

CROWN LANDS DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

LONG POINT RESERVE PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED JUNE 2011





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Cover images:

Top: Macquarie River downstream of Dixons Long Point (Lots 7301/1129250 and 7311/1129242).

Centre: Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) above Ulmarrah Creek (Lot 45/47253).

Bottom: Looking north over Ulmarrah Creek (Lot 45/47253).

(all photographs in this document by Ian Brown)

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Land to which the Plan of Management Applies

Long Point Reserve (see Figure 2) is comprised of nine separate parcels of Crown land on the Macquarie River, within the Parish of Ulmarrah, County of Wellington. The total area of the reserve is 228 hectares. The land parcels are listed in Table 1 and shown on Figure 2.

Table 1. Lands within Long Point Reserve and covered by this plan of management.

Reserve no.	Purpose of reservation	Date reserved	Area (ha)	Land parcels
R97199	Access	23 March 1984	71.82	Lot 41, DP 47253
			0.97	Lot 42, DP 47253
			78.39	Lot 45, DP 47253
R756881	Future public requirements	29 June 2007	19.32	Lot 7300, DP 1129250
			12.69	Lot 7301, DP 1129250
			4.72	Lot 7302, DP 1129250
R756914	Future public requirements	29 June 2007	12.79	Lot 7311, DP 1129242
R190027	Public recreation	17 June 1989	17.26	Lot 7302, DP 112415
Not reserved	Not applicable	Not applicable	9.99	Lot 206, DP 871982
TOTAL AREA			227.95 hectares	



Figure 1. View west over Dixons Long Point and Macquarie River from the edge of the plateau within Lot 45 DP 47253. Woodland of Red Box appears in the foreground. Lot 41 DP 47253 takes in the cleared slope of the skyline ridge falling to the river and continues downstream around the bend.

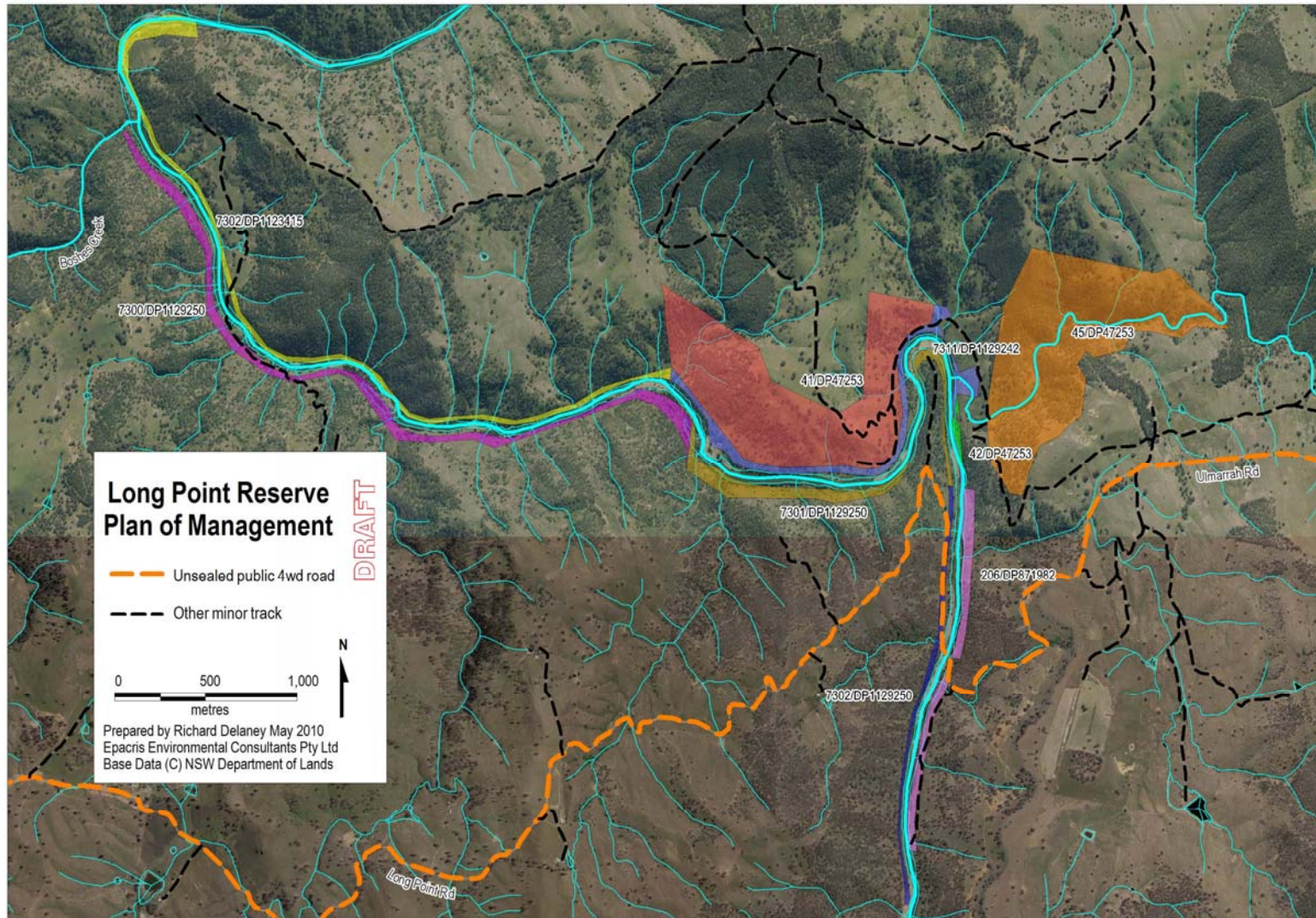


Figure 2: Long Point Reserve

1.2 Objectives

The priority management objective for the reserve is:

1. *To protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of the reserve, including catchment values.*

Other objectives are:

2. *To exclude or minimise damaging processes, uses and activities which impact on significant remnants of native vegetation.*
3. *To allow public access, low impact recreation and education that does not require the provision of facilities or other services.*
4. *To manage fire within the reserve.*
5. *To improve knowledge of the reserve and its values.*

1.3 Managing Crown Land

1.3.1 Crown Lands Act 1989

Long Point Reserve is classified as Crown land reserve and the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (CL Act) is the primary act applying to its management. The CL Act governs the planning, management and use of Crown land, including reservation or dedication for a range of public purposes, and leasing and licensing.

All reserved Crown land is subject to the general land management objectives and provisions of the CL Act. The objectives and principles of Crown land management are listed in section 11 of the Act. These principles are:

- that environmental protection principles be observed in relation to the management and administration of Crown land;
- that the natural resources of Crown land (including water, soil, flora, fauna and scenic quality) be conserved wherever possible;
- that public use and enjoyment of appropriate Crown land be encouraged;
- that, where appropriate, multiple use of Crown land be encouraged;
- that, where appropriate, Crown land should be used and managed in such a way that both the land and its resources are sustained in perpetuity, and
- that Crown land be occupied, used, sold, leased, licensed or otherwise dealt with in the best interests of the State consistent with the above principles.

In July 2005, the *Crown Land Legislation Amendment Act 2005* was passed and introduced a comprehensive body of amendments to the CL Act. These amendments allow flexibility in the granting of leases, permits, easements or right of way provisions over a Crown reserve. Section 112 allows that a Crown reserve may be used for a purpose that is additional to the purpose for which the land has been reserved or dedicated if the additional purpose is

authorised by a plan of management for the reserve.

1.3.2 Requirements of a plan of management for a Crown Reserve

This Plan of Management has been prepared according to the requirements of the CL Act. Specific objectives of a plan of management for Crown land are to:

- identify potential opportunities for future development of the reserve based on community priorities;
- identify the values of the reserve to the community;
- identify threats to the ecological quality of the bushland;
- address issues, including leases and licences, the preferred mix of recreational facilities, conflict between users, weed invasion in bushland and the recreational needs of residents;
- prepare a concept plan showing practical future developments;
- recommend performance measures by which the objectives of the plan shall be achieved, and the manner in which those measures will be assessed;
- prepare guidelines for the future management and maintenance of the reserve.



Figure 3. Open forest dominated by Red Box on steep rocky slopes within Lot 45 DP 47253. Sticky Daisy Bush dominates the understorey.

2.0 Reserve Assessment

2.1 Reserve Location and Description

Long Point Reserve has an area of 228 hectares. It is located on the Macquarie River in the Central Tablelands of New South Wales, about 40 km north of Orange. The reserve includes several narrow strips along the banks of the Macquarie River and within the gorge, centred on the tight bend of Dixons Long Point. These sections take in about 11 kilometres of river frontage, on both sides of the river.

Two larger sections of the reserve take in steep, hilly country on the gorge slopes immediately west and east of Dixons Long Point. The reserve is surrounded by rural lands of various tenures.

Part of the reserve staddles the gorge of Ulmarrah Creek which joins the Macquarie River just upstream of Dixons Long Point. Boshes Creek crosses a narrow strip of the reserve as it enters the river further downstream.

The Macquarie River forms the local government boundary through the reserve, with Mid Western Regional Council to the north and Cabonne Council to the south.

The reserve lies on the northern edge of the South Eastern Highlands Biogeographic Region. Much of the native bushland which originally covered the reserve has either been cleared or highly disturbed.

2.2 Background and History

Gold mining activity is reported to have occurred in the area in the 1800s, but there is little visible evidence of this within the reserve. This activity was perhaps associated with more intense mining at nearby areas such as Hill End and Ophir. Once settled, much of the area was cleared for grazing, followed by the construction of a number of roads and vehicle trails in more recent years.

The lands within the Long Point Reserve have a complex tenure history. Most of the reserve is made up of four relatively recent Crown reserves. Reserve 97199 was created in 1984, for 'access', in conjunction with the conversion of adjoining leasehold lands to freehold. Reserve 190027 along the river was created in 1989 for 'public recreation'. Reserve 56881 and reserve 756914 were both created in 2007 for 'future public requirements'. Lot 206 (DP 871982) is the only unreserved land parcel within Long Point Reserve.

When surrounding lands were converted to freehold in 1984, a Permissive Occupancy for grazing purposes was initially issued over Lots 41, 42 and 45 (DP 47253 and part R97199). This PO, including what was later to become Lot 206 (DP 871982, unreserved), was then converted to a Special Lease in 1988. This lease lapsed in 2008, enabling the land to be included in Long Point Reserve.

Lot 206 was created in 1997 when the previous Lot 55 (DP 726991) was subdivided. The remainder (Lot 205) was retained for construction of the Ulmarrah Road by (then) Mudgee Council.

Several informal uses are currently occurring within the reserve, including, recreational vehicle use, camping, fossicking and stray grazing stock. Hunting may also occur but in an illegal context.

2.3 Surrounding Land Use and Regional Context

Land use in the area is predominantly rural, with some forestry and conservation. The nearest village is Mullion Creek about 20 km to the south-west.

Rural freehold lands surround the reserve and are largely cleared. The main activities are sheep and cattle grazing. The Mullion Range lies some 10 km to the south-west of the reserve, and includes Mullion Range State Forest and Mullion Range State Conservation Area. Other conservation reserves in the area include Hill End Historic Site to the east and Girralang Nature Reserve to the south. Burrendong Dam and Burrendong State Recreation Area lie downstream on the Macquarie River.

The reserve lies in the narrow valley of the Macquarie River, which is incised into an extensive area of higher rolling plateau that is part of the Central West Slopes. The riverbed itself, which lies between the riparian strips of Long Point Reserve, is a designated Crown waterway (non-tidal).

2.4 Cultural Values

2.4.1 Aboriginal Heritage

Long Point Reserve falls within the traditional territory of the Wiradjuri people. No survey has been undertaken for Aboriginal sites and none have been recorded. However with the riverine environment and surrounding diversity of habitats the area is likely to have been extensively used over many thousands of years.

2.4.2 Non-Aboriginal Heritage

No historic sites have been formally recorded in the reserve, and no surveys have been undertaken. Gold mining activity apparently occurred in the 1800s, and there are some remains of diggings and shafts on the slope above Lot 206, below the edge of the Pulleys Hill Plateau (and outside the reserve). Observation suggests that this plateau is a Tertiary age basalt lava flow, and mining may have been associated with older alluvial deposits beneath the basalt. It is also likely that panning and washing occurred along the river. More recent activity has been associated with grazing, road construction and recreation.

2.5 Climate

The reserve has a temperate climate. The historical average annual precipitation lies somewhere between the two closest long-term weather stations of Mudgee, with 675 mm and Orange airport with 884 mm. At Mudgee rainfall peaks in summer, while Orange experiences two peaks in January-February and July-August.

Orange airport has an annual mean maximum temperature of 17.6°C and annual mean minimum of 6.2°C. The coldest month is July, with a minimum mean temperature of 0.7°C and a mean maximum of 9.4°C. The warmest month is January, with a minimum mean temperature of 12.2°C and a mean maximum of 26°C. Mudgee is about two degrees warmer than Orange overall.

2.6 Landform, Geology and Soils

The reserve lies in the incised gorges of the Macquarie River and Ulmarrah Creek, which here are about 150 metres deep. The altitude ranges from about 350 metres on the river at the downstream end of the reserve to about 580 metres on the upstream rim of the gorge above Ulmarrah Creek.

The gorge slopes are steep with skeletal soils and frequent rocky outcrops. These slopes abruptly join alluvial terraces which extend intermittently along the river. The bed of the gorge is dominated by Quaternary alluvium, gravels, bar deposits and rock outcrops.

Bedrock geology within the reserve is comprised of folded Devonian age marine metasediments of the Cunningham Formation, mainly slate, siltstone and greywacke. The Cunningham Formation is part of the Hill End Trough, which is in turn part of the Lachlan Fold Belt.

Small areas of Tertiary age basalt lavas occur nearby. Basalt lies immediately upslope of parts of the reserve east of the river, and thus influences soil characteristics in these areas.

Soils of this area are mapped as part of the Burrendong Soil Landscape. Clastic rudosols occur on the upper slopes, with red chromosols on the sideslopes and yellow sodosols in the drainage lines and along the river frontage.

2.7 Native Vegetation

The original vegetation of the reserve was comprised of eucalypt-dominated open forests and woodlands on the valley slopes of the Macquarie River gorge, with a narrow band of tall gallery forest of River Oak (*Casuarina cunninghamiana*) along the river banks. However the native vegetation over much of the reserve has been heavily disturbed by past clearing, grazing of stock and road construction. Ongoing impacts include flood disturbance and transport of weed propagules along the river, feral animals and recreational access and activities.

Relatively intact native vegetation is now limited to less than half of the reserve area, mostly within the Ulmarrah Creek catchment (Lot 45) and on the western end of Lot 41. These areas can be seen on the aerial imagery in Figure 2.

These slope communities north and west of the river are low open forest and woodland dominated by Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) with occasional Red Stringybark (*E. macrorhyncha*) and Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*). The understorey is sparse and dominated by Sticky Daisy Bush (*Olearia viscidula*). Ground cover is more diverse.

Other extensive valley slopes within the reserve are largely cleared grasslands of mixed native and introduced grasses and scattered trees of Red Box and Kurrajong (plus some Tree of Heaven).

Only very small areas of slopes west and south of the river are included within the reserve, where the riverside strips are wide enough to extend slightly upslope. The open forest/woodland on these slopes is similar in structure and understorey to the Red Box community but dominated by White Box (*E. albens*).

Along the river, the once-continuous riverine community of River Oak now occurs intermittently and mainly as regrowth with very few mature trees. Introduced Willows (*Salix* sp.) occur sporadically. The ground cover is dense and composed of mixed grasses. The limited and patchy understorey is dominated by introduced weeds.

There are no records of threatened plant species within the reserve.

2.8 Native Fauna

No fauna surveys have been carried out within the reserve, but a number of terrestrial mammals are expected to occur, including the Eastern Grey Kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus*) and perhaps Common Wallaroo (*Macropus robustus*) and Swamp Wallaby (*Wallabia bicolor*), as well as a variety of arboreal mammals and reptiles.

Birds are the most obvious and diverse fauna in the reserve. The following species were observed during one visit in May 2010 but many more would be present:

Red-rumped Parrot	<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>
Galah	<i>Eolophus roseicapillus</i>
Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>
White-faced Heron	<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>
Willie Wagtail	<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>
Australian Magpie	<i>Cracticus tibicen</i>
Pied Currawong	<i>Strepera graculina</i>
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis flabelliformis</i>
Variiegated Fairy-wren	<i>Malurus lamberti</i>
Welcome Swallow	<i>Hirundo neoxena</i>
Pied Butcherbird	<i>Cracticus nigrogularis</i>
Diamond Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>

The Diamond Firetail record noted above is a new record of a threatened species within the reserve which has not yet been added to the NSW Wildlife Atlas. This bird was observed within the southern part of Lot 206 on the eastern bank of the river.

Eleven other species of threatened fauna have been recorded in the NSW Wildlife Atlas within 20 km of Long Point, as listed in Table 2. Only one of these records is from within the reserve. The Regent Honeyeater was recorded from the south-western boundary of Lot 45 in 1978.

Table 2. Threatened fauna recorded within 20 km of Long Point Reserve

Common name	Scientific name	No. of records	Status
Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby	<i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	1	Endangered
Koala	<i>Phascolarctos cinereus</i>	10	Vulnerable
Spotted-tailed Quoll	<i>Dasyurus maculatus</i>	1	Vulnerable
Large-eared Pied Bat	<i>Chalinolobus dwyeri</i>	2	Vulnerable
Eastern Bentwing-bat	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis</i>	2	Vulnerable
Yellow-bellied Sheathtail-bat	<i>Saccolaimus flaviventris</i>	1	Vulnerable
Regent Honeyeater	<i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>	3*	Endangered
Diamond Firetail	<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	1*	Vulnerable
Brown Treecreeper	<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	6	Vulnerable
Hooded Robin	<i>Melanodryas cucullate cucullataq</i>	1	Vulnerable
Speckled Warbler	<i>Pyrrholaemus sagittatus</i>	5	Vulnerable
Masked Owl	<i>Tyto novaehollandiae</i>	2	Vulnerable

* records from within Long Point Reserve. Regent Honeyeater in 1978, Diamond Firetail in 2010.

(NB: status refers to listings under schedules to the NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995)

2.9 Fire

The year of the last wildfire in the reserve is unknown, and fuel levels are generally low. Achieving appropriate fire regimes is an important objective in managing vegetation for biodiversity conservation.



Figure 4. River scene looking downstream of Dixons Long Point. Lot 7301 DP 1129250 on the left (south) bank and Lot 7311 DP 1129242 on the right (north) bank. Regrowth of River Oak along the riparian strip can be seen, and on higher slopes the grey crowns of open forest dominated by White Box.

3.0 Basis for Management

3.1 Land Management Purposes

The reserve is to be managed primarily for nature conservation and compatible recreation.

3.2 Statement of Significance

Parts of Long Point Reserve protect significant remnants of native open forest/woodland in a region that has been largely cleared for agriculture and with minimal areas reserved for conservation. Many other similar nearby remnants are on private land.

The reserve potentially forms part of semi-continuous corridors of surviving vegetation that reach southwards through Lewis Ponds Creek and Ophir to Mullion Range, eastwards to Hill End, and along the Macquarie River in both directions.

Although the Macquarie River has suffered severe hydrological and ecological disturbance, the riverine strips within the reserve have a higher chance of rehabilitation than those outside the reserve.

The reserve provides ready and legal public access to a river which is otherwise mostly 'landlocked' within private lands with no rights of public access. The local community values this river access for recreational activities such as fishing, camping and fossicking.

3.3 Current Impacts and Uses

3.3.1 Reserve access

Public vehicle access to and within the reserve is primarily via the Long Point and Ulmarrah Roads, either side of the river, which together comprise a through route between Orange and Mudgee. This road is of unsealed four-wheel-drive standard and involves a (usually shallow) ford of the Macquarie River. The road is maintained by Cabonne Council and Mid West Regional Council on their respective sides of the river. Two other four-wheel-drive tracks running off this road are accessible to the public. One runs downstream from the river ford for about 300 metres on the western bank of the river, and the other goes upstream from the ford on the eastern bank of the river for about 800 metres to the end of the reserve (where it crosses to the western bank).

A number of other farm-style, four-wheel-drive tracks run through parts of the reserve but are mostly accessed through private land, and therefore available only for management purposes, at best.



Figure 5. Access track and Tree of Heaven (weed species) on Lot 41 DP 47253.

Lot 45 can be accessed from private land on the plateau, on a track which reaches the south-eastern boundary of the lot and then continues through private land. Another track descends steeply from private land on the plateau north of the river through Lot 41 to the river. These two tracks connect along the northern bank of the river. The only known access to the river further downstream is a track which descends from private land on the southern side to the river some two kilometres upstream of Boshes Creek.

These roads and tracks are shown on Figure 2.

3.3.2 Other physical disturbances and developments

Apart from clearing and roadworks, few other disturbances are known. Some boundaries of the reserve parcels are fenced, but not necessarily exactly on the surveyed boundary because of difficult terrain. One fence extends along part of the riverside boundary of Lot 206. The south-eastern boundary of Lot 45 is fenced. Other fences may also exist.

A licensed pump is operated on the river within Lot 7302 by the adjoining landowner.



Figure 6. View northwards along the south-eastern boundary of Lot 45 DP 47253 towards the valley of Ulmarrah Creek. The fenceline seems to lie approximately along the surveyed boundary (as interpreted from GIS).

3.3.3 Recreation and public use

The main attraction is the river, and associated camping, swimming, gold fossicking and fishing. Most camping occurs downstream of the ford on the western bank of the river, where vehicle access and space are available. The upstream track on the eastern bank has little space and limited activity.

Feral goats and pigs are hunted on some adjoining private lands both informally and under the management of the NSW Game Council. Hunting may also occur on the reserve but the NSW Game Council has had no role there to date.

3.3.4 Introduced species

The reserve is heavily affected by a variety of introduced weeds, due to extensive clearing and the presence of riverine habitats. Along with a variety of introduced grasses and other pasture weeds, the most obvious and significant weeds are listed below.

Table 3: Noxious weeds (as declared as Class 4 weeds under Noxious Weeds Act 1993)

Common Name	Scientific Name
Serrated Tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
Tiger Pear	<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i>
Blackberry	<i>Rubus sp.</i>
Briar	<i>Rosa sp.</i>
Tree of Heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Hemlock	<i>Conium maculatum</i>
Noogoora Burr	<i>Xanthium occidentale</i>
Bathurst Burr	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>

Table 4: Environmental weeds

Common Name	Scientific Name
Castor Oil Plant	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Thistle	<i>Onopordum sp.</i>
Willow	<i>Salix sp.</i>
Common Thornapple	<i>Datura stramonium</i>
Cobblers Pegs	<i>Bidens pilosa</i>
Giant Reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>



Figure 7. Mixed weeds on river flat of Lot 7302 DP 1129250, showing Castor Oil Plant, Noogoora Burr and Hemlock.

Blackberry clumps are present along cleared drainage lines and riverbanks and provide harbour for rabbits (which are uncommon). Tree of Heaven and Serrated Tussock both occur sporadically in cleared areas. Serrated Tussock has been subject to control programs. Tiger Pear occurs in low numbers on the valley slopes, including within relatively undisturbed bushland. Noogoora Burr is widespread along the banks of the Macquarie River. Briar, Common Thornapple, Bathurst Burr, Willow and Castor Oil Plant have a scattered distribution along the river banks. One clump of Giant Reed grows on the river bank of Lot 206. Hemlock occurs in a dense cover on moist, shaded areas of riverbank, such as on Lot 302 on the western bank.

The *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* requires every occupier of land to take responsibility and effective measures to control weeds that are declared noxious under the Act.

Introduced animals known to occur in the reserve include Feral Goats (*Capra hircus*) and Feral Pigs (*Sus scrofa*). European Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) may also occur in low numbers. All three species occur throughout the local area and are potentially damaging to the long-term recovery and health of native vegetation. Pigs can cause significant disturbance to river flats and banks, with subsequent erosion and spread of weeds.

Cattle can stray into the reserve from adjoining grazing lands. This is difficult to prevent as most of the boundaries of the reserve are not fenced. However most stray grazing occurs on the highly disturbed river flats and other cleared areas, while the most natural parts of the reserve are too steep and rocky to attract stock.

3.3.5 Erosion and catchment/water quality

The main land stability issues within and adjacent to the reserve are associated with the unsealed roads and trails and cleared areas which may be vulnerable to overgrazing. Maintaining river bank stability will be a significant contribution to water quality and catchment health of the Macquarie River. This can be achieved by encouraging vegetation recovery and reducing the impacts of feral goats, pigs and stray stock.

The lower portion of Ulmarrah Creek lies within the reserve. Water quality in the creek is poor due to the mostly cleared and disturbed catchment.

3.3.6 Fire

The National Parks and Wildlife Service's fire management strategy and plan of management for the nearby Mullion Range State Conservation Area and Girralang Nature Reserve provide guidelines for managing fire which are relevant to Long Point Reserve. Girralang is particularly relevant as it lies 12 km south of Long Point Reserve and has very similar topography, geology, climate and vegetation. Both Girralang and Long Point reserves are dominated by Red Box open forest.

The Mullion Range State Conservation Area and Girralang Nature Reserve Plan of Management states the following:

"a fire frequency of between 7 and 20 years is generally appropriate for the reserves' vegetation communities; species decline is predicted if successive fires occur less than 5 years apart or there are no fires for more than 30 years."

It is likely that the time since fire in the Red Box remnants of Long Point Reserve is either approaching or has already exceeded the suggested maximum of 20 (or 30) years. Underburning is a potential issue without active management through prescribed burning.

In practice, a prescribed burning program is most applicable to the areas of remnant Red Box forest on Lots 41 and 45. The Ulmarrah Creek valley in Lot 45 may be suitable for the establishment of a mosaic burning pattern using ridge-tops and creeklines to divide the area into perhaps four burning blocks.

The other parts of the reserve which comprise riparian strips are highly disturbed and not manageable for fire in isolation from adjoining slopes on private land. However some of these slopes also carry valuable forest remnants. Fire management of the reserve's riparian strips should be integrated with management of the adjoining private lands.

Possible causes of unplanned ignitions within the reserve include lightning or human arson/accident. Campfires are a potential point source of ignitions. There are no significant built or cultural heritage assets which are directly at risk from fire within the reserve, but vegetation and fauna may be adversely affected by inappropriate fire regimes.

Wildfires commencing on or burning into the reserve pose a potential threat to private lands and assets which adjoin the reserve. Severe fire weather is likely to involve winds from the north to south-west, so the threat to neighbours is greatest on the eastern side of the reserve.

Under the Rural Fires Act 1997, the Land and Property Management Authority is responsible for managing fire on Long Point Reserve. The LPMA is an active member of the local District Bush Fire Management Committees and works closely with the Rural Fire Service, other agencies and reserve neighbours to manage fire on the reserve.

3.3.7 Management

Recent management has been limited to weed control as part of an integrated program with local landholders and councils.



Figure 8. River scene looking upstream from the northern part of Lot 7302 DP 1129250, across to the northern part of Lot 206 DP 871982. River Oak regrowth and Willows are visible.

4.0 Management Issues, Strategies and Actions

4.1 Land Management and Natural Heritage

Active land management is required to protect the reserve's natural and cultural values. Protection of the natural values of the reserve's remaining areas of native vegetation is the priority. The main issues are weeds, feral animals and fire management.

Strategies and Actions

- Liaise with the local community, adjoining landholders, other agencies and the Central West Catchment Management Authority on the management and protection of the reserve.
- Undertake weed control in the reserve in conjunction with neighbours and local councils, with priority on declared noxious weeds.
- Control feral goats and pigs in conjunction with control on neighbouring lands and with the assistance of the NSW Game Council where appropriate.
- Ensure that the remnant areas of native forest on Lot 41 and Lot 45 are protected from further disturbance, such as new clearing and intense grazing by feral goats or vagrant domestic stock.
- Seek opportunities for the survey of native plants and animals on the reserve.
- Develop a simple fire plan for the reserve in conjunction with the local Rural Fire Service, neighbours and other stakeholders, and consistent with the Bush Fire Risk Management Plans for Cabonne and Mid West Region.
- Within the fire plan, classify the whole reserve as Land Management Zone (LMZ) with the prime objective of biodiversity conservation. In practice, apply this objective primarily to the remnant areas of Red Box forest north of the river within Lots 41 and 45. Establish a mosaic pattern of small prescribed burns within these areas, with a preferred fire interval for any one area of between 15 and 20 years. Aim to avoid fire intervals outside the biodiversity thresholds of less than 5 years and more than 30 years.
- Manage fire on the riparian strips within the reserve in conjunction with adjoining private lands.
- Undertake prescribed burns in autumn whenever possible to minimise biodiversity impacts.

4.2 Identification, Access and Recreation

Currently there is no signage to identify the reserve or its purpose and values. Recreational activity, especially camping, is causing a range of impacts, including felling of River Oaks and rubbish, but it is not practical to manage these impacts other than by education. Firewood is very scarce on site. Human waste does not appear to be a significant issue at this stage but could become more serious if camping increases. Vehicle access is currently both adequate and appropriate for recreational purposes.

Strategies and Actions

- Install signs on either side of the river ford on the Long Point-Ulmarrah Road. The signs should include the reserve's name, managing agency, protected status and appropriate recreational behaviour (see below).
- Inform all neighbours and the local community of the reserve's status and that certain activities are illegal (tree felling, unauthorised hunting, timber collection).
- Retain the two vehicle tracks on the riverbanks either side of the ford for informal public use, and manage them to minimise instability and erosion.
- Install signs in the areas used for informal camping, encouraging visitors to remove their rubbish, protect trees, supply their own firewood and prohibiting hunting without a NSW Game Council permit.
- Retain pedestrian access throughout the reserve for low impact, nature-based recreation such as bushwalking and birdwatching, and for authorised hunting.

4.3 Other Potential Uses

The reserve is to be managed for the conservation of its natural and cultural values, while allowing for appropriate, low-impact public recreation. Therefore no other potential uses are considered appropriate.

However the existing licence issued to an adjoining landowner for a pump within the reserve on the Macquarie River (Lot 7302) is of minimal impact and could be continued.



Figure 9. Dixons Long Point, looking north-west

5.0 Implementation

The management actions specified in section 4.0 above will be implemented by the Land and Property Management Authority, or any subsequent managing authority, according to the resources available and the broad priorities indicated in Table 1.

The LPMA will monitor and assess the implementation of this plan according to the criteria shown in Table 3.

Table 5 Management priorities and performance criteria

Strategy/Action	Priority	Performance Criteria
4.1 Land Management		
Liaise with the local community, adjoining landholders, other agencies and the Central West Catchment Management Authority on the management and protection of the reserve.	High Ongoing	- Human impacts and illegal activity are reduced. - Neighbours & community are involved in reserve management.
Undertake weed control in the reserve in conjunction with neighbours and local councils, with priority on declared noxious weeds.	High Ongoing	- Co-operative annual weed control programs are implemented. - Occurrence of weeds is steadily reduced. - No new weed species become established.
Control feral goats and pigs in conjunction with control on neighbouring lands and with the assistance of the NSW Game Council where appropriate.	High Ongoing	- Co-operative annual feral animal control programs are implemented. - Occurrence and impacts of feral animals is steadily reduced.
Ensure that the remnant areas of native forest on Lot 41 and Lot 45 are protected from further disturbance, such as new clearing and intense grazing by feral goats or vagrant domestic stock.	High Ongoing	- Remnant areas of native vegetation are not reduced in size or quality.
Seek opportunities for the survey of native plants and animals on the reserve.	Medium	- Documented knowledge of reserve plants and animals increases.
Develop a simple fire plan for the reserve in conjunction with the local Rural Fire Service, neighbours and other stakeholders, and consistent with the Bush Fire Risk Management Plans for Cabonne and Mid	Medium	- Reserve fire plan is adopted. - Fire is managed according to fire plan. - Vegetation communities remain

West Region.		<p>within identified fire thresholds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neighbours are satisfied with fire management in the reserve.
<p>Within the fire plan, classify the whole reserve as Land Management Zone (LMZ) with the prime objective of biodiversity conservation. In practice, apply this objective primarily to the remnant areas of Red Box forest north of the river within Lots 41 and 45. Establish a mosaic pattern of small prescribed burns within these areas, with a preferred fire interval for any one area of between 15 and 20 years. Aim to avoid fire intervals outside the biodiversity thresholds of less than 5 years and more than 30 years.</p>	<p>Medium Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A mosaic pattern of fire is achieved within Lots 41 and 45. - These areas remain predominantly within identified fire interval thresholds.
<p>Manage fire on the riparian strips within the reserve in conjunction with adjoining private lands.</p>	<p>Medium Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire management of the riparian strips is done in conjunction with adjoining landowners.
<p>Undertake prescribed burns in autumn whenever possible to minimise biodiversity impacts.</p>	<p>Medium Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prescribed burns are only undertaken in autumn.
<p>4.2 Identification, Access and Recreation</p>		
<p>Install signs on either side of the river ford on the Long Point-Ulmarrah Road. The signs should include the reserve's name, managing agency, protected status and appropriate recreational behaviour (see below).</p>	<p>High</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Signs are installed and maintained.
<p>Inform all neighbours and the local community of the reserve's status and that certain activities are illegal (tree felling, unauthorised hunting, timber collection).</p>	<p>High Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incidence of illegal activities and damage to the reserve is reduced.
<p>Retain the two vehicle tracks on the riverbanks either side of the ford for informal public use, and manage them to minimise instability and erosion.</p>	<p>Medium Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roads and trails are effectively maintained to minimise erosion.
<p>Install signs in the areas used for informal camping, encouraging visitors to remove their rubbish, protect trees, supply their own firewood and prohibiting hunting without a NSW Game Council permit.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Illegal activities and their impacts are much reduced.



Retain pedestrian access throughout the Low reserve for low impact, nature-based recreation such as bushwalking and birdwatching, and for authorised hunting. - Pedestrian access is retained.

6.0 References

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