

WOLLEMI FLORA RESERVE N^o. 197

SITE SPECIFIC WORKING PLAN



*Southeast corner of Wollemi Flora Reserve, looking northeast along MacDonald River towards Medhurst Creek.
Photo: Ian David, Three Valleys Landcare.*

Table of Contents

1. Details of the Reserve	3
1.1 Location	3
1.2 Key Attributes of the reserve	3
1.3 General Description	3
1.4 History	5
1.5 Current Usage	7
2. System of Management	7
2.1 Objectives of Management	7
2.2 Management Strategies	7
2.3 Activity permissibility	9
2.4 Management Responsibility	10
2.5 Monitoring, Reporting and Review	10
3. List of Appendices	10
Appendix 1 – Locality Map	11
Appendix 2 – General Working Plan for flora reserves managed by NPWS	12
Appendix 3 – Adaptable works program	13
Appendix 4 – Threatened Fauna Species List	15
Appendix 5 – Named Roads and Trails	17
Appendix 6 – References	18
Appendix 7 – Approval and Amendments from previous version	19

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan	Version No.: 2	Page 2 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23
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The NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) Secretary has been appointed as land manager of Wollemi Flora Reserve (FR) No. 197 (Appendix 1) by the Minister responsible for the *Forestry Act 2012* under section 57(3) of the Act. Under section 146(3) of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*, nearby or adjoining land to existing reserves can be managed by NPWS.

This site-specific working plan describes the important values of an individual Flora Reserve and identifies site-specific priorities for management. The plan is to be read in conjunction with the General Working Plan for Flora Reserves Managed by NPWS document which identifies NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service's broad objectives and strategies for managing flora reserves (Appendix 2). These two documents together form the flora reserve working plan in line with the requirements of section 25 of the *Forestry Act 2012*.

1. DETAILS OF THE RESERVE

1.1 LOCATION

Wollemi FR occupies roughly one third of Putty State Forest (SF) and is located in the Hunter region of New South Wales, on the Great Dividing Range. The reserve is located approximately 32 kilometres west-south-west of Bulga, adjacent to the eastern boundary of Wollemi NP (Appendix 1).

Hunter Range and Mellong Range form the northwestern and southwestern boundaries of the flora reserve, respectively. Medhurst Creek forms the northern boundary and the MacDonald River forms the south-eastern boundary.

The reserve is accessed from the north-east via Hunter Main Trail, which is aligned along the Hunter Range, and continues westward across the national park. Similarly, Mellong Range Trail follows the Mellong Range along the south-western boundary of the reserve. A series of previously unnamed forestry trails have been constructed along ridge lines throughout the reserve.

See Locality Map in Appendix 1.

1.2 KEY ATTRIBUTES OF THE RESERVE

Although Wollemi FR is unlikely to qualify as wilderness because of past impacts, it is positioned on the eastern edge of Wollemi Wilderness Area, the largest declared wilderness in New South Wales. Wollemi NP is within the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and protects important catchment values for Sydney's water supply as well as significant biodiversity and cultural heritage.

Specific values that are to be protected in the reserve include:

- regionally significant vegetation of the Blue Mountains Plateau
- threatened fauna and (potential) threatened flora species
- part of traditional Country for the Darkinjung, Wonnarua and Wiradjuri Aboriginal People.

These values are described in more detail in the following sections.

1.3 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Area

The reserve is 7190 hectares and is located towards the eastern edge of Wollemi NP and west of Yengo NP. On its north-west and south-west borders, the reserve is adjoined by the declared Wollemi Wilderness Area, the largest wilderness area in New South Wales.

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan	Version No.: 2	Page 3 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23
		Review date: October 2031

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Wollemi NP is part of the greater Blue Mountain World Heritage Area which was inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1998 on the grounds of both cultural and natural criteria.

To the south-east the reserve is bordered by private land in the vicinity of Kindarun Mountain.

Topography

The reserve is located on the north-western edge of the Sydney Basin, in the headwaters of the Hawkesbury River catchment and exhibits a weathered landscape typical of the dissected sandstone Blue Mountains plateau. Across the reserve, a network of drainage lines are incised into the sedimentary rock geology. Most of these are ephemeral creeks. From the highest point of 800 metres ASL, at a location known as Three Ways on the Hunter Range, the plateau terrain is fairly uniform for the western two-thirds of the reserve with elevations varying between 700 metres ASL and 600 metres. It then slopes to the east, dropping to approximately 240 metres ASL at the junction of Medhurst Creek and MacDonald River on the boundary.

Much of the reserve is recognised as a regional habitat corridor connecting areas of state forest and national park.

The reserve is in the Sydney Basin Bioregion (Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy (DotEE) 2016).

Geology and soils

Wollemi FR is underlain by Mesozoic era sedimentary rocks of the Narrabeen Group. The Narrabeen Group consists of sandstones and claystones which have weathered to create cliffs, gorges and narrow canyons in places. Soils formed from Narrabeen sandstone are generally very shallow with little development and characterized by low nutrient levels. These soils are also highly erodible.

Climate

Wollemi FR is in the Hunter climatic region (OEH 2014a, OEH 2014b).

The nearest station rainfall records are available from Howes Valley (Commission Road), located approximately 16 kilometres south-east of the reserve where average annual rainfall is 615 millimetres and Rylstone (Kelgoola), some 27 kilometres west-south-west of the reserve, where average annual rainfall is 809 millimetres.

Rainfall distribution and temperature are significantly influenced by topography along an increasing gradient from east to west. Annual rainfall is approximately 900 millimetres at the highest points of the reserve on its northwest and south west edges, declining to 717 millimetres on the lower reaches of the reserve at its eastern tip.

Annual rainfall distribution is also seasonal. Rainfall predominantly occurs over summer with peaks January to March. Winter periods are drier, particularly at Howes Valley.

Average annual temperatures are also expected to vary strongly with elevation, and with slope and aspect, which impacts on the amount of solar radiation received.

Under climate change, minimum and maximum temperatures in the Hunter climatic region are expected to increase by 0.4 – 1.0°C and the number of hot days (over 35°C) will increase. An increase in average annual of <5% is forecast for the reserve. Average rainfall is projected to decrease in summer and spring (both by <5%) and increase in winter (<5%) and autumn (5-10%). Average fire weather is expected to increase in summer, spring and winter (OEH 2014a, OEH 2014b).

Vegetation / flora and fauna

Vegetation types

Four Plant Community Types (PCTs) were assigned and mapped in the reserve (Eco Logical Australia 2023). One PCT 3604: Hunter Range Grey Gum-Stringybark Forest accounted for just over half the entire Reserve area (57%). PCT 3152 Hunter Range Turpentine-Grey Myrtle Gully Forest accounted for the next highest proportion of the Reserve at 29%. PCT 3599 Blue Mountains Peppermint Shrub Forest

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan		Version No.: 2	Page 4 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23	Review date: October 2031

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comprised 12%, with the most restricted PCT 3037 Sydney Basin Warm Temperate accounting for 3% of the Reserve.

Three small patches of mature age forest (often known and mapped as “old growth” forest) have been identified in the northern half of the reserve.

Table 1: Plant Community Types (PCTs) identified within Wollemi Flora Reserve (Eco Logical Australia 2023)

PCT ID	PCT Name	Aspect	Class	Formation
3037	Sydney Basin Warm Temperate Rainforest	Sheltered gullies	Northern Warm Temperate Rainforests	Rainforests
3152	Hunter Range Turpentine-Grey Myrtle Gully Forest	Sheltered	Northern Hinterland Wet Sclerophyll Forests	Wet Sclerophyll Forests (Grassy sub-formation)
3599	Blue Mountains Peppermint Shrub Forest	Exposed	Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forests	Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrubby sub-formation)
		Sheltered	Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forests	Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrubby sub-formation)
3604	Hunter Range Grey Gum-Stringybark Forest	Exposed	Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forests	Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrubby sub-formation)
		Sheltered	Sydney Hinterland Dry Sclerophyll Forests	Dry Sclerophyll Forests (Shrubby sub-formation)

Flora

Wollemi NP is known for a rich diversity of plant species, including over 70 species of eucalypt. Over 45 threatened plant species have been recorded (DPIE 2018) and approximately a third of these are endemic to the park. However, no threatened plant species have been recorded in the flora reserve or in the adjoining Putty State Forest. This is likely to be the result of survey effort.

Vertebrate Fauna

A total of 29 of threatened animal species have been recorded in and within a 1000 metre buffer of Putty State Forest. Of these, 18 have been recorded in Wollemi FR (Appendix 4).

Varied vegetation and topography provide a diversity of habitat including ample rock resources for a rich reptile fauna.

1.4 HISTORY

Aboriginal history and heritage

Wollemi FR is in the area where the traditional Country of the Darkinjung people borders that of the Wonnarua and Wiradjuri people. The Hunter Main and Mellong Range Trails follow traditional trading routes between different clans and link to Mount Monundilla, an important meeting point with western clans (OEH 2011). Based on the journal entries of early explorers, it is thought that the Putty Valley area

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan	Version No.: 2	Page 5 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23
		Review date: October 2031

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supported a large number of Aboriginal people prior to European arrival. Putty means “place of plenty” in the Darkinjung language.

Although the surrounding areas have an abundance of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites, none have been recorded in the flora reserve so far. This is likely due to survey effort. In the area of Wollemi NP to the west of the reserve, Aboriginal sites include art sites in caves and sandstone overhangs, rock engravings, open campsites, stone arrangements and grinding grooves. The NPWS engages with local Aboriginal people regarding the management of reserves in the area and will extend that engagement to Wollemi FR.

Shared heritage

In 1817, Benjamin Singleton was one of the first European explorers into the Putty district, approaching from the MacDonald River and returning via a route similar to which the Putty Road now follows to Windsor. William Parr’s October 1817 expedition almost reached the flora reserve, finishing just north east of Mount Kindarun (within Putty State Forest), progress north to the Hunter Valley was halted by bushfires. In May 1818, Benjamin Singleton is recorded travelling into the area of the flora reserve from Tollagong and then Mellong Ranges on his way to Mount Monundilla. He was in a party of five with an Aboriginal guide in search of the Hunter River (Macqueen 2004).

During this time, reports of good grazing country in Putty and Howes valleys filtered through the colony. John Howe’s 1819 expedition accomplished a track from Kurrajong to the Hunter Valley near Jerrys Plains on November 1819, taking 13 days. Howe’s second expedition, in March 1820, found a shorter and more cattle-friendly track from Putty to Bulga. From the 1820s, large mobs of cattle were moved, both legitimately and illegally, north and south between Sydney and the Hunter Valley. Land grants were issued in the Putty Valley soon after, with the Laycock family among the first grantees. During 1905 and 1906, over 18,000 acres had been officially allocated to more than twenty settlers bearing the names Chapman, Cobcroft, Gibbs, Gosper, Hall, Knodler, McTaggart, Medhurst, Merrick, Ridge, Smith and Sylvester (Ferguson 2016).

Cattle grazing was the main agricultural activity in the area from the 1820s and by the 1940s, 27 dairies were operating in the Putty Valley (Ferguson 2016). The Putty Road was mostly a bridle track until upgrades enabled vehicles from Putty to Singleton between 1939 and 1945 (McKenzie 2014).

Commercial logging with tractors and trucks commenced in the area now within the flora reserve in the early 1950s after the Forestry Commission upgraded Putty Valley Road to allow vehicle access. One of the first commercial logging operations in the northern part of Putty Valley was the Baker’s, delivering timber to Windsor (Ferguson 2016). Putty State Forest has been a working forest for more than a century (DPI 2004). Recent history indicates that integrated harvesting has occurred in the area that now includes Wollemi FR in 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

From late 1961 to 1965, Wollemi FR formed part of the Colo-Putty training area for the Australian Army, preparing soldiers for the Vietnam War. Major exercises include Icebreaker (1961), Nutcracker (1962), Sky High (1963), and Sky High 2 (1965). Thousands of troops were involved in each exercise and often involved British, Canadian, and American units. Bombing runs were conducted on Mount Kindarun during this period.

Conservation efforts to see permanent protection of the region’s rich biodiversity began with a group called the National Parks and Primitive Areas Council in 1932. In 1976 the area of what is now Wollemi NP was identified as one of 20 areas deserving wilderness status. Wollemi NP was finally gazetted in 1979 and 20 years later the Wollemi Wilderness Area was declared.

Fire history

Situated in a vast wilderness with high ignition potential, wildfires often occur in this area on a large scale. The deeply dissected valleys and cliff lines of the landscape can provide natural barriers to the spread of wildfire but also severely limit the options available for ground-based fire containment operations.

The land now contained in Wollemi FR has a history of wildfire including extensive landscape-scale wildfires in 1982-83, 1991-92, 2001-02, 2008-09, 2013-14 and 2019-20. Ignitions are generally caused by

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan		Version No.: 2	Page 6 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23	Review date: October 2031

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lightning or arson. In the past, fires have been lit in grassy woodland vegetation on state forest and former state forest land by graziers wanting to encourage green pick for their cattle.

Wollemi FR is assessed as having high to very high potential to carry fire. Based on its fire history and forest types, it is quite possible that fire thresholds have been exceeded multiple times (NPWS 2004). 'Ecological consequences of high frequency fires' is listed as a key threatening process under the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*.

The area of Wollemi NP adjoining Wollemi FR is within a Land Management Zone for the purposes of fire management, bound by Hunter Main Trail and Mellong Range Trail. Review of the Wollemi Reserve Fire Management Strategy 2006 is required to include Wollemi FR.

NPWS manages wildfire, fuel loads and response capabilities in accordance with bush fire risk management plans and plans of operations prepared by bush fire management committees in collaboration with Forestry Corporation, NPWS wildlife ecologists and neighbours, including Forestry Corporation. When preparing burn plans NPWS considers the biodiversity thresholds for the target vegetation types and the fuel loading of the area (NPWS 2004).

1.5 CURRENT USAGE

Management activities in the flora reserve at the time of gazettal are limited to pest and weed control and bushfire management.

Public access to the reserve is via Mellong Range Trail and Hunter Range Trail (east of Three Ways). Blackjack and Merrick Trails will be maintained for public and management access. Medhurst and Bus Camp Trails will be dormant and used only for fire management or other management programs.

There are no visitor facilities in this remote area and visitor use overall is low. Sections of the Hunter Range Trail are used for 4WD touring and motorbikes.

Wollemi Flora Reserve forms part of public land (Putty State Forest) that has been declared for the purposes of recreational hunting under the *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002*. The area contained within Wollemi Flora Reserve is currently listed as a total public exclusion zone which means that public access including hunting is not permitted. This may be revised should the circumstances around the exclusion change.

2. SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT

2.1 OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

General objectives for the management of all flora reserves managed by NPWS are set out in Section 1.1 of the General Working Plan for NPWS Managed Flora Reserves (Appendix 2). This includes objectives from applying local NPWS operational plans and strategies including those for fire, pests and weeds.

In addition to that general guidance, the objective for Wollemi FR will be to:

- » integrate management of the flora reserve with management of Wollemi NP in accordance with *Wollemi National Park Plan of Management*
- » ensure that management of the reserve does not impact on adjacent wilderness values.

2.2 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan		Version No.: 2	Page 7 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23	Review date: October 2031

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Stewardship activities within the reserve are enabled by this working plan as informed by the *Wollemi National Park Plan of Management* and the general requirements of the NPWS Parks Management Framework.

General management strategies (policies) for the management of all flora reserves managed by NPWS are set out in Section 1.2 of the General Working Plan for NPWS Managed Flora Reserves (Appendix 2). This includes policies applying from local NPWS operational plans and strategies including those for fire, pests and weeds.

In addition to that general guidance, the management objectives in Section 4.1 will be met through the management strategies (policies) identified below and the adaptable works program at Appendix 3.

Biodiversity management and ecological knowledge

- » Targeted surveys for threatened flora species will be encouraged and supported.
- » Any recovery actions identified in the *Saving our Species* program will be supported.

Pest and weed management

- » As per the General Working Plan (Appendix 2) and any actions in the adaptable works program (Appendix 3).

Fire

- » Fire planning and operations will be managed and conducted in collaboration with Forestry Corporation, the Hunter Valley Bushfire Management Committee, and other adjoining landowners.
- » This working plan and the reserve's values and boundaries will be considered in any review of the Wollemi NP Fire Management Strategy and NPWS burn plans.

Roads and infrastructure

- » Blackjack, Merrick, Mellong Range and Hunter Main trails will be maintained for public access (where outside of the declared wilderness area) to a 4WD all-weather standard.
- » Fire trails will be maintained in accordance with the Hunter Valley Bushfire Management Committee's Fire Access and Fire Trail Strategic Plan (Appendix 5).

Visitor opportunity and management

- » Visitor use includes horse riding and cycling on public roads and publicly accessible trails, and other nature-based activities such as bushwalking and bird watching.

Community engagement

- » Opportunities for Aboriginal community involvement in the Flora Reserve will be promoted.

Document title: Wollemi Flora Reserve Site Specific Working Plan		Version No.: 2	Page 8 of 19
Document ID (NPWS CM9 Reference): DOC22/874411	Owner: NPWS	Issue date: 14/9/23	Review date: October 2031

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2.3 ACTIVITY PERMISSIBILITY

Activities permitted without approval or conditions

- » All actions consistent with the management strategies identified in the general working plan for NPWS managed flora reserves (at the time of writing this included weeds, pest, fire, infrastructure and visitation management)
- » use of registered motor vehicles operated by licenced drivers on publicly accessible roads and trails
- » nature-based activities such as bushwalking, bird watching and photography
- » recreational cycling on reserve roads and management trails as identified under the Roads and infrastructure sections of this plan.
- » Aboriginal cultural activities not requiring a permit
- » activities allowed by a continuing valid permit. e.g. scientific licence.

Activities permitted with conditions

No activities specific to Wollemi FR are listed as requiring permission. Activities general to all flora reserves that require permitting are listed in the general working plan of NPWS managed flora reserves (Appendix 2).

Activities requiring permission will generally be subject to assessment and, if permitted, have conditions applied by the land manager (NPWS) consistent with the Forestry Act and applying policies and guidelines. Permits can only be issued for activities within flora reserves following approval by the DPE Secretary under section 61(1) of the Forestry Act.

Activities not permitted

The following activities will not be permitted in Wollemi Flora Reserve:

- » timber harvesting
- » removal of forest products and materials, with the exception of Aboriginal use of forest products (Appendix 2)
- » grazing by domestic stock
- » gravel or hard rock quarrying
- » mineral and petroleum exploration and mining
- » lighting of campfires and any other unauthorized fires
- » camping
- » entering with domestic dogs
- » mineral fossicking
- » new permits for beekeeping
- » hunting.

Mining

There are no gazetted exemptions from provisions of the *Mining Act 1992* for this flora reserve.

2.4 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

The Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) has been appointed as land manager of Wollemi FR by the Minister for Regional NSW under section 57(3) of the *Forestry Act*. This will enable NPWS to manage the land in accordance with this working plan. Under section 146(3) of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* nearby or adjoining land to existing reserves can be managed by NPWS.

Wollemi FR is gazetted over state forest land. Timber harvesting has been excluded from this area since its dedication. Wollemi FR will be managed for conservation purposes by NPWS in accordance with the principles, objectives and legislative framework of the *Forestry Act* and *the Agreement for the Management of Flora Reserves between the Minister for Lands and Forestry and the Minister for the Environment* (OEH 2018). NPWS will draw on its own management frameworks to achieve this.

The Wollemi Flora Reserve adjoins Wollemi National Park. The management of Wollemi FR will be integrated into the management of Wollemi NP. However, this working plan will stand alone in terms of its role in ensuring the original purpose of the Flora Reserve dedication is upheld.

The plan seeks to apply an adaptive management approach, to ensure that the application of flexible and sound land management practices can be applied to protect the specific values of Wollemi FR. This adaptive management approach ensures the integration of natural variability and environmental changes across the broader landscape into decisions and actions delivered.

2.5 MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW

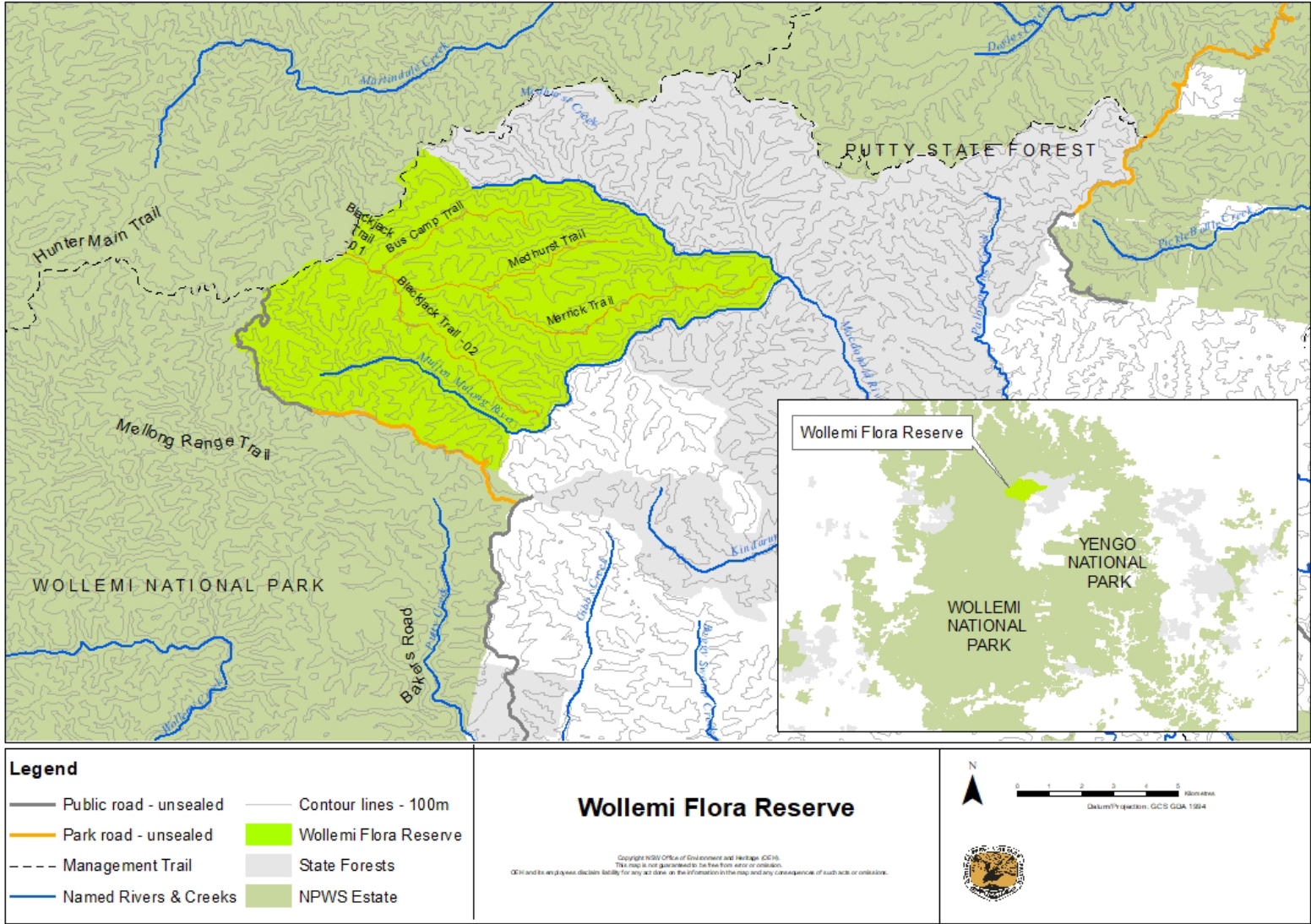
Observation, reporting and review will be undertaken in accordance with section 3 of the *General Working Plan for Flora Reserves Managed by NPWS* in Appendix 2.

Reviews of this Working Plan will be linked with reviews of the *Wollemi National Park Plan of Management*. Further or refined review may be undertaken via the adaptable actions in Appendix 3.

3. LIST OF APPENDICES

- » Appendix 1 – Locality Map
- » Appendix 2 – General Working Plan for flora reserves managed by NPWS
- » Appendix 3 – Adaptable works program
- » Appendix 4 – Threatened Fauna Species List
- » Appendix 5 – Named Roads and Trails
- » Appendix 6 – References
- » Appendix 7 – Approval and Amendments from previous version

APPENDIX 1 – LOCALITY MAP



APPENDIX 2 – GENERAL WORKING PLAN FOR FLORA RESERVES MANAGED BY NPWS

[Forestry Corporation link to general working plan.](#)

APPENDIX 3 – ADAPTABLE WORKS PROGRAM

This list of actions has been developed from discussions with local staff referencing the objectives in Section 2.1 and the strategies/policies in Section 2.2.

In keeping with an adaptive management approach, the actions below may be revised or deleted and new actions may be added by the local NPWS Branch in order to better meet the objectives of the working plan. This may occur after they have been undertaken or attempted, when new information arises or to suit changing circumstances. The priorities applied to these actions may also be revised.

The priority rating in the table below have been agreed with local operational staff and reflect the importance of the list of actions relative to the situation in the reserve.

No.	Adaptable management actions	Priority
1	Biodiversity management and ecological knowledge Specific biodiversity management activities will be developed to address habitat recovery and threatened species conservation for the species listed in Appendix 4, as resources allow.	1
2	Aboriginal heritage Support work with the Aboriginal community to identify, manage (and interpret if relevant) Aboriginal heritage in the reserve.	1
3	Pest and weed management Until the flora reserve is established in the Branch Pest Management Strategy, priority pest/weed control works will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » removal of straying stock » opportunistic control of wild dogs and foxes » opportunistic control of pigs » opportunistic control of deer » opportunistic control of other pests species as required » opportunistic control of Coolatai grass (<i>Hyparrhenia hirta</i>) along Mellong Range Trail » opportunistic control of Blackberry (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> L. agg.) and Tree of Heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>) control along MacDonald River » monitoring of emerging weeds » work with Three Valleys Landcare group. 	1
4	Fire management Review the Wollemi NP Fire Reserve Strategy, and update if necessary to ensure the FR and its values are included. Manage Wollemi FR as a Land Management Zone and Strategic Fire Advantage Zone consistent with adjoining National Park land and proximity to private properties. Identify and classify suitable trails, such as Blackjack Fire Trail, for fire management purposes.	1
5	Roads and infrastructure Monitor erosion on Hunter Main and Mellong Range Trails and maintain as required.	2

	Review former forestry trails, such as Blackjack Fire Trail and its spur tracks, for use in fire and other management activities. Close and rehabilitate tracks not required as necessary.	
6	Unauthorised uses Monitor illegal hunting, bushrock removal, unregistered vehicles/trailbikes and other unauthorised uses and take action as needed.	3

APPENDIX 4 – THREATENED FAUNA SPECIES LIST

The table below lists the threatened native animals found in Wollemi Flora Reserve and adjoining Putty State Forest (DPIE 2018).

Common Name	Scientific Name	NSW Status*	Cwlth status#	Wollemi Flora Reserve@	Putty State Forest!
Mammals					
Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby	<i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	E	V	Known	Present
Eastern Bentwing-bat	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Eastern False Pipistrelle	<i>Falsistrellus tasmaniensis</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Eastern Pygmy-possum	<i>Cercartetus nanus</i>	V	-		Present
Greater Broad-nosed Bat	<i>Scoteanax rueppellii</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Greater Glider	<i>Petauroides volans</i>	P	V		Present
Grey-headed Flying-fox	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	V	V		Present
Large-eared Pied Bat	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	V	V	Known	Present
Spotted-tailed Quoll	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	V	E	Known	Present
Squirrel Glider	<i>Petaurus norfolcensis</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Yellow-bellied Glider	<i>Petaurus australis</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Birds					
Brown Treecreeper (eastern subspecies)	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	V	-	Known	
Diamond Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	V	-		Present
Dusky Woodswallow	<i>Artamus cyanopterus cyanopterus</i>	V	-		Present
Flame Robin	<i>Petroica phoenicea</i>	V	-		Present
Gang-gang Cockatoo	<i>Callocephalon fimbriatum</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Glossy Black-Cockatoo	<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Hooded Robin (south-eastern form)	<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	V	-		Present
Little Lorikeet	<i>Glossopsitta pusilla</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Masked Owl	<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Powerful Owl	<i>Ninox strenua</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Scarlet Robin	<i>Petroica boodang</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Sooty Owl	<i>Tyto tenebricosa</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Speckled Warbler	<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	V	-		Present

Turquoise Parrot	<i>Neophema pulchella</i>	V	-		Present
Varied Sittella	<i>Daphoenositta chrysoptera</i>	V	-		Present
White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>		C, J, K		Present
Amphibians					
Giant Burrowing Frog	<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i>	V	V		Present
Red-crowned Toadlet	<i>Pseudophryne australis</i>	V	-	Known	Present
Reptiles					
Rosenberg's Goanna	<i>Varanus rosenbergi</i>	V	-	Known	Present

* Listing NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016

Listing Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

V= Vulnerable, E = Endangered, C=CAMBA, J=JAMBA, K=ROKAMBA

@ Known is defined as all records occurring within 1000 metres of the boundary of the reserve

! Present is within the adjoining State Forest

APPENDIX 5 – NAMED ROADS AND TRAILS

Trail/road name	Designation under FAFT Plan
Hunter Main Trail	Strategic Cat 7
Blackjack Trail	Other Cat 9
Bus Camp Trail	Unclassified
Medhurst Trail	Unclassified
Merrick Trail	Other Cat 9
Mellong Range Trail	Strategic Cat 7

APPENDIX 6 – REFERENCES

DotEE 2016, *Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA), Version 7 (Regions)*, Australian Government Department of the Environment and Energy.

DPI 2004, *Conservation Volunteers building a Better Earth in Putty State Forest!*, Department of Primary Industries, https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/content/archive/news-releases/forests/2004/conservation_volunteers

DPIE 2018, *Bionet Atlas of NSW Wildlife*, Office of Environment and Heritage, Sydney, www.bionet.nsw.gov.au/

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APPENDIX 7 – APPROVAL AND AMENDMENTS FROM PREVIOUS VERSION

In line with section 25 of the *Forestry Act 2012*, flora reserve working plans and any amendments must be approved by the Minister.

This plan was approved by The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Western New South Wales

Date of approval: 14/9/23

Version	Changes	Approval details
4.0	» Addressed comments by Forestry Corporation.	» The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Western New South Wales, 14/9/23