



FLORA RESERVE WORKING PLAN

PART 1: BACKGROUND AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT

Contents

FLORA RESERVE WORKING PLAN 1

PART 1: BACKGROUND AND GENERAL MANAGEMENT 1

1. INTRODUCTION 3

2. MANAGEMENT 3

 2.1 *Objectives of Management* 3

 2.2 *Management Strategies* 3

 Fire 5

 Cultural heritage 5

 Recreation 5

 Other significant biological values 5

 Activities not permitted 5

 Activities permitted with special conditions 6

 2.3 *Activities permitted under other legislation* 6

3. Monitoring, Reporting and Review 6

4. Legislation 6

5. References 7

6. Related documents 7

7. Flora Reserves covered by this plan 8

 7.1 *Flora Reserves managed by another land manager* 9

8. Approvals and Amendments 10

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 2 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.

1. INTRODUCTION

Flora reserves are set apart, under section 16 of the *Forestry Act 2012*, for the preservation of native flora. The *Forestry Act 2012* also details how flora reserves are established, amended, or revoked.

Management activities of flora reserves are informed by a working plan, divided into two parts, approved by the Minister administering the *Forestry Act 2012*:

- Part 1 details the principles and objectives for managing flora reserves in NSW State forests where Forestry Corporation is the land manager.
- Part 2 is site specific and describes each reserve's unique values and provides detailed written schemes of the operations that will be carried out in the flora reserve to protect those values.

2. MANAGEMENT

Flora Reserves have historically been used as a mechanism for the preservation of native flora in State forests. Through the National Forest Policy Statement (NFPS) and resulting comprehensive regional assessment (CRA) and comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system, these reserves were formally recognised for their important contribution to conservation.

The CAR reserve system now comprises of these reserves, areas identified subsequently, as well as informal reserves and values protected by prescription. It is based on nationally agreed reserve criteria¹ and is linked to the International Union for Conservation of Nature categories for reserve protection.

Forestry Corporation developed a Forest Management Zoning (FMZ) system based on the nationally agreed reserve criteria to ensure that high conservation value forests will continue to be managed in perpetuity for the benefit of the whole community. This uses a spatial format to classify the forest according to management intent. Flora reserves on State forests contribute to this dedicated reserve system in NSW and are classified as FMZ 1: Special Protection.

2.1 OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

Flora reserves are managed by Forestry Corporation of NSW, or an appointed land manager.

Flora reserves administered by Forestry Corporation will be managed in accordance with the objectives of Forestry Corporation's Forest Management Plans to:

- preserve native flora and fauna species and communities, particularly those identified as rare and endangered
- maintain examples of forest ecosystems

Flora reserves are also managed to provide other values in addition to flora, including, but not limited to, cultural heritage, archaeological values, recreation, ecotourism, education and stakeholder participation. Where these are an important element of a reserve, it will be detailed in the site-specific plan.

2.2 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

¹ The Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments agreed to the development of National Forest Reserve Criteria, in accordance with the National Forest Policy Statement. The Joint ANZECC/ MCFFA National Forest Policy Statement Implementation Sub-Committee (known as JANIS) produced a report outlining criteria setting out the components of the Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative (CAR) reserve system.

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 3 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

All management activities within flora reserves will be conducted in accordance with the relevant legislation and Forestry Corporation’s policies and procedures as detailed in Forestry Corporation’s Forest Management System.

Strategies used to manage flora reserves may be refined over time to incorporate the latest scientific information and improvement in practices.

The management strategies below apply to all flora reserves managed by Forestry Corporation. Additional site-specific management strategies are identified in Part 2 of the working plan for each reserve.

Forestry Corporation will

- define the boundaries of the reserve in the organisation’s Geographic Information System (GIS) and ensure that they are clearly marked in the field prior to any activities occurring in or near the reserve
- perform operations in adjacent areas in a manner that will not cause damage or disturbance to the reserve
- issue Forest Permits only for those activities that are consistent with the management objectives of the reserve
- allow targeted removal of vegetation, including trees, to ensure the safety of the public or Forestry Corporation staff, or for the maintenance of boundary fences
- minimise activities that lead to alterations of the natural flow regime of streams within the reserve
- exclude grazing by domestic stock, unless this is part of a documented fuel management plan
- undertake pest animal and weed management works within the reserve in accordance with the relevant Forestry Corporation Pest Animal or Weed Management Plan as part of broader area-based programs
- periodically review the road network within or through a reserve, and
 - consider the requirement to restrict public vehicular access. Where necessary, unauthorised vehicle access may be prevented using barriers or gates.
 - identify instances where a road is no longer required and can be allowed to regenerate to a natural state. Any supplementary planting will be with endemic flora species.
 - maintain internal and adjacent external roads and trails (where they occur on State forest) in line with the broader forest road maintenance program. This may include construction of road structures, drains and/ or sediment control devices
 - undertake roadside vegetation management
- allow the installation and maintenance of barriers, fences (including boundary fences) and signage where necessary to meet the management objectives
- undertake and / or allow scientific studies, including trapping animals for fauna surveys
- provide support to organisations carrying out environmental work and / or maintenance on the reserve
- allow hunting of game and feral animals, subject to declaration of the relevant State forest area under the *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002*
- include the reserve in periodic patrols, which may include the use of surveillance devices, as part of broader area-based programs, to detect illegal activities on State forests

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 4 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.

Fire

Forestry Corporation will manage fire within flora reserves with consideration to the reserve's unique values and in accordance with

- our obligations as a statutory firefighting authority under the *Rural Fires Act 1997* and
- the Forestry Corporation Fire Management Plan², which aims to use fire "...under appropriate conditions to promote ecosystem health, diversity and resilience in native forests..."

Any fuel reduction work will be conducted in accordance with Hardwood Forests and Softwood Plantations Fuel Management Plans.

Cultural heritage

Forestry Corporation will

- work with Aboriginal communities and Native Title holders to protect Aboriginal cultural heritage in flora reserves, in line with Forestry Corporation Operational Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management
- identify and manage non-Aboriginal cultural heritage according to Forestry Corporation Operational Guidelines for Non-Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management

Recreation

Forestry Corporation will

- allow recreational activities in flora reserves that align with the objectives of management
- issue a forest permit for some recreational activities, for example, those that are of a higher intensity, are organized events or are of a commercial nature. Forest permits for recreation and tourism are determined, issued and managed in accordance with Forestry Corporation's Tourism and Partnerships Toolkit.
- consider recreational development (that is, the construction of facilities for recreational use) where it is sympathetic to the management objectives of the flora reserve³ and following approval, where required, under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*.

Other significant biological values

Forestry Corporation will

- support survey work to identify, locate or improve knowledge of and / or monitor flora and fauna populations within each flora reserve. Survey work undertaken by external parties would be managed under a Forest Permit.
- incorporate any new significant biological values identified in the reserve into future management plans in line with the objectives of management. Where necessary, Forestry Corporation may place restrictions on any permitted activities or alter management in the flora reserve to protect and / or enhance such values.

Activities not permitted

The following activities are not permitted in flora reserves:

² Forestry Corporation Fire Management Plan 2020, p 9

³ As prescribed in *Managing our Forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests*

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 5 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

- commercial timber harvesting (this does not include harvesting to facilitate the maintenance of ecological values)
- removal of forest products and materials, unless undertaken by Aboriginal communities or in accordance Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs)
- grazing by domestic stock, unless under a Fuel Management Plan
- gravel or hard rock quarrying
- fossicking
- mineral and petroleum exploration and mining when exempted by the Minister administering the *Mining Act 1992* and the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*

Activities permitted with special conditions

Special conditions are conditions applicable to the proposed activity that are in addition to, or supplement, the standard conditions. Special conditions may include particular approvals, additional constraints and / or be dependent on the outcome of a Review of Environmental Factors (REF). These are prescribed and approved at site specific scale. Approval must be by a Regional or Functional Unit Manager.

The following activities will be permitted subject to special conditions:

- construction of new roads and trails
- development identified as a management strategy in a site-specific working plan
- certain silvicultural activities required to promote forest health and ecological diversity (for example, ecological thinning and wetland restoration in western forests)

2.3 ACTIVITIES PERMITTED UNDER OTHER LEGISLATION

All State forest lands are subject to legislation other than the *Forestry Act 2012* and this legislation can override the Forestry Act and permit certain activities to occur. Such legislation includes the

- *Mining Act 1992*
- *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*
- *Rural Fires Act 1997*
- *Environment Protection and Assessment Act 1979*

3. MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW

Forestry Corporation will

- undertake inspections of flora reserves using the Flora Reserve Inspection template. Frequency of inspections is defined within Forestry Corporation's compliance monitoring framework.
- incorporate results of monitoring in future management of the reserve.
- amend the provisions of the site-specific working plans if necessary, considering the results of the monitoring program and with the approval of the Minister.

This plan is scheduled for review 10 years from the approval date.

4. LEGISLATION

- *Forestry Act 2012*

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 6 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.

- *Mining Act 1992*
- *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991*
- *Rural Fires Act 1997*
- *Environment Protection and Assessment Act 1979*
- *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002*

5. REFERENCES

- Forestry Corporation Forest Management Policy
- Forestry Corporation Recreation and Tourism Policy
- State Forests of NSW, Operational Circular 99/10 (1999). Managing our Forests sustainably: Forest Management Zoning in NSW State Forests.
- Commonwealth of Australia (1997). Nationally Agreed Criteria for the Establishment of a Comprehensive, Adequate and Representative Reserve System for Forests in Australia.
- Forestry Commission of New South Wales (1989). Forest Preservation in State Forests of New South Wales.
- Forestry Corporation of NSW, Forest Management Plans for Softwood Plantations, Hardwood Coastal, and Western Forests
- Forestry Corporation NSW Land Administration Manual
- Forestry Corporation Legal and other compliance obligations
- Forestry Corporation Operational Guidelines for Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management
- Forestry Corporation Operational Guidelines for Non-Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Forestry Corporation SPD Monitoring, Audit and Reporting manual
- Forestry Corporation NSW Fire Management Plan
- Forestry Corporation Hardwood Forests Division Compliance Monitoring Framework
- Forestry Corporation Softwood Plantations Division Monitoring, Audit and Reporting manual
- Forestry Corporation HFD Pest Animal Management Plan
- Forestry Corporation SPD Weed Management Plan
- Forestry Corporation SPD Pest Animal Management Plan
- Forestry Corporation's Tourism and Partnerships Toolkit

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 7 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.

7. FLORA RESERVES COVERED BY THIS PLAN

Flora reserves in State forests of NSW managed by Forestry Corporation and covered by this plan are listed in the table below.

The working plan for each of these flora reserves comprises this document plus a separate site-specific working plan.

Flora Reserve Nº.	Flora Reserve Name	State Forest
3	Bruxner Park	Orara East
12	Jerewarrah	Ewingar
14	Tennyson Creek	Bondi
18	Mines Road	Bellangry
19	Mobong Creek	Wild Cattle Creek
23	Boshes Creek	Mullions Range
25	Glenugie Peak	Glenugie
26	Bago	Bago
34	Sandgate	Sandgate
40	Lanes Mill	Pilliga East
42	Madmans Creek	Conglomerate
48	Wallaroo	Wallaroo
56	Tirrill Creek	Bulga
59	Pokolbin	Pokolbin
61	Yarindury	Yarindury
64	Grange	Grange
65	Middle Creek	Marengo
66	Richters Caves	Ourimbah
68	Laurel Hill	Bago
70	Micalong Swamp	Micalong
71	White Beech	Girard
73	Pyrocarpa	Double Duke
75	Nullica	Nullica
77	Selection Flat	Myrtle
89	Paddys Brush	Stewarts Brook
91	Stingray Swamp	Penrose
92	Peach Tree Creek	Currowan
96	Broad Creek	Yadboro
100	Silvertris	Bodalla
105	Nullo Mountain	Nullo Mountain
111	Twelve Sixty	Bagawa
114	Nethercote Falls	Nullica
116	Maxwells	Nadgee

Flora Reserve N ^o .	Flora Reserve Name	State Forest
117	Strahorn	Strahorn
120	Paddy's River	Bago
126	Birds Rock	Newnes
127	Watergums Creek	Nadgee
128	Arandin	Glenugie
137	Nicholii	Hyland
138	Jingera	Gnupa, Nullica
142	Helms	Green Hills, Bago
143	Eurabbie	Bago
155	Pollack	Koondrook
159	Wells Crossing	Newfoundland
160	Coco Creek	Nowendoc
164	Buckingbong	Buckingbong
165	Yambulla	Yambulla
166	Snow Gum	Newnes
167	Letts Mountain	Yambulla
168	Mount Poole	Yambulla
169	Sidlings Swamp	Timbillica, Yambulla
170	Narrabarba Hill	East Boyd, Nadgee
171	Wallagaraugh	East Boyd, Nadgee, Nungatta, Timbillica, Yambulla
173	Mount Allyn	Chichester
174	Big Run	Dingo
175	Mount Pipanpinga	Knorrit
177	Table Creek	Grange
178	Old Jeremiah	Bungongo
179	Murraguldrie	Murraguldrie
180	Carabost	Carabost
181	Mundaroo	Murraguldrie
182	Jerrabattgulla	Tallaganda
183	Currowan Creek	Currowan
184	Mares Hill	Yadboro
185	The Hunter Lakes	Awaba, Heaton
192	Paperbark	Cairncross

7.1 FLORA RESERVES MANAGED BY ANOTHER LAND MANAGER

Flora reserves in State forests of NSW managed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service are listed in the table below. Working plans for these flora reserves are published on the Forestry Corporation website (www.fcnsw.com.au).

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 9 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.

Flora Reserve No.	Flora Reserve Name	State Forest
208	Belanglo	Belanglo
83	Bar	Olney
80	Warrawolong	Watagan
186	Olney	Olney
	Murrah	Murrah
	Mumbulla	Mumbulla
	Bermagui	Bermagui
206	Kuluwan	Olney
	Boorabee	Mount Lindesay, Koreelah, Donaldson, Unumgar
	Jelore	Jelore
	Meryla	Meryla

8. APPROVALS AND AMENDMENTS

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 forms part of the working plans for each of the individual flora reserves listed in section 6.

Version	Changes	Approval details
1.0	Background and general management plan	» The Hon. Dugald Saunders MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW 20/6/2022

Document title: Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management		Version No.: 5	Page: 10 of 10
Document ID: D00255137	Owner: FMS IC	Issue date: June 2022	Review date: October 2026

WARNING: a printed copy of this document may be uncontrolled. Please verify this is the latest version prior to use.