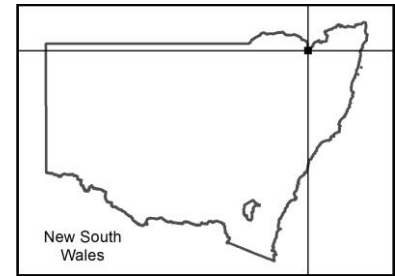


# Statement of Management Intent



## Crooked Creek National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1

### 1. Introduction

This statement outlines the main values, issues, management directions and priorities of the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) for managing Crooked Creek National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1. This statement, together with relevant NPWS policies, will guide the management of the park until a plan of management has been prepared in accordance with the [National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 \(NPW Act\)](#). The NPWS [Managing Parks Prior to Plan of Management Policy](#) states that parks and reserves without a plan of management are to be managed in a manner consistent with the intent of the NPW Act and the [‘precautionary principle’ \(see Principle 15\)](#).

### 2. Management principles

Zone 1 community conservation areas are reserved as national parks under the NPW Act to protect and conserve areas containing outstanding or representative ecosystems, natural or cultural features or landscapes or phenomena that provide opportunities for public appreciation, inspiration and sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment. Under the Act ([section 30E](#)), national parks are managed to:

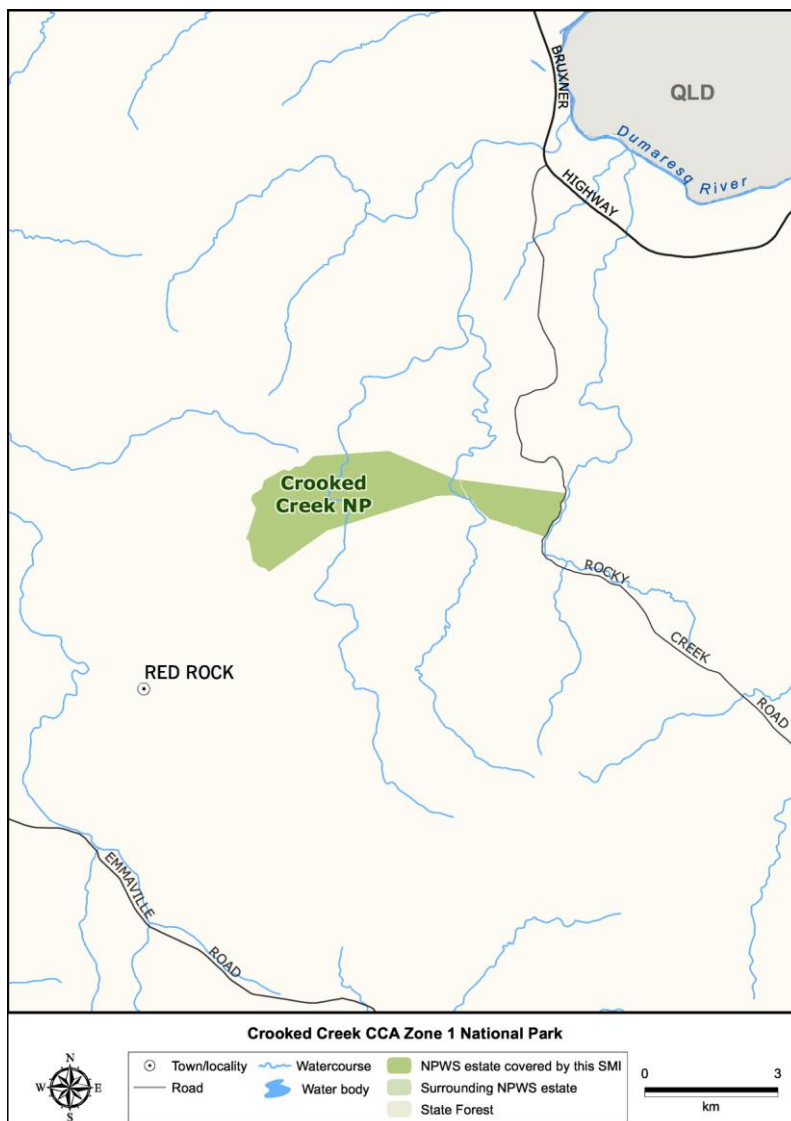
- conserve biodiversity, maintain ecosystem functions, protect geological and geomorphological features and natural phenomena and maintain natural landscapes
- conserve places, objects, features and landscapes of cultural value
- protect the ecological integrity of one or more ecosystems for present and future generations
- promote public appreciation and understanding of the park’s natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable visitor or tourist use and enjoyment that is compatible with conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for sustainable use (including adaptive reuse) of any buildings or structures or modified natural areas having regard to conservation of natural and cultural values
- provide for appropriate research and monitoring.

The primary purpose of national parks is to conserve nature and cultural heritage. Opportunities are provided for appropriate visitor use in a manner that does not damage conservation values.

### 3. Context

**Reservation details:** Crooked Creek National Park was reserved on 1 January 2011.

**Size:** 735 hectares.



Crooked Creek National Park is located 17 kilometres north-east of Ashford. It is located primarily within the New England Tablelands Bioregion, at the western boundary with the Nandewar Bioregion. It falls within the administrative areas of the Inverell Shire Council, Northern Tablelands Local Land Services and Moombahlene Local Aboriginal Land Council.

The park was formerly Crown land subject to grazing leases. The park was established under schedule 7 of the *National Parks Estate (South-Western Cypress Reservations) Act 2010* as a Crown land addition to the existing Brigalow and Nandewar community conservation areas (previously established under the *Brigalow and Nandewar Community Conservation Act 2005*).

The park is significant in protecting an area of remnant native vegetation mostly surrounded by cleared agricultural land. There is currently no public access to the park and no visitor facilities.

Crooked Creek and Boughyard Creek flow through the park. Rocky Creek Road forms the eastern boundary of the park. A Crown road reserve divides the park in two just east of Boughyard Creek and is unformed.

Tree cover in the park is dominated by black cypress pine (*Callitris endlicheri*), tumbledown red gum (*Eucalyptus dealbata*), silver-leaved ironbark (*E.melanophloia*), narrow-leaved ironbark (*E.crebra*), Blakey's red gum (*E.blakelyi*), yellow box (*E.melliodora*), grey box (*E.moluccanna*) and white cypress pine (*C.glaucophylla*).

#### 4. Values

- The threatened brown treecreeper (eastern subspecies) (*Climacteris picumnus victoriae*) has been recorded in the park.
- Other threatened fauna species recorded within five kilometres and that may occur within the park include border thick-tailed gecko (*Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus*), brush-tailed rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*), diamond firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*), eastern bentwing-bat (*Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis*), eastern false pipistrelle (*Falsistrellus tasmaniensis*), greater broad-nosed bat (*Scoteanax rueppellii*), koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*), little lorikeet (*Glossopsitta pusilla*), scarlet robin (*Petroica boodang*), speckled warbler (*Chthonicola sagittata*), squirrel glider (*Petaurus norfolcensis*), turquoise parrot (*Neophema pulchella*) and varied sittella (*Daphoenositta chrysoptera*).
- The park protects remnant vegetation within a significantly cleared landscape. No threatened plant species have been recorded for the park, however, threatened species recorded within five kilometres include; silky swainson-pea (*Swainsona sericea*), Ovenden's ironbark (*Eucalyptus caleyi subsp. Ovendenii*), narrow-leaved black peppermint (*E. nicholii*) and Rodd's star hair (*Astrotricha roddii*).

#### 5. Issues

- There are scattered populations of feral cats (*Felis catus*) and foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) throughout Crooked Creek National Park.
- The park is subject to a Permissive Occupancy (grazing) licence, expiring in 2016. This licence does not permit public access. Overgrazing, loss of ground cover from compaction and grazing are threats to the brown treecreeper.

#### 6. Key management directions

- Fire is managed in accordance with the Crooked Creek National Park [Fire Management Strategy](#).
- Pest management programs will be implemented in accordance with the [NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategy](#): Northern Tablelands Region.
- 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 on-going management objectives for the park. The plan of management is a statutory document under the NPW Act which will be available for public comment. NPWS will also encourage the community to contribute to the on-going conservation of the park by promoting and raising public awareness of the special values of the park.

For additional information or enquiries about any aspect of this park or this statement, contact the NPWS Tenterfield Office on (02) 6736 4298 or 10 Miles Street, Tenterfield NSW 2372.

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**Disclaimer:** This is a statement of intent to guide the management of the park prior to the development of a plan of management. Any statements made in this publication are made in good faith and do not render the Office of Environment and Heritage liable for any loss or damage. Provisions in the final plan of management may vary from those identified in this document as a result of new information and community consultation. The maps in this statement are intended to show the park's location and basic features only, and are not suitable for use when navigating to or exploring within parks.

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