little research attention and provide only limited opportunities for research because of their small size and lack of diverse or unusual habitats. Goura Nature Reserve has, however, been the subject of NPWS research into the status and management needs of the potoroo population.

Research efforts must be directed towards the areas of greatest need. Some important research topics have been mentioned in earlier sections of this plan. In addition to these, further survey of plant and animal species occurring in the three areas and research into the pattern and location of Aboriginal sites would improve knowledge of management needs. Encouragement of student research projects may be a means for achieving this.

Policy

- * Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagabee Nature Reserve will be available for appropriate research.
- * Researchers will be encouraged to design programs to provide information which is directly useful for management purposes.
- * Liaison will be maintained with researchers to obtain as much mutual information and assistance as possible.
- * The results of research will be required to be provided to the managers of the area.

Action

- * A prospectus will be prepared listing priority topics for use by students and others wishing to undertake research in the area. These will include:
 - survey for significant plant and animal species and vegetation communities;
 - the distribution and management needs of the koala in the three areas;
 - the fire management needs of the potoroo, koala and other significant species;
 - monitoring of road kills and the need for an animal crossing on the Princes Highway;
 - traditional Aboriginal use of the three areas;
 - the pattern and location of Aboriginal sites; and
 - the impacts of horse riding in the park.

4.3.4 Management Operations

Tracks are the only Service management facilities in each of the areas. Most of these are required for fire management, control of introduced species and other management functions. Each of the nature reserves and a small part of the national park are crossed by roads which provide access to private property. The main vehicle track through the park provides access to adjoining freehold land on the southern boundary. Several old tracks in Bermagabee Nature Reserve and the park are not required for management purposes and will be allowed to revegetate. Tracks which will be maintained are shown on the Summary Map.

The track through the western section of the park travels in and out of Service land. An access agreement is needed to ensure on-going management and public access to the park.

Vehicle access between the western and eastern sections of the park is on a traditionally used track which does not appear to have legal status as a road. For management reasons, the Service will seek legal access.

Provision is made in section 4.1.3 of this plan for a maintenance agreement for the power line which crosses part of Goura Nature Reserve and the park.

Policy

- * Management tracks shown on the Summary Map will be maintained to a high standard of stability and access. Other tracks will be allowed to revegetate but will be available for use if necessary for fire control purposes.

Action

- * An access agreement will be sought with neighbours to ensure on-going management and public access to the western section of the park.
- * Legal vehicle access to the main eastern section of the park will be sought.

5. PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This plan of management is part of a system of management developed by the National Parks and Wildlife service. The system includes the National Parks and Wildlife Act, management policies, established conservation and recreation philosophies, and strategic planning at corporate, directorate and regional levels.

The implementation of this plan will be undertaken within the annual programs of the Service's Far South Coast Region. Priorities, determined in the context of directorate and regional strategic planning, will be subject to the availability of necessary staff and funds and to any special requirements of the Director-General or Minister.

Regional programs are subject to ongoing review, within which, works and other activities carried out at in Wallaga Lake National Park, Goura Nature Reserve and Bermagoe Nature Reserve are evaluated in relation to the objectives laid out in this plan.

The environmental impact of all development proposals will continue to be assessed at all stages of the development and any necessary investigations undertaken in accordance with established environmental assessment procedures.

Section 81 of the Act requires that this plan shall be carried out and given effect to, and that no operations shall be undertaken in relation to the areas unless they are in accordance with the plan.

No term is proposed for this plan of management. If after adequate investigation, operations not included in the plan are found to be justified, this plan will be amended in accordance with sections 75(7) and 76(6) of the Act.

As a guide to the implementation of this plan, relative priorities for identified activities are summarised below:

ACTIVITY	PLAN REF
High Priority	
* Survey and map vegetation communities and significant plant species	4.1.2
* Prepare and implement weed and pest control plan	4.1.3
* Complete fire management plan	4.1.4
* Establish formal mechanism for consultation with Aboriginal community	4.2.1
* Erect boundary signs for Bermagoe Nature Reserve and close unnecessary tracks	4.3.1
Medium Priority	
* Rehabilitate and fence former Glenside property in Bermagoe NR	4.1.2
* Seek voluntary conservation agreements for potoroo and koala habitat	4.1.3
* Prepare and implement development plan for lakeshore recreation and interpretive facilities	4.3.1
* Gate track system in eastern section of park	4.3.1

- * Issue licences for commercial fishing access 4.3.1
- * Prepare research prospectus 4.3.3
- * Arrange power line maintenance agreement 4.3.4

Low Priority

- * Seek cooperation of land use authorities and landholders in preventing erosion and pollution of Narira and Dignams Creeks 4.1.1
- * Seek reservation of state forest area north of Goura 4.1.3
- * Record historic places 4.2.2
- * Seek vehicle access agreement for western section of park 4.3.4
- * Seek legal access to eastern section of park 4.3.4

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