

# North Coast Region

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# Wild Dog Management Plan

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## 2015-2020



**North Coast Region  
Wild Dog Management Plan  
2015 – 2020**

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**Disclaimer**

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with an appropriate officer of Local Land Services or the user's independent adviser.

<b>1. Executive Summary</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2. Introduction</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. Acronyms used in this Plan</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4. Definitions</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. Plan Area</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>Obligations of Landholders in Relation to Wild Dogs</i>	9
<i>Schedule 2 of the Pest Control Order for Wild Dogs</i>	9
<i>Schedule 2 Wild Dog Management Plan Areas</i>	9
<b>6. Wild Dogs in the Region</b>	<b>11</b>
<i>Historical context for local wild dog management</i>	11
<i>Problem Definition</i>	12
<i>Impacts of Wild Dogs in the Region</i>	13
<i>Location of Wild Dog Problems</i>	14
<i>Wild Dog Sources and Nature of the Problem</i>	14
<i>Constraints to Wild Dog Management</i>	14
<i>Local Wild Dog Management Plans</i>	15
<b>7. Stakeholders</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>8. Responsibilities of Stakeholders</b>	<b>17</b>
<i>North Coast Local Land Services</i>	17
<i>NSW National Parks &amp; Wildlife Service</i>	18
<i>Forestry Corporation of NSW</i>	18
<i>Crown Lands</i>	19
<i>NSW Department of Primary Industries</i>	19
<i>Wild Dog Control Associations/Groups (WDCA/G)</i>	19
<b>9. Action Plan</b>	<b>20</b>
<i>Goal 1 Provide leadership and coordination for the management of wild dogs</i>	20
<i>Goal 2 Increase awareness, understanding and capacity building with regards to wild dog management</i>	21
<i>Goal 3 Mitigate the negative impacts caused by wild dogs while recognising the need to conserve dingoes in Schedule 2 areas</i>	22
<i>Goal 4 Monitor, evaluate and report to inform and continuously improve wild dog management</i>	23
<b>10. Summary of Expenditure</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>11. Plan Approval</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>12. Acknowledgements</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>13. Appendices</b>	<b>27</b>

## 1. Executive Summary

This Regional Plan sets out the framework for cooperative management of wild dogs between key stakeholder groups (private land managers, the community and Government) within the North Coast Local Land Services area.

The process used was consultative, with representatives of key stakeholders involved at all stages of the development of the Plan. Prior to adoption, the Plan was placed on public exhibition to gain maximum feedback.

Four goals, in line with those in the National Wild Dog Action Plan (NWDAP) and recognising the objectives of the NSW Wild Dog Strategy (NSWWDS), were adopted:-

- Goal 1 Provide leadership and coordination for the management of wild dogs
- Goal 2 Increase awareness, understanding and capacity building with regards to wild dog management
- Goal 3 Mitigate the negative impacts caused by wild dogs while recognising the need to conserve dingoes in Schedule 2 areas
- Goal 4 Monitor, evaluate and report to inform and continuously improve wild dog management.

Under these four goals, specific objectives (aligned to actions, timelines, responsibilities and outcomes) have been identified.

A key outcome of the Plan will be to support the formation of Wild Dog Management Associations/Groups (LWDMA/G) and to facilitate the development of Local Wild Dog Management Plans (LWDMP) in identified priority areas in the region.



## 2. Introduction

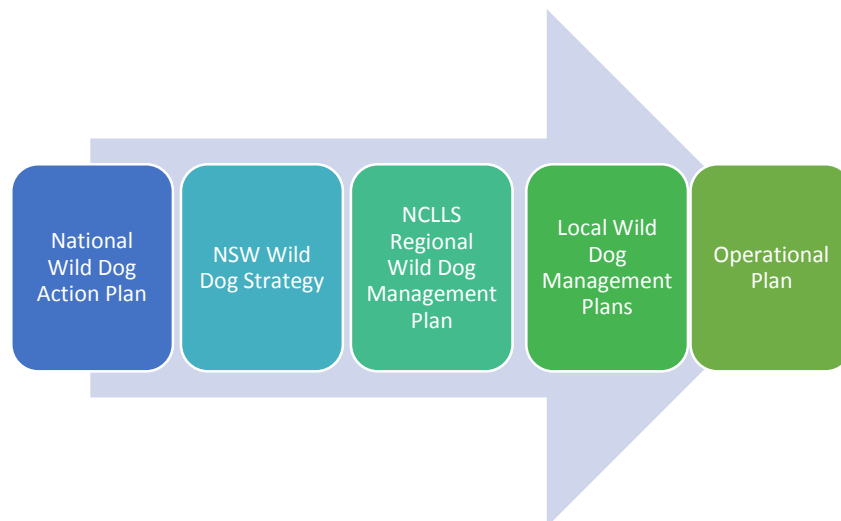
This Regional Wild Dog Management Plan (*the Plan*) has been prepared in accordance with the Wild Dog Policy adopted by the LLS Board of Chairs in October 2014 which states:-

*“Our role is to develop a regional wild dog management plan that supports the development and implementation of local wild dog plans.”*

The Plan aims to deliver on the goals of the NWDAP and the objectives of the NSWWDs that are pertinent to the North Coast Local Land Services (NCLLS) region.

It has been developed by using an across tenure planning process coupled with a coordinated strategic approach in line with the NWDAP’s Vision:-

*“Stakeholders work together to deliver effective, coordinated and humane management of wild dogs.”*



A working group was established to have input into and provided direction for the preparation of the Plan. Members included representatives from the:-

- NCLLS
- NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI)
- NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS)
- Forestry Corporation of NSW (FCNSW)
- Crown Lands
- NSW Farmers Association and
- members of the NCLLS Community Advisory Group (farmers, Soilcare, Landcare, Local Government)

The Plan was placed on public exhibition for comment prior to being endorsed by the NCLLS Board. Upon adoption, a copy of the Plan will be provided to Wild Dog Control Associations/Groups (WDCA/G) and key stakeholders in the region.

### ***Operational Period:***

This plan will be reviewed annually and rewritten within 5 years (30/6/2020).

### 3. Acronyms used in this Plan

1080 PCO	Pesticide Control Order (1080 Liquid Concentrate and Bait Products) Order 2010
AQF3	Australian Qualification Framework Certificate 3 Prepare and Apply Chemicals
CAG	Community Advisory Group
DPI	NSW Department of Primary Industries
FCNSW	Forestry Corporation of NSW
LLS	Local Land Services
LWDMP	Local Wild Dog Management Plan
NCLLS	North Coast Local Land Services
NEPAAC	North East Pest Animal Advisory Committee
NPWS	NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service
NSWWDS	NSW Wild Dog Strategy
NWDAP	National Wild Dog Action Plan
PCO	Pest Control Order
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
RWDMP	Regional Wild Dog Management Plan
VPIT	Vertebrate Pest Induction Training
WDCA/G	Wild Dog Control Association/Group



## 4. Definitions

*(Adapted from the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy)*

**Across-tenure planning process** – A process where wild dog (or other invasive species) control is planned and applied across all land tenures by all stakeholders at a ‘landscape’ rather than ‘property’ scale in a cooperative and coordinated manner. Also known as nil-tenure planning.

**Controlled land** – When a Pest Control Order is declared, the land to which the Order applies is known as the ‘controlled land’.

**Dingoes** – *Canis lupus dingo*. A subspecies of dog originating from Asia and selectively bred by humans from wolves. Dingoes arrived in Australia about 4 000 years ago.

**Domestic dogs** – *Canis lupus familiaris*. A dog kept in compliance with the Companion Animals Act 1998.

**Feral dogs** – A dog that has escaped from domestication and returned, partly or wholly, to a wild state.

**Hybrid dingo/domestic dog** – Dogs resulting from the crossbreeding of a dingo and a domestic dog and the descendants of crossbred progeny. Note: progeny resulting from a dingo kept in compliance with the Companion Animals Act mating with a wild dingo would be considered a dingo.

**Landholder** – Owner of public or private land.

**Peri-urban** – Landscapes that combine urban and rural activities. These areas often contain a mixture of land uses including suburban, rural residential and small to medium agricultural holdings.

**Schedule 1 areas** – All land in NSW not included in Schedule 2.

**Schedule 2 areas** – Public lands listed under Schedule 2 of Pest Control Order Number 17. A map depicting Schedule 2 areas is provided on page 10 (also see definition for Wild Dog Pest Control Order).

**Wild dogs** – All wild-living dogs (*Canis lupus* ssp.), including their subspecies and hybrids but excluding any dog kept in accordance with the Companion Animals Act 1998, the Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986 and the Animal Research Act 1985 or any other legislation made in replacement of any of those Acts.

**Wild Dog Control Association/Group** – A group that may include public and private landholders or land managers within a well-defined area for whom wild dogs pose problems and for which a coordinated management effort is being made by the group.

**Wild Dog Management Plan** – A documented strategic approach for the management of wild dogs. Wild Dog Management Plans generally aim to reduce the impact of wild dogs in the vicinity of the asset of concern e.g. a livestock enterprise.

**Wild Dog Pest Control Order** – Under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*, the Minister for Primary Industries can declare any animal to be a pest in part or all of NSW and impose obligations in relation to the control of the animal. Wild dogs are declared pests in all of NSW by way of Pest Control Order Number 17.

## 5. Plan Area

The region covers an area of approximately 3,212,000 ha comprising Crown lands (56,198 ha), NPWS Estate (656,784 ha), Holdings (1,846,260 ha), State forests (494,600 ha), Travelling Stock Routes (8,470ha) and other lands including urban land.

The region includes the Local Government Areas of:-

- Ballina
- Bellingen
- Byron
- Clarence Valley
- Coffs Harbour
- Kempsey
- Kyogle
- Lismore
- Nambucca
- Port Macquarie/Hastings
- Richmond Valley and
- Tweed

Pest management is a priority for NCLLS; vertebrate pests, such as wild dogs, reduce productivity and damage the environment.

Wild dogs prefer areas where shelter, food and water are readily available (Fleming et al 2001); the North Coast, with its diversity of natural landscapes, including wilderness, floodplain and wetland areas, and the mix of temperate and subtropical climates, provide significant habitat areas for wild dogs.





## ***Obligations of Landholders in Relation to Wild Dogs***

Within the area, wild dogs, including dingoes, are a significant management problem. They are declared pests in NSW under the *Local Land Services Act 2013 (LLS Act)* and consequently, all private landholders and public land managers are required by a general destruction obligation under a Pest Control Order to eradicate any wild dog on their land by any lawful method. The LLS Act is the principal legislative instrument governing the management of vertebrate pests in NSW and is administered by LLS. An approach to balance the conservation of dingoes with the need for wild dog control has been incorporated into the LLS Act through the Pest Control Order for Wild Dogs.

Under Part 10 of the LLS Act, the Minister may make, through publication in the NSW Government Gazette, Pest Control Orders and declare any animals, birds or insects to be 'pests' and define 'controlled land' on which such pests are to be controlled. Currently rabbits, wild dogs, foxes, feral pigs and three species of locust (Australian plague locust, Migratory locust and the Spur-throated locust) are declared pests under the LLS ACT 18.

The Minister may impose various 'destruction' and 'notification' obligations on occupiers of controlled land, including public land managers and local government authorities that require occupiers to 'continually suppress and destroy declared pests'. The Minister may also empower authorities to serve individual and general eradication orders on any occupier or owner of controlled land in its district to eradicate pests by methods specified in the order.

The LLS Act also contains provisions which may be used to confer significant powers on 'authorised officers' to carry out work on controlled land, and to confer powers on authorities in relation to the implementation and administration of Pest Control Orders.

The Minister must consult the NSW Pest Animal Council and the Game and Pest Management Advisory Board before declaring an animal that is already declared a game animal under the *Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002* (amended 2014) to be a pest animal under the LLS Act.

This Plan recognises the general destruction obligations of the Wild Dog Pest Control Order.

## ***Schedule 2 of the Pest Control Order for Wild Dogs***

To balance the need to control wild dogs with the conservation of dingoes, the Pest Control Order for Wild Dogs allows the general destruction obligation for lands listed under Schedule 2 (S2) of the Order to be satisfied through the preparation of a wild dog management plan with both control and conservation objectives. S2 lands represent approximately 838552 ha of the land covered by the Regional Wild Dog Management Plan (RWDMP). S2 lands are public managed lands, principally state forests, national parks and crown reserves. *Appendix 1*

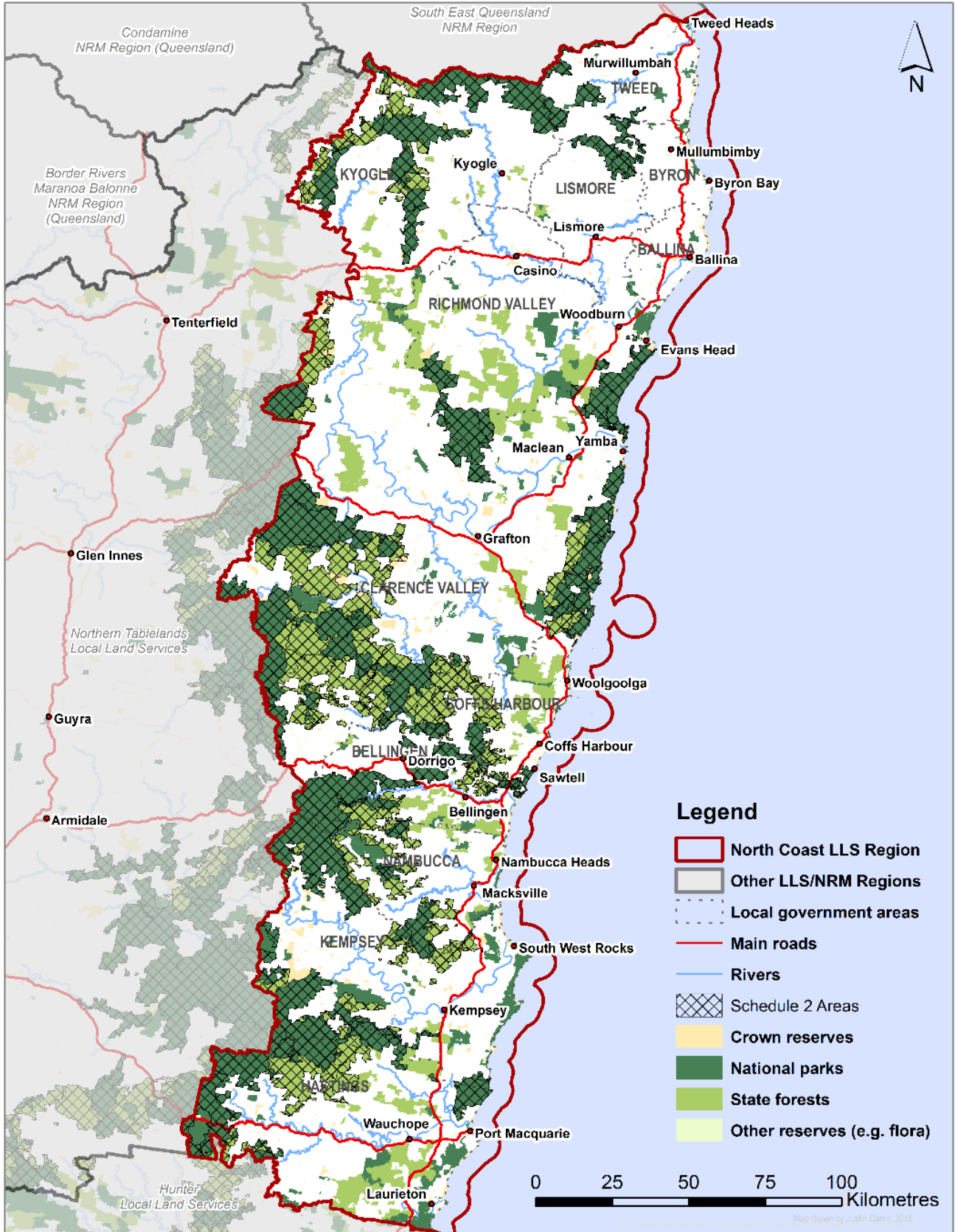
## ***Schedule 2 Wild Dog Management Plan Areas***

The following map depicts the Schedule 2 Wild Dog Management Plan areas for the NCLLS region.



Local Land Services  
North Coast

## Schedule 2 Wild Dog Management Plan Areas



## 6. Wild Dogs in the Region

### *Historical context for local wild dog management*

Within the region, various methods have been used to manage wild dogs. Stakeholders and land managers work cooperatively to obtain a result which complies to the LLS Act.

*North Coast Local Land Services* has provided assistance to:-

- organise planning meetings resulting in strategic operational planning and delivery of programs with landholder groups
- undertake collaborative control programs
- supply control material e.g. baits, traps
- record wild dog activity within the region
- minimise impacts on individuals and
- develop local management plans in consultation with landholders and land managers.

*NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service* has undertaken:-

- Implementation of regional pest management strategies that identify priorities for wild dog management
- regular control programs for wild dogs, working collaboratively with adjoining landholders, utilising a similar scale and duration to maximise effectiveness
- the implementation of strategic and reactive control including aerial baiting, ground baiting and trapping by staff and contractors
- monitoring of wild dog activity where possible prior to, during and post wild dog control
- reactive programs in areas adjoining urban and rural locales and
- opportunistic DNA analysis of local dingo/wild dog population.

*Forestry Corporation of NSW* has undertaken:-

- the implementation of Regional Pest Animal Management Plans that identify priorities for wild dog management
- reactive ground baiting in coordination with neighbours and facilitated by LLS rangers
- regular control programs for wild dogs, working collaboratively with adjoining landholders, utilising a similar scale and duration to maximise effectiveness
- the implementation of strategic and reactive control including aerial baiting, ground baiting and trapping by staff and contractors and
- monitoring of wild dog activity where possible prior to, during and post wild dog control.

*Crown Lands* has provided:-

- consent provision to third parties to undertake wild dog control on Crown land and
- funding opportunities for trusts and other land managers to control wild dogs on Crown land.

**Landholders** (representatives from NSW Farmers Association, NCLLS Community Advisory Group (CAG), Soilcare and Landcare) had mixed views of wild dog control including:-

- individual farmers carrying out 1080 baiting or other methods of control on properties; coordination in some areas but not all landholders participated
- coordinated group control programs by landholders using dried meat baits
- use of camera traps at bait sites to record activity
- use of firearms as an opportunistic control method
- an awareness that LLS is the organisation to seek help from if there is a problem with wild dogs through public meetings, one on one and/or community interaction
- an awareness that land managers such as NPWS and FCNSW have policies and procedures but unsure of implementation or opportunities for participation and
- ad hoc reporting to LLS.

### ***North East Pest Animal Advisory Committee (NEPAAC)***

This committee was formed in 1999 for the purpose of fostering a coordinated approach to pest animal management, including wild dogs, on the North Coast. The committee meet three times per year and membership consists of stakeholders of this Plan.

### ***Problem Definition***

Public safety is paramount in managing wild dogs; the risk of attacks to humans has to be acknowledged and considered in planning.

Predation by wild dogs and the risk of future predation on livestock, native fauna and pets, are seen as significant problems on the north coast.

Conservation of native species, particularly threatened species and endangered populations, can be hindered by predation. The attacks, resulting in stock, native fauna and pet losses, as well as the possibility of disease spread, causes stress to both landholders and the broader community with increasing impacts occurring in peri-urban areas.

There is the need to balance wild dog control and conservation of dingoes in Schedule 2 lands; also, to recognise that wild dogs have a cultural significance to some local indigenous people which may result in a desire to protect dingoes.

Other wild dog management issues include:-

- the conflict that arises from control and conservation objectives
- the large number of small holdings (less than 100 ha)
- poor uptake of training opportunities resulting in a lack of trained end users to undertake control programs
- absentee landholders
- roaming and uncontrolled domestic dogs
- changing land uses (beef cattle to other agricultural pursuits)
- increased prevalence of wild dog activity in peri urban areas and
- lack of scientific information on the role of the wild dog as an apex predator in the North Coast region.

## **Impacts of Wild Dogs in the Region**

*(Adapted from the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy, the NWDAP and input provided by members of the RWDMP working group)*

### **Economic Impacts**

Wild dogs can pose a significant problem in the region including:-

- predation and harassment of livestock and native fauna
- potential spread of diseases to livestock, pets, native animals and humans
- regional tourism impacts associated with negative publicity from dog attacks/implementing control programs
- limiting livestock enterprise choices and
- community disruption.

### **Environmental Impacts**

Environmentally, wild dogs have an impact in the region:-

- predation can suppress native and exotic herbivores and have a significant direct impact on threatened species under certain circumstances
- ongoing hybridisation with feral dogs poses the most significant threat to dingoes within Schedule 2 areas

Wild dogs, through predation and competitive behaviour, are understood to potentially act as an apex predator influencing the population dynamics of native fauna and other feral predators e.g. cats. However, the degree to which wild dog behaviour positively or negatively influences populations of native and non-native fauna is uncertain and likely to be highly variable across the landscape.

### **Social Impacts**

Social impacts in the region include the effect of wild dog predation on:-

- affected individuals and families
- public land and Local Land Services' managers who deal with affected landholders on a daily basis
- the local community of the affected producers and
- the wider community (potential to impinge on their recreational pursuits including possible confrontation from wild dogs on beaches, in National Parks and in peri urban areas).

These impacts can cause distress, depression, worry insomnia and various levels of conflict and social disruption. Conflict can occur between:-

- family members
- public and private land owners and managers
- operators of different enterprises among private land owners (e.g. sheep producers, cattle producers, absentee land owners and agroforestry)
- tourism operators, councils and
- affected rural and peri-urban communities.



### ***Positive impacts***

The presence of wild dogs in a community can lead to positive community engagement and may bring agencies and individuals together to tackle the problem of wild dogs in a collaborative way. The differing views of stakeholders can be seen as having both a positive and negative impact on the management of wild dogs.

### ***Location of Wild Dog Problems***

On the North Coast, wild dogs can be found in residential and peri-urban areas, on small, private blocks, on neighbouring agricultural lands (including leased and licensed land), in livestock production areas, crown lands, FCNSW, public estates, parks and reserves.

The problem tends to be localised with some areas having little, or no history of wild dogs, whilst other areas have ongoing issues.

### ***Wild Dog Sources and Nature of the Problem***

Wild dog activity impacts at a landscape level with the problem occurring on all land tenures irrespective of management. The Plan supports the philosophy that all land managers are responsible for wild dog control on their land as prescribed by the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

When wild dog impacts are experienced in a negative way, the issue may become critical and require immediate action. In other areas, a watching brief may be necessary: monitoring will provide the pertinent data to determine if control measures are required.

### ***Constraints to Wild Dog Management***

Adequate funding is a significant constraint to wild dog management in this region. All levels of government recognise the impacts of wild dogs and the need for broad-scale control however, little funding is made available to facilitate the actions of the National Plan and the State Strategy. Reduced annual funding occurs when government budgets are reduced across the board.

Clear and effective communication between all stakeholders has been an ongoing problem in the region. The need to identify roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders, including directions on how all agencies will work cooperatively and in what way joint agency contributed funds are managed, has been identified in the Plan. In addition, agreed objectives for landscape based management without assigning blame to individual groups, agencies or individuals needs to be incorporated.

In some instances, there is a lack of acceptance of responsibility of obligations by land managers and a resulting follow through to undertake regular control.

Other constraints include:-

- topography / access to key management areas
- peri-urban issues
- available control tools and options
- attitudes of particular key groups or people and
- the number of hobby farmers uneducated about the need to protect their pets when baiting is taking place.

## **Local Wild Dog Management Plans**

The formation of local wild dog associations or informal 'groups' is encouraged in order to support a tenure neutral approach to wild dog management on the North Coast. Which individuals or government agencies will be involved in each individual group will be determined by whom the land is managed by within a certain location (i.e. NPWS, private land owners, Forestry Corporation etc.).

The number of people involved or the size of land parcels the groups manage is not prescriptive.

The prioritisation of forming these associations/groups will be determined by land managers in these regions in conjunction with North Coast Local Land Services.

Generally, groups are formed either by land managers taking a proactive approach to wild dog management in their region or by a need generated by negative impacts from wild dogs forcing a reactive approach.

To assist with a cooperative approach, LLS will encourage associations/groups to agree to the development of local wild dog management plans for their particular region. The local plans will be developed by NCLLS after consultation with the land managers.

The plans will identify the role of each land manager in terms of control measures which will include:-

- The control measure adopted (i.e. baiting, trapping etc.)
- when control will occur and
- the funding responsibilities.

For the local plans to be effective, all land managers must initially agree to the terms outlined in the local plans and then undertake the actions as outlined in the plan as it relates to their property.



Image: Ben Allen

## 7. Stakeholders

Land managers have an obligation, as outlined in the NSW Wild Dog Management Strategy, to work collaboratively to improve the management of wild dogs in NSW.

*“This across-tenure planning process is planned and applied across all land tenures by all stakeholders at a ‘landscape’ rather than ‘property’ scale in a cooperative and coordinated manner.”*

The key stakeholders for this management plan are:-

- NCLLS and their ratepayers
- NPWS
- FCNSW
- DPI
- Crown Land Division
- NSW Farmers Association
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)
- Wild Dog Control Associations
- Affected members of the community who are not LLS ratepayers and
- Local Government authorities.



Image: Graham Wienert

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## 8. Responsibilities of Stakeholders

### **North Coast Local Land Services**

#### **Proactive Strategic Ground Baiting and Trapping Programs** NCLLS will:-

- manage and coordinate local plans
- negotiate with NPWS, FCNSW and Crown lands to determine the distribution of costs for the program between NCLLS, NPWS, Crown lands and FCNSW
- promote and provide Vertebrate Pest Induction Training (VPIT)
- liaise with and inform landholders of their statutory obligations with regard to wild dog control
- organise the program, including setting the itinerary
- prepare all meat baits required for programs as specified by the Pesticide Control Order (1080 Liquid Concentrate and Bait Products) Order 2010 (1080 PCO)
- promote that strategic trapping and ground baiting programs are conducted within the relevant legislation
- provide relevant reports as required e.g. NEPAAC, Board and NSW Department of Primary Industries and
- collect and collate wild dog reports from all stakeholders showing:-
  - livestock predation
  - wild dog activity and
  - control measures undertaken.

#### **Aerial Baiting**

Aerial baiting on the north coast is very restricted due to the topography and the population density. However, on occasion, where the budget is available, North Coast Local Land Services responsibilities in terms of aerial baiting include:-

- supervise the preparation and collation of WDCA/G applications for aerial baiting
- organise for the digitising of the application maps for aerial baiting runs for each WDCA/G and
- coordinate the tendering and the hire of the helicopter company for the program.

#### **Reactive control**

On being notified of wild dog activity, NCLLS will:-

- provide advice relating to available control options
- prepare 1080 poisoned baits, in accordance within the requirements of the PCO
- receive and collate reports of livestock predation and /or wild dog activity and control measures undertaken and
- enter into joint funding arrangements with NPWS, Crown lands and FCNSW to ensure reactive management assistance is available to private landholders.

## **NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service**

**Proactive Strategic Aerial, Ground Baiting or Trapping Programs** NPWS will, where applicable:-

- implement prioritised actions identified in regional pest management strategies
- liaise with each WDCA/G, NCLLS, Crown lands and FCNSW regarding the aerial baiting, ground baiting and/or trapping programs
- meet all costs associated with wild dog control programs on NPWS estate
- liaise with NCLLS and other government agencies for coordinated neighbour notifications prior to baiting
- carry out all wild dog control programs approved for NPWS estate (NPWS staff or their agents)
- provide activity reports to NCLLS and
- contribute to the development and coordination of LWDMPs.

### **Reactive control:**

NPWS will respond to reports of wild dog attacks in a timely manner.

## **Forestry Corporation of NSW**

**Proactive Strategic Aerial Baiting, Ground Baiting or Trapping Programs** FCNSW will:-

- meet with WDMP stakeholders to:-
  - review and discuss requirements for approval of ongoing WDMP programs
  - discuss resource and planning requirements for the location and timing of aerial baiting, ground baiting or trapping programs to be implemented
- obtain the required approval for the strategic program within FCNSW estate
- liaise with each WDCA/G, NCLLS, Crown land managers and NPWS regarding the aerial baiting, ground baiting and/or trapping programs
- inform the Game Licencing Unit of the timing and location of the annual strategic aerial baiting program
- provide activity reports to North Coast Local Land Services and
- contribute to the development and coordination of LWDMPs.

### **Reactive control:**

- FCNSW will provide reactive management assistance to neighbours whose enterprises are adversely impacted by wild dogs and
- where a pool trapping fund has been agreed between a WDCA/G, NCLLS, NPWS, Crown lands and FCNSW, funds may be used for trapping.



## **Crown Lands**

Crown Lands will:-

- meet legal requirements to manage wild dogs
- provide funding opportunities for Crown land managers to manage wild dogs
- support Reserve Trusts and tenure holders to meet their legal obligations to manage wild dogs
- support other stakeholders in the control of wild dogs on Crown land e.g. issuing consents
- provide activity reports to NEPAAC and
- contribute to the development and coordination of LWDMPs.

### **Reactive control:**

- Crown Lands will provide reactive management assistance to neighbours whose enterprises are adversely impacted by wild dogs and
- where a pool trapping fund has been agreed between a WDCA/G, NCLLS, NPWS, FCNSW and Crown Lands, funds may be used for trapping.

## **NSW Department of Primary Industries**

DPI will provide policy, scientific and technical advice via NEPACC and training where appropriate.

## **Wild Dog Control Associations/Groups (WDCA/G)**

NCLLS will:-

- actively encourage all landholders within priority areas to join a WDCA/G, participate in strategic wild dog control programs and undertake and maintain appropriate training e.g. VPIT and/or AQF3
- facilitate the development of LWDMPs in identified priority areas to address the management of wild dogs and conservation of dingoes using the across-tenure planning process.

NCLLS will liaise with WDCA/Gs to ensure that these land managers are supported and they are able and willing to carry out the following functions:-

- undertake the appropriate level of reactive control, in accordance with the resources available to them, whenever wild dog activity or livestock predation occurs within the WDCA/G area
- liaise with relevant stakeholders to ensure a cooperative approach to strategic wild dog control programs within their WDCA/G area
- report wild dog activity including sightings, livestock predation and control work to the NCLLS
- provide on-ground support for strategic aerial and ground baiting program, as agreed in the WDCA/G local/Operational Plan as required.

### **Reactive Control Measures**

Where a WDCA/G considers that wild dog activity has reached unacceptable levels and the WDCA/G has contacted NCLLS:-

- NCLLS will consult with the WDCA/G and assess the situation and
- upon agreement between NCLLS and the WDCA/G that the level of wild dog activity is unacceptable, NCLLS will facilitate discussions with stakeholders to resolve the situation.

## 9. Action Plan

<b>Goal 1 Provide leadership and coordination for the management of wild dogs</b>				
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>
1. Determine local wild dog planning areas in the region	A. Identify and prioritise local wild dog planning areas in the region to identify where reactive management has occurred and where further strategic management is required	NCLLS in conjunction with public land managers	2015	Wild dog planning areas are identified and prioritised
2. Facilitate the development of local wild dog management plans (LWDMP)	A. Determine the person responsible for the facilitation of LWDMPs B. Identify stakeholders in each identified wild dog planning area C. Form a reference group to assist in the development of each LWDMP D. Provide guidance, assistance and expertise to the reference group E. Develop a LWDMP template using the Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (green book) and the Guidelines for Preparing a Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (brown book), combined with relevant information from the RWDMP	NCLLS in conjunction with public land managers	2015	LWDMPs are prepared for each identified wild dog planning area
3. Promote a cooperative approach amongst stakeholders to minimise the impacts of wild dogs	A. Clarify implementation roles of stakeholders to ensure understanding of the Plans' Goals, Objectives and Actions B. Mentor local stakeholders to encourage best practice C. Use social and traditional media to encourage participation in wild dog management D. Implement strategies such as field days, publicity and meetings to improve participation in wild dog management planning and control E. Recognise and encourage local site coordinators to deliver key messages and act as champions in their local areas F. Recognise existing, and encourage new, local wild dog networks and provide them with ongoing information and support G. Encourage feedback from stakeholders into the development of future planning H. Develop and introduce a system of reporting to keep all stakeholders informed and involved	NCLLS	2015 Ongoing  2016	Stakeholders work cooperatively to minimise the impacts of wild dogs  System of reporting is developed

<b>Goal 2 Increase awareness, understanding and capacity building with regards to wild dog management</b>				
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>
1. Increase awareness and maximise stakeholder, public and community support for wild dog management.	A. Develop a Communication Plan to cover:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development and implementation of the RWDMP</li> <li>• Identified wild dog issues (control, conservation and cultural significance)</li> <li>• Legislative requirements of schedule 1 and 2 lands</li> <li>• Landholder opportunities for training and involvement in control programs</li> <li>• Provision of feedback to stakeholders through e newsletters.</li> </ul> B. Implement the Communication Plan. C. Evaluate the effectiveness of the Communication Plan. D. North East Pest Animal Advisory Committee (NEPAAC) to provide support to relevant stakeholders to foster cross agency communication.	NCLLS   NCLLS  NEPAAC	2015  Ongoing Annually Ongoing	Communication plan is developed, implemented and evaluated. Awareness is increased; stakeholder/community support for wild dog management is raised. NEPAAC provides support to foster cross agency communication.
2. Encourage and facilitate research.	A. Access available research to be used as a basis for wild dog management if appropriate. B. Identify and participate in research opportunities to ensure local data is included in future planning at state and national level.	NCLLS NPWS FCNSW Crown Lands	Ongoing	Research is identified and used. Opportunities to participate in research are maximised.
3. Provide appropriate education to landholders.	A. Provide training to landholders to enable them to undertake safe wild dog control and implement best practice at a local level. B. Promote the integration of education through the different agencies.	NCLLS  NCLLS NPWS FCNSW Crown Lands Landcare	Ongoing	Training (workshops) is provided, promoted and integrated through all agencies.
4. Mentor local site coordinators.	A. Identify, encourage and train local site coordinators to deliver key messages and act as champions in their local areas.	NCLLS	Ongoing	Local site coordinators are identified and trained.
5. Source additional funding for wild dog management.	A. Actively pursue opportunities for additional funding B. Apply for available funding.	All land managers	Ongoing	Additional funding is sourced and applied for.
6. Recognise that uncontrolled domestic dogs have a role/impact and contribute to issues of damage.	A. Provide information to Local Government (through NOROC, MIDROC) about the consequences of uncontrolled domestic dogs. B. Seek assistance from Local Government to undertake community education, awareness and enforcement. C. Wild dog control groups to be involved in ensuring that notification/education of baiting and procedures to avoid domestic dog impact.	NCLLS	2016	LG is actively involved in education, awareness and enforcement.

**Goal 3 Mitigate the negative impacts caused by wild dogs while recognising the need to conserve dingoes in Schedule 2 areas**

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>
1. Develop and Implement LWDMPs.	A. Develop LWDMPs using the Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (green book) and the Guidelines for Preparing a Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (brown book), relevant legislation and policies.	NCLLS	2015/16	LWDMPs are developed.
2. Promote the implementation of the regional plan.	A. Implement initiatives such as publicity, field days, invitations to stakeholders to highlight the importance of participation in regional plan implementation.	NCLLS	Ongoing	The regional plan is implemented successfully.
3. Promote the local plans.	B. Implement initiatives such as publicity, field days, invitations to stakeholders to highlight the importance of participation in local plan implementation.	All stakeholders	Ongoing	The local plans are adopted.
4. Seek agreement on cost sharing arrangements to implement local plans.	A. Identify resource requirements and seek funding sources and opportunities.	RWDMP working group	Ongoing	Funding sources are identified.
	B. Develop standard cost-sharing arrangements for Wild Dog Management Plans.	NCLLS NPWS FCNSW Crown lands Landcare	2015	Cost sharing arrangements are developed.
	C. Actions within LWDMPs are adequately funded by relevant public land managers and industry bodies.	Public land managers and industry		Funding is prioritised.
5. Consider both control and conservation in wild dog planning.	A. Implement wild dog control in accordance with prioritised actions identified in NSW NPWS regional pest management strategies.	NPWS	Ongoing	Control and conservation are considered in all wild dog management planning.
	B. Ensure Plans that contain Schedule 2 lands address both wild dog control and conservation of dingoes.	All government agencies managing public land		
	C. Opportunistically monitor the status of dingoes in Schedule 2 areas.	Schedule 2 Land managers		

**Goal 4 Monitor, evaluate and report to inform and continuously improve wild dog management**

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Actions</i>	<i>Responsibilities</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>
1. Gather wild dog control data.	<p>A. Educate landholders on the methods to use to record wild dog data.</p> <p>B. Utilise the standard measures of effectiveness as identified as result of the NSW Wild Dog Strategy.</p> <p>C. Record data including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cost</li> <li>• Change of impacts</li> <li>• Baiting success (damage to livestock and/or wildlife)</li> <li>• Control effort used e.g. baiting, trapping.</li> </ul>	NCLLS All stakeholders	Ongoing	<p>Training provided</p> <p>Standard measures of effectiveness are utilised.</p> <p>Wild dog control data is recorded.</p>
2. Obtain results of control efforts	A. Report results of control effort to LLS.	Land managers	Ongoing	Results have been forwarded to LLS.
3. Review and evaluate results of control actions.	<p>A. Determine the effectiveness of the wild dog management techniques used in each local area.</p> <p>B. Identify changes in the range and impact of wild dogs.</p> <p>C. Highlight and plan for any new problem areas.</p>	Land managers	Annually	Control actions are continually reviewed and evaluated.
4. Review RWDMP.	<p>A. Review RWDMP.</p> <p>B. Assess the costs and benefits of the RWDMP.</p> <p>C. Review, update and rewrite the RWDMP.</p>	RWDMP working group	Annually 2020	<p>RWDMP is reviewed.</p> <p>RWDMP is reviewed, assessed and updated.</p>
5. Review LWDMPs.	<p>A. Review LWDMPs.</p> <p>B. Assess the costs and benefits of the LWDMP.</p> <p>C. Review, update and rewrite the LWDMP.</p>	NCLLS and local reference groups	Annually 2020	LWDMPs are reviewed assessed and updated.



## 10. Summary of Expenditure

Stakeholders will provide an estimate of expenditure relevant to the delivery of this Plan on an annual basis.

## 11. Plan Approval

This Plan is endorsed by the undersigned on behalf of their respective organisations:-

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
NCLLS	Kent Lee	Board Chair		
NSW DPI	Quentin Hart	Manager Invasive Species Strategy and Planning		
NPWS	Pauline McKenzie	Director Coastal		
FCNSW	Karel Zejbrlik	Forest Protection Manager		
Crown Lands	David McPherson	Director East		

## 12. Acknowledgements

Information contained in this plan has been sourced from the following. NCLLS acknowledges this input into the development of a comprehensive, timely and informed Wild Dog Plan.

### *Government Departments*

- DPI
- NPWS
- FCNSW
- Crown Lands
- Local Land Services and
- Local Government.

### *Organisations*

- Invasive Animals CRC - the Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (green book) and the Guidelines for Preparing a Working Plan to Manage Wild Dogs (brown book) have been used as a starting point in the development of the Plan.
- Soilcare Inc.
- Richmond Landcare Inc.
- NSW Farmers Association and
- NEPAAC.

### *Stakeholders and Individuals*

A working group was formed to have input into the development of the Plan:-

<i>Member</i>	<i>Position</i>
Jo McGoldrick	NCLLS Manager Biosecurity and Emergency Services
Dean Chamberlain	NCLLS Team Leader Invasive Species and Plant Health
Tony Walker	Richmond Landcare Inc.
Ernie Bennett	CAG. Mayor, Richmond Valley Council
Garry Dew	CAG, NSW Farmers Association
Jim Crawler	NSW Farmers Association
Brad Nesbitt	Pest Species Management Officer, NPWS, North Coast Region
Tom Newby	Protection Supervisor, North Coast, FCNSW
Jason Bee	Protection Coordinator, North Coast, FCNSW
Mick Wilson	Protection Supervisor - Mid North Coast, FCNSW
Paul Meek	Invasive Species Officer - Pest Animals, DPI
Lisa Wellman	Pest Management Officer, NPWS, Northern Rivers Region
Adam Fawcett	Senior Ranger, Pests, NPWS, Lower North Coast Region
Derek Van Leest	Group Leader Property Manager, Crown Lands, Far North Coast
Andrew Petroeschovsky	Senior Natural Resource Management Officer, Crown Lands, Far North Coast

### **Plan Facilitation**

- Marg Mottee

### **Feedback from Public Consultation**

- 14 individual stakeholders
- 2 organisations

### **Photographs**

- Invasive Animals CRC

### **Artwork**

- Creative Twist

### **Formal Plans and Policies**

- NWDAP May 2014
- NSWWDs 2012-1015
- Wild Dog Policy Adopted by Board of Chairs October 2014
- Regional Wild Dog Management Plan for the North Coast Livestock Health and Pest Authority Area for the Management of Schedule 2 lands as prescribed by Pest Control Order Number 17 2011 – 2015
- Plan for the Cooperative Management of Wild Dogs and their Impacts within A B & C Divisions Mid Coast Livestock Health and Pest Authority January 2011 to December 2016 and
- NPWS Regional Pest Management Strategies (North Coast, Northern Rivers, Lower North Coast).

### **Legislative Framework**

- Companion Animals Act 1998
- Local Land Services Act 2013
- Wild Dog Pest Control Order
- National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- Forestry Act 2012
- Crown Lands Act 1989
- Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995
- Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994 (Australian Government)
- Pesticides Act 1999
- Prevention of Cruelty To Animals Act 1979 and
- Game and Feral Animal Control Act 2002.

## 13. Appendices

*Appendix 1 Schedule 2 Wild Dog Management areas that are completely or partly located in the North Coast Local Land Services area.*

State Forest	National Park State Conservation Area Nature Reserve	Flora Reserve
<p> <b>Bagawa</b>  <b>Ballengarra</b>  <b>Banyabba</b>  <b>Barcoongere</b>  <b>Barcoongere</b>  <b>Bellangry</b>  <b>Billilimbra</b>  <b>Boambee</b>  <b>Boonanghi</b>  <b>Boundary Creek</b>  <b>Buckra Bendinni</b>  <b>Bulga</b>  <b>Camira</b>  <b>Candole</b>  <b>Carrai</b>  <b>Chaelundi</b>  <b>Clouds Creek</b>  <b>Collombatti</b>  <b>Dalmorton</b>  <b>Devils Pulpit</b>  <b>Diehappy</b>  <b>Donaldson</b>  <b>Doyles River</b>  <b>Edinburgh Castle</b>  <b>Ellis</b>  <b>Ewingar</b>  <b>Fullers</b>  <b>Gladstone</b>  <b>Gundar</b>  <b>Hyland</b>  <b>Ingalba</b>  <b>Irishman</b>  <b>Kalateenee</b>  <b>Kangaroo River</b>  <b>Kippara</b>  <b>London Bridge</b>  <b>Marara</b>  <b>Marengo</b>  <b>Maria River</b>  <b>Mistake</b>  <b>Moonpar</b>  <b>Mount Belmore</b>  <b>Mount Boss</b>  <b>Mount Lindesay</b>  <b>Mount Marsh</b>  <b>Mount Seaview</b>  <b>Nana Creek</b>  <b>Never Never</b>  <b>Newfoundland</b>  <b>Nulla-Five Day</b>  <b>Nymboida</b>  <b>Oakes</b>  <b>Orara West</b>  <b>Pappinbarra</b>  <b>Pee Dee</b>  <b>Pine Creek</b>  <b>Ramornie</b>  <b>Richmond Range</b>  <b>Roses Creek</b>  <b>Scotchman</b>  <b>Sheas Nob</b>  <b>Styx River</b>  <b>Tamban</b>  <b>Thumb Creek</b>  <b>Toonumbar</b>  <b>Tuckers Nob</b>  <b>Unumgar</b>  <b>Washpool</b>  <b>Way Way</b>  <b>Wild Cattle Creek</b>  <b>Yabba</b>  <b>Yessabah</b> </p>	<p> <b>Baaljin NR</b>  <b>Banyabba NR</b>  <b>Banyabba SCA</b>  <b>Bellinger River NP</b>  <b>Bindarri NP</b>  <b>Bindarri SCA</b>  <b>Biriwal Bulga NP</b>  <b>Bongil Bongil NP</b>  <b>Boonanghi NR</b>  <b>Boonanghi SCA</b>  <b>Border Ranges NP</b>  <b>Bundjalung NP</b>  <b>Bundjalung SCA</b>  <b>Byrnes Scrub NR</b>  <b>Carrai NP</b>  <b>Carrai SCA</b>  <b>Cascade NP</b>  <b>Cascade SCA</b>  <b>Chaelundi NP</b>  <b>Chaelundi SCA</b>  <b>Cooperabung Creek NR</b>  <b>Cottan-Bimbang NP</b>  <b>Cunnawarra NP</b>  <b>Dorrigo NP</b>  <b>Dunggir NP</b>  <b>Fortis Creek NP</b>  <b>Gibraltar Range NP</b>  <b>Goolawah RP</b>  <b>Goonengerry NP</b>  <b>Gumbaynggirr NP</b>  <b>Gumbaynggirr SCA</b>  <b>Guy Fawkes River NP</b>  <b>Guy Fawkes River SCA</b>  <b>Iluka NR</b>  <b>Junuy Juluum NP</b>  <b>Jugawaarri NR</b>  <b>Kumbatine NP</b>  <b>Kumbatine SCA</b>  <b>Limeburners Creek NP</b>  <b>Limpinwood NR</b>  <b>Mebbin NP</b>  <b>Mount Hyland NR</b>  <b>Mount Hyland SCA</b>  <b>Mount Jerusalem NP</b>  <b>Mount Neville NR</b>  <b>Mount Nothofagus NP</b>  <b>Mount Seaview NR</b>  <b>New England NP</b>  <b>Ngambaa NR</b>  <b>Nightcap NP</b>  <b>Numinbah NR</b>  <b>Nymboi-Binderay NP</b>  <b>Nymboi-Binderay SCA</b>  <b>Nymboida NP</b>  <b>Nymboida SCA</b>  <b>Oxley Wild Rivers NP</b>  <b>Ramornie NP</b>  <b>Richmond Range NP</b>  <b>Snows Gully NR</b>  <b>Tabbimoble Swamp NR</b>  <b>The Castles NR</b>  <b>The Cells SCA</b>  <b>Toonumbar NP</b>  <b>Toonumbar SCA</b>  <b>Washpool NP</b>  <b>Werrikimbe NP</b>  <b>Werrikimbe SCA</b>  <b>Whian Whian SCA</b>  <b>Willi Willi NP</b>  <b>Wollumbin NP</b>  <b>Yabba NP</b>  <b>Yuraygir NP</b>  <b>Yuraygir SCA</b> </p>	<p> <b>Jerewarrah</b>  <b>Middle Creek</b>  <b>Mines Road</b>  <b>Mobong Creek</b>  <b>Nicholii</b>  <b>Twelve Sixty</b>  <b>Wells Crossing</b> </p>

