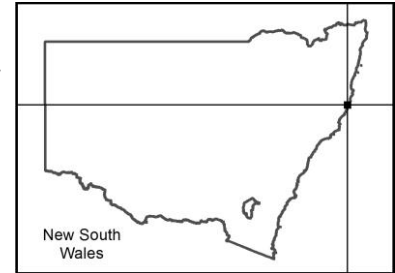


# Statement of Management Intent



## Woregore 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 Woregore 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:** Woregore Nature Reserve was reserved on 23 December 2005.

**Size:** 84 hectares.

Woregore Nature Reserve is located in and adjoining the Hastings River estuary, less than one kilometre north of Port Macquarie town centre. It falls within the NSW North Coast Bioregion and within the administrative areas of Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, North Coast Local Land Services and Birpai Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Woregore Nature Reserve is comprised of two sections: one located on the mainland and the other on an island known as Pelican Island. The reserve is surrounded by the Hastings River, where a range of maritime facilities and structures are located, including public wharfs, jetties and marinas.

Woregore Nature Reserve provides important wading bird habitat for a variety of endangered, threatened and internationally protected shorebird species.



#### 4. Values

- Woregore Nature Reserve protects important habitat for a variety of waterbird species, including the critically endangered beach stone-curlew (*Esacus magnirostris*), the endangered pied oystercatcher (*Haematopus longirostris*) and little tern (*Sternula albifrons*) and the vulnerable sooty oystercatcher (*Haematopus fuliginosus*) and lesser sand-plover (*Charadrius mongolus*).
- The reserve is also a significant roosting site for many migratory species that are internationally recognised under the Japan–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (JAMBA) and China–Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (CAMBA). Species include the white-throated needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*), bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) and eastern curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*).
- Motor-boating, paddling, sailing, birdwatching, fishing and swimming all occur in and around Woregore Nature Reserve.

## 5. Issues

- Pest animal species occurring in the reserve include European foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*), feral cats (*Felis catus*) and introduced rodents (*Rattus* spp.).
- Weed species occurring in the reserve include bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *rotundata*), lantana (*Lantana camara*), rambling dock (*Acetosa sagittata*), senna (*Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*), vines, aquatic weeds and mixed exotic grasses.
- The reserve adjoins the Hastings River which is a popular public waterway. Illegal activities by visitors from watercraft occasionally take place, such as the lighting of campfires and taking dogs into the reserve. The western section of the reserve also adjoins residential properties.

## 6. Key management directions

- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the priorities of the NPWS [Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Lower North Coast Region.
- Continue to support cooperative monitoring efforts by the volunteer group Hastings Bird Observers, which surveys threatened bird populations and roosting site conditions, with actions to manage bitou bush, foxes and feral rodents.
- Continue to ensure visitor compliance with park use regulations and undertake law enforcement where needed.
- There is no intention to apply fire as a management tool because the reserve is not regarded as being fire-prone, nor identified in Bush Fire Management Committee (BMFC) risk management planning.
- 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 Manning Hastings Area, Port Macquarie Office on 02 6588 5555 or 22 Blackbutt Road, Port Macquarie 2444.

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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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