Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country: In their rich culture, Indigenous Australians are intrinsically connected to the continent — including the area now known as Victoria. Parks Victoria recognises that the park is part of Country of the Traditional Owners.

Parks Victoria is grateful to all those organisations and individuals who have contributed to this Draft Management Plan. Special thanks go to the Warby Range State Park Management Plan Advisory Group, which comprises Linton Briggs, Graham Colson, Peter Curtis, Ian Davidson, Catriona Ferguson, John Griffiths, Margaret McDiarmid, Ralph Scalzo and Tracey Toohey.

Note: Technical terms used in this plan are explained in the Glossary at the end of the plan.

Disclaimers

The plan is also prepared without prejudice to any future negotiated outcomes between the Government/s and Victorian Indigenous communities. It is acknowledged that such negotiated outcomes may necessitate amendment of this plan.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this plan is accurate. Parks Victoria does not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence that may arise from you relying on any information in the publication.

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DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Draft Management Plan, prepared under Section 17(2)(d) of the National Parks Act 1975 (Vic.), proposes the basis and directions for the future management of Warby Range State Park.

The draft plan is published to give interested individuals and groups in the broader community an opportunity to contribute to the plan.

Parks Victoria recognises the important contributions that members of the community who know and value the area can make to its management. Through this plan, Parks Victoria seeks to strengthen its relationships with individuals and community groups with particular interests in the park, and encourages them to become further involved with the park by supporting its management with their knowledge, skills and enthusiasm.

During the draft plan’s preparation, Parks Victoria consulted with the Warby Range State Park Management Plan Advisory Group, which was established to provide community input to the plan development, and a range of other community and stakeholder groups and individuals with a particular interest in the park, to seek their input in resolving management issues. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Advisory Group, Indigenous communities, and other groups and individuals that have participated in the development of the draft plan for their contribution.

All those interested in the Warby Range State Park are invited to comment on the draft plan. Information and comments received will be carefully considered in developing the final plan, which is to be submitted to the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Hon. John Thwaites MP, Minister for Environment, for their approval.

MARK STONE
Chief Executive
Parks Victoria
INTRODUCTION TO BOX–IRONBARK PARKS

The Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands lie inland of the Great Divide Range in northern Victoria. Extending in a broad band from Wodonga through Chiltern, Beechworth and Benalla, they reappear near Numurkah and continue through Heathcote, Bendigo, Maryborough and St Arnaud to Ararat and Stawell (figure 1). At the time of European settlement they covered almost three million ha, or 13% of Victoria.

Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands are unique to Australia, valued by local communities and celebrated in literature and art. The landscapes of the region have inspired poets, writers and artists, both past and contemporary, including Banjo Paterson and Steele Rudd. With the creation of a highly protected system of parks and reserves in 2002, the future of these forests and woodlands is assured.

Warby Range State Park (11 460 ha) protects the impressive landscape, biodiversity and Indigenous cultural values of the granite hills north of Glenrowan and the very significant and distinct values of the Box–Ironbark forests on the low sedimentary hills to the north. The park offers a range of recreation opportunities, particularly for the residents of Wangaratta.

Box–Ironbark areas are part of Country of Traditional Owners. There are many places and sites rich in archaeological, cultural and spiritual significance throughout the region. Increasingly, Indigenous communities are involved in protecting and sharing the region’s Indigenous heritage.

Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands contain some of Victoria’s most significant historic gold mining landscapes and features on public land, including areas of national cultural heritage significance. This has been recognised in the establishment of Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park, the first of its kind in Australia. These landscapes and sites are associated with many former gold towns and settlements, and combine with them to form a region of strong historic character and interest. The historic gold mining landscapes are significant components of tourism in the region today.

The Box–Ironbark forests have been associated with forestry, gold mining, grazing and agriculture from the 1830s. The major reefs and underground ore bodies helped establish and maintain towns, and together with forest products, contributed to the State’s economic development.

Different people value the forests in different ways, but local communities have strong feelings of pride in and ownership of their Box–Ironbark landscapes. The creation of the Box–Ironbark parks presents further opportunities to celebrate, protect and enhance these special landscapes.

Because much of the Box–Ironbark area was suitable for grazing and other forms of agriculture, and because it coincides with Victoria’s gold country, European settlement has had a substantial impact. More than 80% of the area has been cleared, and nearly all the remainder (496 000 ha, of which 372 000 ha is on public land) has been affected by grazing, timber cutting and other pressures from settlement. Past land uses have also contributed to region-wide problems of pest plants and animals, salinity and soil erosion.

While gold mining had a significant initial impact on these environments, it also contributed to their protection. To ensure supplies of timber for mining needs, the government established forest reserves. These became the setting for settlements and communities and the backyards for local people growing up in the area. Some are the basis of today’s parks and reserves.

Although dominated by box and ironbark eucalypts, the Box–Ironbark forests are not uniform. Six broad vegetation and landscape types and no fewer than 73 ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) are recognised. Before European settlement the most extensive EVCs were Plains Grassy Woodland, Grassy Woodland and Box–Ironbark Forest; all three are now considered endangered or depleted.

Fragmentation and loss of habitat in the Box–Ironbark region is the main reason that almost 300 of its 1500 flowering plant species and 53 of its 250 vertebrate animal species are now threatened. Many species, particularly of birds,
are in an ongoing state of decline. A key aim of Box–Ironbark conservation and management is therefore the recovery of species, as well as the protection of those species that are not threatened.

One of the greatest losses has been large old box and ironbark trees, which produce reliable and abundant nectar, supply foraging sites such as peeling bark and fallen timber for ground-dwelling animals, and have many hollows vital for native mammals and birds. Instead of a landscape of large old and widely spaced trees, much is dominated by multi-stemmed coppice regrowth.

In October 2002, after many years of study and debate, the Victorian government proclaimed a number of parks designed primarily to protect and enhance the natural and cultural values of some of the remaining original Box–Ironbark forests. The parks were also to be available for a range of appropriate recreational activities for community enjoyment and appreciation. They comprise five national parks, five state parks, seven regional parks, two historic parks and reserves and one national heritage park. There are also some 300 conservation reserves to help link these park areas, bringing some connectivity to an otherwise fragmented landscape.

Some of the parks, such as Chiltern–Mt Pilot and Greater Bendigo National Parks, are extensions of existing parks; others such as Heathcote–Graytown National Park and Broken–Boosey State Park are new.

The establishment of these parks in the Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands is a significant step towards halting the decline of threatened species in the Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands, increasing community recognition of the values of the forests and woodlands, and improving opportunities to develop tourism and related industries.

The parks should not be seen as separately managed ‘islands’ but as reservoirs of biodiversity within a broader landscape. Protecting and enhancing natural values on other public and private land in the region is vital because it improves and connects habitat for native species. The parks and the people who manage them are an integral part of local communities, and these communities in turn will play a key role in the protection, promotion and management of the parks.

The long-term protection of the region’s cultural heritage and biodiversity, including that of its parks and reserves, relies on the community fostering a strong sense of custodianship of the parks and reserves and the landscapes of which they are an important part. This plan seeks to rebuild the natural linkages in a fragmented landscape through the goodwill of the community together with the help of land managers and the government, while respecting cultural, economic and community associations with the land.

Because of their rich Indigenous and European heritage, in addition to their natural attractions, the Box–Ironbark parks are likely to have a growing significance for Victorians and visitors from interstate and overseas in the years ahead. The parks may not be major tourism attractions in their own right, but they are integral to the character of growing regional cities such as Wangaratta. They have great potential as complementary tourism attractions for people who come to the region for other reasons, such as for social, recreational, sporting or heritage experiences. There is also potential for Indigenous communities and products to support the development and delivery of Box–Ironbark experiences for visitors.

This plan explains these values and attractions in detail for Warby Range State Park, and sets out how they will be protected and managed.
SUMMARY

Warby Range State Park (11 460 ha) is situated near Wangaratta in north-eastern Victoria. The location of the park, between the Australian Alps and the dry plains of northern inland Victoria, has resulted in a diverse range of flora and fauna representing elements of both land systems.

The park is part of Country of the Pangerang¹ and Kwat Kwat (Waveroo) people. The park contains Indigenous places and objects that are integral to the Dreaming of the Traditional Owners, and is significant Indigenous people

The park protects important flora and fauna that includes many threatened species, and features a variety of birds and outstanding springtime wildflower displays. These features make it ideal for picnicking, camping, bushwalking and nature study.

The park’s distinctive character and natural setting will be protected while providing opportunities for high-quality visitor experiences.

Northern Sandalwood, Spur-wing Wattle, Turquoise Parrot, Regent Honeyeater and Carpet Python are some of the threatened species that will be protected through ecosystem conservation and recreation management.

Key elements of the plan include the following:

- Populations of threatened species will be maintained.
- Pest plants and animals and plant pathogens will be managed in cooperation with park neighbours, other government agencies and local municipalities.
- Indigenous and historic places and objects will be protected from interference or damaging or inappropriate activities.
- Indigenous knowledge relating to Country will be respected, promoted and interpreted in accordance with the views of the Traditional Owners.
- The impact of any works and infrastructure on the park’s natural and cultural values will be minimised by careful planning, design, siting and construction.
- Visitor understanding and appreciation of the park’s natural and cultural values will be enhanced by a range of information services and interpretation and education programs.
- Visitor enjoyment will be enhanced by appropriate management of recreation activities. Access via a comprehensive and integrated vehicle and walking track system will be maintained and improved.
- The Friends of the Warbys, volunteers, Indigenous and other community groups will be encouraged and supported to participate in areas of park management that relate to their interests.
- Ongoing opportunities for individuals, groups, communities and government agencies to discuss aspirations and issues of mutual concern relating to the park will be maintained through community forums.
- There will be opportunities for community and stakeholders to work together and with Parks Victoria to achieve common goals for the park.

¹ This management plan adopts the spelling used by the local Indigenous communities; there are a number of alternative spellings and pronunciation of Pangerang, including Bangerang.
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viii Warby Range State Park
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and planning area

Warby Range State Park (11,460 ha) is 220 km north-east of Melbourne and 10 km west of Wangaratta (figure 1). Extending north from the township of Glenrowan, the park follows the prominent rocky, granite Warby Range, which merges into lower and gentler sandstone hills at its northern edge (ECC 2001). The park is 35 km long from north to south and 5 km to 10 km wide from east to west.

The park comprises:

- the former area of the Warby Range State Park (7600 ha)
- the former Killawarra State Forest (2944 ha)
- the former Boweya Flora Reserve (261 ha)
- the former Killawarra Education Area (279 ha).

It includes two Reference Areas:

- Warby Range Reference Area (170 ha) on the western side of the park near Pangerang Lookout
- Killawarra Reference Area (141 ha) in the south-eastern corner of the Killawarra Forest section of the park.

In this draft plan, ‘park’ refers to the entire Warby Range State Park. ‘Killawarra Forest section’ refers to the Box–Ironbark forest area in the north of the park formerly known as Killawarra State Forest, ‘Warby Range section’ refers to the area that covers the granite range between Boweya Rd and Taminick Gap Rd, ‘Mount Glenrowan section’ refers to the area south of Taminick Gap Rd, and ‘Boweya section’ refers to the former Boweya Flora Reserve (figure 3).

1.2 Creation of the park

In 1959 members of the Upper Goulburn Regional Committee and the Upper Murray Regional Committee made a joint inspection of the Warby Range to determine which areas of public land should be permanently reserved as a national park. Further inspection, investigation and submissions were made in the following years by government and community groups. A report prepared by a joint subcommittee recommending the creation of a national park was submitted to the Minister for State Development in 1968.

In August 1975, 2750 ha of the Warby Range was declared as a Site for Public Purposes (National Park) and was subsequently renamed Warby Range State Park. This area and an additional 25 ha were included in Schedule Three of the National Parks Act 1975 (Vic.) on 16 May 1978 as a result of the National Parks (Amendment) Act 1978 (Vic.).

Following the Victorian Government’s acceptance of the Land Conservation Council’s (LCC) Murray Valley Area Final Recommendations (LCC 1985), the Warby Range State Forest (3340 ha) was added to the park by the National Parks (Amendment) Act 1989 on the 23 August 1989. The park was transferred to a new Schedule Two B (State Parks) at the same time.

Additions, including a substantial donation of land by the Nason family (220 ha) in 1988 and purchases of freehold land (Booth block of 720 ha in 1995, Buck and Bailey blocks of 163 ha and 174 ha in 2002, and other additions including Wenham, Taylor and Hoystead blocks totalling 545 ha) also took place and helped fill the gaps between the fragmented sections of the original park.

Following the government’s acceptance of the Environment Conservation Council’s (ECC) Box–Ironbark Forests and Woodlands Investigation Final Report in 2002, the former Killawarra State Forest (2944 ha), the former Killawarra Education Area (279 ha) and former Boweya Flora Reserve (261 ha) were added to the park as a result of the National Parks (Box–Ironbark and Other Parks) Act 2002 (Vic.) on 30 October 2002.

1.3 Plan development

This Draft Management Plan for Warby Range State Park was prepared by Parks Victoria on the basis of existing information, reports and research findings that relate to the park. The plan is informed and supported by a range of best practice management systems. Significant
input of information and advice was sought and received from the Warby Range State Park Management Plan Advisory Group and community groups, individuals and agencies with particular interests in the park.

This second management plan for the park includes the areas added to the park since 1998 (section 1.2). It updates the management issues and strategies of the existing plan (Parks Victoria 1998), particularly in relation to fire, pest plants, pest animals and *Phytophthora cinnamomi*. The planning process included a review of the existing plan and noted the implementation of a number of key strategies in that plan, including surveys and monitoring of Carpet Python, Spur-wing Wattle and Grass Trees and significant additions to the walking track network, such as Salisbury Walk.

The planning process included a series of public forums in 2004–05 and consultation with community groups, Friends of the Warbys and other community and recreational groups. Local Indigenous community groups have been consulted, and their input assisted in the development of the plan.

The plan is a proposed strategic guide for the future management of Warby Range State Park. As a public document the plan proposes how Parks Victoria will protect the park’s natural and cultural values, and the services and facilities that will be provided to help visitors to enjoy, appreciate and understand the park in ways that are consistent with this. The plan also describes proposals to inform the community about the park, encourage interested groups to become involved in park management programs, and encourage cooperative land management and participation in community-based programs involving Parks Victoria and managers of areas adjacent to the park.

As a working document for the park, the plan informs Parks Victoria’s development of Corporate Plans, serves as a framework for subsequent detailed planning and governs management activities.

The publication of this draft plan offers the community an opportunity for further involvement in planning the future management of this important park. All submissions on the draft plan will be carefully considered and taken into account in the preparation of the final management plan. Where appropriate, comments may be discussed further with stakeholders if necessary.

When approved by the Secretary to DSE and the Minister for the Environment, the final management plan will replace the existing plan (Parks Victoria 1998) and guide future management of Warby Range State Park.
2.1 Regional context

Warby Range State Park covers the steep and rocky granite hills near Glenrowan, northward to where range meets the plains of the Riverina. To the north and east are the floodplains of the Ovens and Murray Rivers. The park is bounded by cleared farmland, and two areas are separated by farmland in the south and west.

The park is within the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion, which occurs on the granite, metamorphic and sedimentary lower foothills north of the Great Dividing Range in north-eastern Victoria (NRE 1997). It is characterised primarily by dry forest in the hills, with box–ironbark forest or woodlands at lower elevations. The bioregion experiences an annual rainfall of 400–1000 mm and an annual average temperature range of 6–21 °C (DSE 2004b). About 70% of the bioregion has been cleared for agriculture, and the park comprises 16% of the protected area in the bioregion (NRE 1997).

The area surrounding the park is largely private land used primarily for agriculture. As part of the Ovens River and Broken River catchments, the park is influenced by activities within the catchments, which are the responsibility of the North East Catchment Management Authority and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority respectively. These catchments also form part of the Murray–Darling Basin.

Indigenous tradition indicates that the park is part of Country of the Pangerang and Kwat Kwat (Waveroo) Indigenous people.

The park is complemented by a number of nearby parks and a range of other natural attractions in the region, including:

- Alpine National Park and Mount Buffalo National Park to the south-east
- Chiltern–Mt Pilot National Park and Beechworth Historic Park to the east
- Reef Hills State Park to the south-west
- Broken–Boosey State Park to the west
- State forests around the Ovens and Murray Rivers.

An investigation into the decommissioning of Lake Mokoan, a water storage facility about 10 km west of the park, is being undertaken. It is planned to restore the land covered by the lake to a substantial wetland complex, together with a range of other land uses. The wetlands and adjoining areas could be linked to the park for the benefit of recreation and biodiversity. The wetlands would also enhance wildlife and vegetation corridors to the Chesney Vale Hills reserves and Mt Meg to the west of the park.

The park is within the boundaries of three municipalities: the east and south of the park are within the Rural City of Wangaratta, the west within Benalla Rural City and the private land adjacent to the park in the north is within Moira Shire. It is also within Tourism Victoria’s High Country product region. Visitation to the area includes 1.3 million domestic overnight visitors (10% of the State total) and 1.5 million domestic day visitors (6% of the State total). Almost half of all visitors to the region are engaged in nature-based tourism, which is one of the region’s strengths (Tourism Victoria 2004).

2.2 Park significance and values

Warby Range State Park is one of 30 State Parks in Victoria and makes a valuable contribution to Victoria’s parks and reserves system, which aims to protect viable, comprehensive, adequate and representative samples of the State’s natural environments. The park also provides opportunities for visitors to enjoy and appreciate the natural environment and other natural and cultural features.

The park is assigned the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Category II (National Park) of the United Nation’s List of National Parks and Protected Areas. Category II (National Park) areas are managed mainly for ecosystem conservation and recreation.

The Warby Range section protects the impressive landscape, biodiversity, and
recreation and Indigenous cultural values of the granite hills north of Glenrowan. The Killawarra Forest section protects the very significant and distinct values of the box–ironbark forests on the low sedimentary hills to the north.

The area that comprised the park until 2002 (7600 ha) is also listed on the Register of the National Estate in recognition of its wildflower displays and recreational outlet for the people of Wangaratta (DEH 2006).

Significant features of the park include the following:

**Natural**
- The prominent Warby Range, a feature of the landscape of north-eastern Victoria easily visible from the Hume Freeway.
- A major contribution to the protection of the vulnerable Box–Ironbark Forest (North-eastern Hills) EVC in the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion.
- A major contribution to the protection of Alluvial Terrace Herb-rich Woodland, Alluvial Terrace Herb-rich Woodland / Creekline Grassy Woodland Complex and Spring Soak Woodland EVCs, which are endangered within the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion.
- A total of 28 fauna and 23 flora species threatened in Victoria, and three fauna and one flora species threatened nationally (appendices 2 and 3).
- Diversity of species and habitats with outstanding wildflower displays.

**Cultural**
- Indigenous places and objects of significance, including rock wells, artefact scatters and a scar tree.
- Relics of early European settlement, including a water race and weirs on the ‘Taminick Run’.
- Evidence of past land use from timber cutting and a saw mill.
- Associations with bushrangers (Mad Dog Morgan and the Kelly Gang).

**Recreation and tourism**
- Proximity to Wangaratta, providing opportunities for recreation in a natural setting without significant visitor numbers.
- Opportunities to bushwalk and observe wildflowers and wildlife, in particular many bird species.
- Spectacular views of the Australian Alps and the Ovens, King and Murray River valleys, Lake Mokoan and the inland plains of northern Victoria from lookouts within the park.
- Opportunities for horse riding, cycling, car touring and camping in a natural setting and, in the Killawarra Forest section of the park, opportunities for car rallies and gemstone fossicking.

2.3 Evidence of past use

The Box–Ironbark forests and woodlands provided Indigenous people with wood and plants for shelter, food, medicinal purposes, canoes, spears, shields, *nulla nullas* (clubs), boomerangs, tools and dishes (ECC 2001). The springs in the park at Black Springs, Wenhams Camp and surrounding areas provided a constant and reliable source of water. Hunting trips into the range would have been conducted regularly by small groups. Larger groups passing through the area on seasonal movements would also have accessed the plentiful resources (Freslov 2002). The arrival of European settlement impacted significantly on Indigenous communities through disease, massacres, dispossession and forced removal of people to missions and reserves (ECC 2001).

The first European explorers, Hamilton Hume and William Hovell, came through the area in the 1824. They were followed in 1836 by Thomas Mitchell, who described the area as fine grazing country. Early records of interactions between Europeans and Indigenous people note that diseases such as smallpox impacted heavily on the Indigenous communities. Conflict was also common between the settlers and the local groups, who
were driven away from the area by the late 19th century.

Early European settlers’ uses of the area included grazing and timber harvesting. The first squatting run, ‘Taminick’, was taken up by Ben Warby in 1844, and grazing continued from this time in various sections of the park until excluded from the Killawarra Forest section in the 1980s. Fence posts, poles and railway sleepers were cut from the park by contractors and the Forest Commission throughout the 1900s. Timber harvesting for sawn timber and firewood resulted in significant changes in the structure of the park’s woodland communities over time.

Pink granite was quarried from the park at a site off Delloro Rd for the construction of many local buildings, including the Anglican Cathedral in Wangaratta. The quarry cutting offers an insight into the structure of the range’s Devonian granite.

2.4 The park visitor

Visitors to Warby Range State Park are drawn by its relatively natural setting, its outstanding wildlife values, impressive wildflower displays and scenic views. Bushwalking, picnicking, sightseeing, bird-watching, camping, cycling and horse riding are some of the many activities undertaken in the park.

The park attracts approximately 50 000 visitor days per year, with most coming to the park in spring to see the colourful wildflowers in bloom and waterfalls formed by creeks cascading off the escarpment. Visitors to the park are primarily from nearby towns such as Glenrowan and Wangaratta. Day trips for picnicking, bushwalking, sightseeing and nature study are the most popular uses of the park. The campsites are used for overnight and extended camping by locals and visitors from interstate. Accommodation is available close to the park at Glenrowan, Wangaratta and Benalla.

Visitors are attracted to views from Mt Killawarra. Key visitor sites include lookouts at Pangerang, Ryans, Mt Glenrowan and Kwat Kwat; picnic areas at Warby Tower, Spring Creek and Pine Gully; and walking tracks at Pine Gully, Wenhams Camp, Springtime Wildflower Walk and Sunrise Walking Track Complex.

The Killawarra Forest section of the park is one of the most popular Box-Ironbark areas in Victoria (ECC 2001) and is a particularly important destination for car rally enthusiasts as its access tracks remain drivable during wetter times of the year.

In terms of statewide priorities, Parks Victoria has rated the park as a park of regional value for the provision of visitor services. An appreciation of the park’s natural and cultural values will be promoted, together with picnicking and camping. Resources will focus on the two principal visitor sites: Wenhams Camp in the Warby Range section and The Forest Camp in the Killawarra Forest section.

Local schools and tertiary institutions use the park throughout the year for a variety of outdoor activities and to study environmental processes.

Tourism Victoria’s regional campaign ‘High Country’ promotes neighbouring wineries and Kelly Gang historical sites at Glenrowan. There are opportunities through tourism partnerships to encourage visitors to appreciate the natural beauty of the area by wider promotion of the park.

2.5 Legislation and ECC recommendations

Warby Range State Park is reserved and managed under the National Parks Act 1975 (Vic.). The Act requires the Secretary to DSE to preserve and protect the natural condition of the park, and its natural, cultural and other features and, subject to this, to provide for the use of the park by the public for enjoyment, recreation and education. Appropriate research activities are also provided for under the Act.

The objects and provisions of the National Parks Act set the framework for the management of Warby Range State Park (appendix 1).

Specific legislation and Land Conservation Council (LCC) and Environment Conservation Council (ECC) recommendations accepted by government also govern particular aspects of management of the park, as described below and in subsequent sections of the plan.
The Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972 (Vic.) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984 (Cwlth) apply to the park and protect all Indigenous cultural heritage values, including places and objects (section 5.1).

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth) applies to the whole of the park with respect to actions that have, will have, or are likely to have a significant impact on matters of national environmental or cultural significance.

The Parks Victoria Act 1998 (Vic.) enables management services for the park to be provided by Parks Victoria on behalf of the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). The National Parks (Park) Regulations 2003 apply to the park.

Other legislation, and policies and guidelines (section 2.6) at both the Commonwealth and State levels apply to management of the park and specific activities and uses.

**ECC recommendations**

The former Environment Conservation Council (ECC), in its *Box–Ironbark Forests and Woodlands Investigation Final Report* (ECC 2001), made a number of recommendations that relate to the park. The recommendations included:

Recommendation B3 – use of Warby Range State Park in accordance with the general recommendations for State Parks and

- metal detecting not be permitted
- car rallying be permitted in the Killawarra Forest section, by arrangement with the land manager.

Other ECC recommendations apply to public land in the box–ironbark region generally, including the park. These include:

- Land managers continue with and further develop adaptive management research and monitoring programs, develop targeted new programs and apply the results where appropriate (R8).
- Planning and management relating to traditional interests and uses be based on recognition and respect for the traditional and contemporary relationship of Aboriginal peoples with the land (R15).
- Box–Ironbark public lands be available for a range of recreation activities for community enjoyment and appreciation and appropriate to the land use category (R42).

All of these recommendations were accepted by the State Government in February 2002 (Government of Victoria 2002).

**2.6 Policies and guidelines**

The park is managed in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies and, where appropriate, other policies and guidelines, including the following:

- Indigenous Partnership Strategy and Action Plan (Parks Victoria 2006a)
- Guidelines for Working with Aboriginal Communities and Protection of Cultural Sites (Parks Victoria 2002)
- Recreation Framework for Box–Ironbark Public Land (DSE 2003a)
- Heritage Management Strategy (Parks Victoria 2003)
- Warby Range Pest Animal Strategy (NRE 1996)
- Warby Range Weed Management Strategy (NRE 1994)
- Warby Range Phytophthora cinnamomi Control Strategy (NRE 1995)
- National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (COAG 1992)
- National Strategy for the Conservation of Australia’s Biological Diversity (ANZECC 2001)
- Victoria’s Biodiversity Strategy (NRE 1997)
- Fire Protection Plan: Mansfield, Ovens, Shepparton, Upper Murray (DSE 2003b)
- Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land (DSE 2006a)
The park is also managed within a broader context of a number of other plans and strategies, including:

- *Policy for Sustainable Recreation and Tourism on Victoria’s Public Land* (NRE 2002b)
- *North East Regional Catchment Strategy* (NECMA 2004)
3 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

3.1 Vision
A future visitor to Warby Range State Park will find a park which extends from the highest peak of Mt Glenrowan in the south to the undulating Box–Ironbark forest of the Killawarra Forest section in the north. The woodlands of the park provide a critical habitat link between the large forests of the Great Divide in the south and the Murray River Riparian Forest in the north via the Ovens River and its tributaries. The park is actively managed to conserve its rich flora and fauna values by controlling pest plants, pest animals and diseases.

Visitors can walk the Country of the range’s Traditional Owners and follow in the footsteps of early settlers and notorious bushrangers. The Warby Way Walking Track allows walkers to explore the entire length of the range, with access to a variety of nearby tourist attractions including wineries and historical sites. Other features within the park are accessible along an extensive system of well-maintained roads and walking tracks which provide recreational opportunities for visitors.

Research and monitoring programs provide guidance in the management of the park. This helps maintain a self-sustaining forest, increasing knowledge of the park’s natural values, ecological processes and the specific requirements of flora and fauna, particularly threatened species.

Extensive interpretation of the park’s scenic, conservation and community values is provided by information displays and self-guided nature walks. Low-key camping areas, opportunities for dispersed camping and picnic facilities are enjoyed by visitors, particularly from Wangaratta and neighbouring regions.

Indigenous cultural heritage is managed throughout the park by a strong working partnership with the Traditional Owners. The park is managed in close cooperation with other local community groups, including Friends of the Warbys and Landcare. This relationship with the local community enhances the value of the park and encourages local people to protect the park’s many natural and cultural values.

3.2 Zoning
A park management zoning scheme has been developed to:

- provide a geographic framework in which to manage the park
- reflect the sensitivity, fragility and remoteness of natural values
- indicate which management directions have priority in different parts of the park
- indicate the types and levels of use appropriate throughout the park
- assist in minimising existing and potential conflicts between uses and activities, or between activities and the protection of the park’s values
- provide a basis for assessing the suitability of future activities and development proposals.

Three management zones apply to the park — the Conservation and Recreation Zone, Reference Area Zone and Conservation Zone. Four overlays are used to highlight additional protection or management requirements to the underlying zones (figure 2, table 1).

3.3 Management directions
Major management directions for the park are outlined below.

Natural values conservation
- Populations of threatened flora and fauna species will be maintained.
- An age class mosaic within all management areas will be maintained while protecting old and large trees.
- In modified areas, ground cover and understorey layers will be restored to maximise species diversity, cover and structure.
### TABLE 1 MANAGEMENT ZONES AND OVERLAYS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ZONE</th>
<th>AREA/LOCATION</th>
<th>VALUES</th>
<th>GENERAL MANAGEMENT AIM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conservation and Recreation</td>
<td>Most of the park 10 820 ha (94.5% of park)</td>
<td>Important natural values and scope for recreational opportunities and tourism.</td>
<td>Protect natural environments and provide for sustainable, dispersed recreational activities and small-scale recreational facilities without significant impact on natural processes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Area</td>
<td>Warby Range Reference Area 170 ha (1.5% of park)</td>
<td>Relatively undisturbed land types and associated vegetation.</td>
<td>Protect viable samples of one or more land types that are relatively undisturbed for comparative study with similar land types elsewhere, by keeping all human interference to the minimum essential and ensuring as far as practicable that the only long-term changes result from natural processes in accordance with Ministerial directives and Parks Victoria operational policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Killawarra Reference Area 141 ha (1%) of park</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Area surrounding Warby Range Reference Area 350 ha (3% of park)</td>
<td>Broad area with communities of White Cypress-pine and other sensitive natural environments.</td>
<td>Protect sensitive, fragile or remote natural environments and provide for minimal impact recreation and, simple visitor facilities, subject to ensuring minimal interference with natural processes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OVERLAY</th>
<th>AREA/LOCATION</th>
<th>VALUES</th>
<th>GENERAL MANAGEMENT AIM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Protection Area – Natural Values</td>
<td>Three areas in the central section of park 100 ha (&lt; 1%) of park.</td>
<td>Northern Sandalwood (Briens Gorge), White Cypress-pine Woodlands, fully skirted grass-trees.</td>
<td>Protect natural values in specific areas and sites where visitor access and recreation needs to be controlled (section 4.4).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Management Area – Public Safety</td>
<td>Two fallout areas adjacent to Wangaratta Pistol Club and North East Muzzle Loaders shooting ranges 210 ha (2%) of park.</td>
<td>Safety buffer area closed to public when shooting range is active.</td>
<td>Minimise the risk of shooting and associated activities for park visitors and values (section 6.13).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Management Area – Public Utilities</td>
<td>Two areas of powerlines in the Mt Glenrowan section 5 ha (&lt; 1%) of park.</td>
<td>Maintenance and operation of overhead powerlines, including clearing and pruning vegetation.</td>
<td>Minimise the impact of activities associated with the maintenance and operation of the overhead electrical transmission line on park values (section 7.1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Designation – Search for gemstones</td>
<td>Gemstone area in the Killawarra Forest section 25 ha (&lt; 1%) of park.</td>
<td>Designated area for searching for gemstones.</td>
<td>Allow prospecting under a Miner’s Right or Tourist Fossicking Authority in accordance with Section 32D of the National Parks Act, while protecting biodiversity, catchment, geological and cultural values.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Pest plants and animals that have the potential to threaten park values will be controlled and where possible eradicated.

**Cultural values conservation**

- Indigenous places and objects will be protected from interference or damaging activities.

- The Traditional Owners’ knowledge, interests and rights in the area and aspirations for Country will be reflected in the park’s planning and management, in accordance with legislation and policies.

- Indigenous cultural obligations relating to Country will be respected, and Indigenous knowledge promoted and interpreted in
Strategic directions

accordance with the views of the Traditional Owners.

• Historic places will be protected from damaging or inappropriate activities.

• The impact of any works and infrastructure on the park’s natural and cultural values will be minimised by careful planning, design, siting and construction.

The park visit

• The park will be promoted as an important recreational opportunity for locals and visitors to north-eastern Victoria, and existing facilities will be managed to meet demand.

• Visitors will have opportunities to learn about the park and its special values.

• Visitor understanding and appreciation of the park’s natural and cultural values will be enhanced by a range of information services and interpretation and education programs.

• Visitor enjoyment will be enhanced by appropriate management of recreation activities.

• Recreational opportunities will be provided in accordance with table 2.

• Visitors will be encouraged to adopt minimal-impact techniques and to adhere to industry-developed standards appropriate to their activity.

• Visitors will be able to access the park through a comprehensive and integrated walking track system.

Community awareness and involvement

• Strong collaborative partnerships will be developed with the Traditional Owners to facilitate the reflection of their knowledge, rights, and interests and aspirations in the park’s planning and management.

• The wider community will be encouraged to become more aware of the park and appreciative of its values.

• Local communities and visitors will be encouraged to develop a sense of custodianship for the park, join the Friends of the Warbys, and become involved in park management.

• Strong relationships will be developed or maintained with people, groups and communities with strong connections or interests in the park, to encourage their participation in aspects of the park’s management.

• Opportunities will be provided for individuals, groups, communities and government agencies to share their interests and concerns relating to the park through continued community engagement and forums.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Management Zones</th>
<th>Overlays</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(percentage of park)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bicycle riding (section 6.6)</td>
<td>(94.5%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird watching</td>
<td>(2.5%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bushwalking</td>
<td>(3%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Car rallies (section 6.2)</td>
<td>(&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog walking on lead (section 6.7)</td>
<td>(2%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/Guided activities</td>
<td>(&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping – designated (limited facilities) (section 6.5)</td>
<td>(&lt;1%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping – dispersed (no facilities) (section 6.5)</td>
<td>(9%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campfires (section 6.5)</td>
<td>(2%)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feeding wildlife</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hang-gliding and paragliding</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse riding (section 6.8)</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunting</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcycling</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature photography/painting</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orienteering/rogaining (section 6.9)</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnicking</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prospecting, including metal detecting (section 6.10)</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock climbing/abseiling (section 6.11)</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scenic drives</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gemstone searching (section 6.10)</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sightseeing</td>
<td>(N/A)</td>
<td>Y</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key:
1 Conservation and Recreation Zone
2 Reference Area Zone
3 Conservation Zone
4 Special Protection Area – Natural Values
5 Special Management Area – Public Safety
6 Special Management Area – Public Utilities
7 Land Use Designation – Search for gemstones

Y Permitted, subject to overlay prescriptions and conditions prescribed by legislation, licensed tour permits or elsewhere in the plan as indicated.
N Not permitted.
N/A Not applicable.
* Not permitted when shooting range is in use.
4 STRATEGIES FOR NATURAL VALUES CONSERVATION

4.1 Landscape

The Warby Range is a prominent landscape feature in north-eastern Victoria, particularly for travellers passing through the region on the Hume Freeway. The main range contrasts with the surrounding plains, creating a distinctive landscape for Wangaratta and the surrounding district. The range gradually increases in height from the undulating box–ironbark forest in the Killawarra Forest and Boweya sections in the north to its highest point at Mt Glenrowan in the south.

The range provides spectacular views of surrounding and distant countryside (ECC 2001), including some of the best views of the Victorian alpine country and the Ovens, King and Murray River valleys. Scenic waterfalls within the park can be found when ephemeral streams are flowing.

Within the region, the park is the major landscape feature between the Great Divide and the vast inland plains of the Riverina. The diversity of flora and fauna is unique, comprising many species from the Great Divide and the plains which are at the limits of their distribution (section 4.4 and 4.5). The mostly continuous corridor of park spans 35 km from north to south and highlights this transformation from foothills to plains and the interface between changing landscapes.

The Warby Range and the lower hills to the north are an intrinsic element of Country for Traditional Owners in accordance with tradition.

Developments near the park could compromise the landscape values and views. Buildings and industries (mainly quarries) adjacent to the park are visible from some viewing points and detract from the visitor experience. These impacts are likely to increase with future subdivision and further development of adjacent areas (section 7.2).

Management activities such as prescribed burning could affect landscape values of the park in the short-term by altering the appearance of the vegetation at certain times of the year. This could be particularly evident for travellers on the Hume Freeway when passing Mt Glenrowan. Road maintenance can also cause visual intrusions in the landscape.

Visitor facilities and interpretive and directional signs within the park are designed and sited to complement rather than detract from the visitor experience.

Aims

- Protect the natural landscape, particularly places of high scenic beauty or traditional or other significance.
- Where appropriate, rehabilitate, remove or ameliorate undesirable visual intrusions.

Management strategies

- Manage fire protection works and track construction to minimise their impact on landscapes viewed from outside the park.
- Interpret the impact of prescribed burns by explaining the aims and outcomes and the short-term nature of the impacts in the local media.
- Monitor management activities by external agencies that could affect landscape values, to minimise any impacts (section 7.1 and 8.3).
- Consider and respect the significance of the landscape to Traditional Owners in planning and implementing management activities (sections 5.1, 6.1 and 8.2).
- Minimise the impact on the landscape values of the park through sensitive design and siting of signs, roads and tracks.

4.2 Geological features

The park consists of three distinct geological formations: the Devonian granite of the range, the Ordovician sedimentary formation of the low hills of the Killawarra Forest section, and the Quaternary colluvial sediments.

During the Ordovician period (about 510–420 million years ago) much of what is now Victoria was part of a deep marine basin, so nearly all the Ordovician rocks in Victoria are of deep-water sedimentary origin (sandstones, mudstones and shales). The Devonian granite
intrusion that forms the range occurred approximately 405 to 360 million years ago.

Quaternary colluvial sediments (1.6 million years ago to the present) surround most of the slopes and are comprised of mostly sand and gravel, with richer amounts of clay farther away from the change of slope (Anderson 1980).

The peaks of Warby Range, which increase in height from north to south — Mt Killawarra (300 m), Mount Warby (480 m) and Mt Glenrowan (514 m) — are the prominent geological features of the park. Other landform features of the park include dry granite outcrops, seasonal waterfalls and rocky valleys. During the wetter months when streams are flowing, the waterfalls in Pine Gully and Briens Gorge are major attractions for visitors.

Highly erodible duplex soils derived from the granite occur on the plateau. Management and recreation activities have the potential to increase erosion, particularly on the steep slopes and susceptible soils. The construction and maintenance of utilities and adjacent land uses such as extractive industries could also cause soil disturbance.

The development of a fluoride ore mine was investigated during the 1960s but the levels were not adequate to support the enterprise. Granite extracted from a quarry at the end of Delloro Rd was used to build many historic buildings in Wangaratta, including the Anglican Cathedral, on which construction began in 1909. Further construction occurred in the 1920s and 1950s. The remaining cutting in the quarry provides an opportunity to observe the park’s geology.

According to Indigenous tradition, all geomorphological features of the landscape result from the activities of ancestral spirits in the Dreaming.

Aims

- Provide opportunities for appropriate research, appreciation and education in relation to the geological and geomorphological features of the park.

Management strategies

- Provide general interpretive material about the park’s geological and landform features to enhance their protection and visitor appreciation. Include sites outside the park that provide insights into the geology of the park (section 6.1).

- Encourage research to identify landforms of special significance to the Traditional Owners and protect them from damaging or inappropriate activities (sections 5.1 and 8.2).

- Consider and respect the significance of landforms to the Traditional Owners in planning and implementing management activities (sections 4.1, 5.1 and 6.1).

- Monitor the impact of visitors on sensitive geological features, in particular the slopes of the escarpment, especially those close to high-use areas such as Briens Gorge, and implement appropriate management actions as required.

- Monitor the condition of visitor sites, roads and tracks to ensure that management and maintenance activities do not cause erosion.

4.3 Rivers and catchments

The park lies within the catchments of the Broken and Ovens Rivers, two major rivers that form part of the Murray–Darling Basin. The Broken River catchment to the west consists of the Upper Boosey and Lake Mokoan catchments, which are under the direction of the Goulburn–Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA). The Ovens River catchment to the east joins the Lower Ovens catchment and is under the direction of the North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA).

The GBCMA area covers approximately 2.4 million hectares and is home to 189 500 people (GBCMA 2003). It includes two major catchments (Goulburn and Broken Rivers) and
forms part of the Murray–Darling Basin. A total of 28% of the catchment is public land.

The NECMA area covers approximately 1.9 million hectares and is home to 95 000 people. It including three major catchments (Upper Murray, Kiewa and Ovens Rivers) and is bounded to the north by the Murray River (NECMA 2003). Over 55% of the catchment is public land, including part of the Alpine National Park, Mt Buffalo National Park and Chiltern–Mt Pilot National Park.

A number of projects in the regional catchment strategies undertaken by the CMAs complement park management, including pest plant and animal control programs and native revegetation (GBCMA 2003, NECMA 2003).

Chinamans Creek, Irishtown Creek and Spring Creek all originate in the park and flow seasonally out of the park eastwards into the Ovens River. Many unnamed ephemeral creeks in the park also flow during the wetter months or after heavy rain. In the west of the park, they flow into the headwaters of Boosey Creek and south-west into Lake Mokoan. These creeks are important wildlife corridors, linking the park with other remnant vegetation.

Springs within the park at Black Springs, Wenhams Camp and the Killawarra Forest section are a unique aspect of the park’s environment. They are permanent water sources for animals and are the basis for some creek systems and the endangered Spring Soak Woodland ecological vegetation class (section 4.4). A spring off Gerretts Rd has an existing bore and pump that is used by neighbouring properties (section 7.1).

The key threats to catchment values and water quality in the park include pest plants and pathogens (section 4.7), pest animals (section 4.7), rising groundwater, agricultural and urban runoff (section 7.2), soil erosion (section 4.2), fire (section 4.6) and altered water regimes (GBCMA 2003, NECMA 2003).

4.4 Vegetation

Vegetation within the park is of national importance because of its diversity of species and habitats, and because some species have their only natural Victorian occurrence there (Parks Victoria 1998). The park also contributes significantly to the conservation of 12 ecological vegetation classes (EVCs), of which eight are vulnerable or endangered within the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion: Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland, Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland/Creekline Grassy Woodland Mosaic, Box–Ironbark Forest, Creekline Grassy Woodland, Grassy Woodland, Plains Grassy Woodland, Spring Soak Woodland and Valley Grassy Forest.

The park is dominated by three EVCs which together make up almost 80% of the park. Box–Ironbark Forest (27% of the park) occurs mainly in the northern part of the park and is characterised by a dominant Mugga Ironbark, Red Box and Grey Box overstorey. Heathy Dry Forest (24.3% of the park) with an overstorey of Red Stringybark, Red Box and Long-leaf Box occurs mainly on the plateau and higher areas of the Warby Range. Granitic Hill Woodland (28.2% of the park) occurs on the steep slopes that are mainly on the western side of the park and is characterised by Blakely’s Gum, Red Stringybark and White Cypress-pine. The endangered Spring Soak Woodland...
Woodland EVC occurs in a number of locations within the park and on adjacent land. These sensitive communities are habitat for threatened plants, including the nationally vulnerable Narrow Goodenia, and are an important source of seasonal water for animals. Almost 500 species of native plants have been recorded within the park. Of these, 23 are considered threatened. Five species are listed under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (Vic.) (FFG Act) and two (Narrow Goodenia and Northern Sandalwood) have action statements written for their recovery and associated management actions (appendix 2).

The park is particularly important for protecting populations of the endangered Northern Sandalwood and rare Spur-wing Wattle. Both species are at the southernmost limits of their range in Australia. White Cypress-pine woodlands, which occur in the park, are depleted in Victoria. The grass-tree, Xanthorrhoea glauca subsp. angustifolia, population in the park has fully skirted plants resulting from infrequent fires since European settlement. Such populations are rare in the State. The management of these four species includes the establishment of Special Protection Areas (section 3.2 and table 1). Strategies to protect grass-trees, which are particularly susceptible to P. cinnamomi, include seasonal closure of tracks through infested areas (section 4.7 and table 3).

Timber harvesting has altered some vegetation communities, particularly Red Stringybark and Mugga Ironbark. Wenhams Camp, Black Springs and The Oval were cleared for agriculture in the past, and natural regeneration in these areas has been patchy. The Killawarra Forest section was grazed until the 1980s, and timber harvesting continued there until 2002. As a result of these impacts there is an absence of large trees throughout the area and the understorey is disturbed.

The large boundary-to-area ratio of the park makes the vegetation communities particularly susceptible to disturbance from adjacent land uses and weed invasion. Fragmentation caused by tracks created during timber harvesting also increases the threats to vegetation communities. The ECC recommended rationalisation of the road network, particularly in the Killawarra Forest section, to reduce this threat (section 6.2).

The complexity of the EVCs within the park makes management at the plant community level difficult. The conservation objectives for Warby Range State Park characterise geographic areas by their level of modification — Least Modified, Partially Modified Box-Ironbark, Partially Modified Dry Forest Woodland, Modified, or Highly Modified (Parks Victoria 2005).

Key threats to the vegetation communities are pest plant invasion (section 4.7), Phytophthora cinnamomi (section 4.7), grazing by native species and rabbits (section 4.7) and wildfire and prescribed burning (section 4.6). Further research and monitoring into the impacts of fire on the vegetation is needed, particularly in relation to the role that fire plays in the life cycles of species and vegetation communities, and the fire response and requirements of a species or community (section 4.6).

The impact of the Portuguese Millipede (section 4.7) on vegetation structure is unclear, but it is known to have an adverse effect on mosses and lichens (Smith 2003).

Ongoing environmental monitoring in the park has been undertaken for vegetation condition assessment and research projects, such as research on the impacts and effects of rabbit calicivirus. Current monitoring includes surveys at particular sites in the previous 7600 ha park. Because of the addition of the Killawarra Forest and Boweya sections, a review of monitoring sites is needed and new sites will have to be established in these areas. Priority will be given to threatened species, sensitive areas, pest plant control and areas of high biodiversity.

Indigenous people recognise flora as an intrinsic element of Country, and their knowledge includes a sophisticated knowledge of the values and uses of plants.

**Aims**

- Protect indigenous flora and vegetation communities, particularly threatened species.
- Protect high-value areas (identified as those least modified) to maintain species
Strategies for natural values conservation

structure, diversity and an age-class mosaic.

- Improve knowledge of significant flora and threatening processes to improve management.

Management strategies

- Implement priority actions from approved action statements or recovery plans to address threats to threatened species or communities listed under the FFG and EPBC Acts.

- Restore ground cover and understorey in modified areas and partially modified Box–Ironbark Forest and Dry Forest Woodland within the park.

- Reinstate vegetation in highly modified areas, such as the Buck and Bailey blocks.

- Restore native vegetation in previously cleared areas such as Wenhams Camp and The Oval, while maintaining some open space for recreation.

- Encourage surveys and research on threatened flora and plant communities in the park to improve knowledge of their management requirements.

- Manage fire and the use of fire for management appropriately to reduce risk of impact on significant flora (section 4.6).

- Monitor infestations of P. cinnamomi to protect susceptible species and reduce its spread through mechanical means by isolating known infestations and using appropriate signage to inform visitors and staff of the diseases impact on the park (section 4.7).

- Monitor the impacts of the Portuguese Millipede and promote further research into the species and its impact on the natural values of the park.

- Manage visitor activities to minimise impacts on flora and vegetation communities (chapter 6).

- Identify areas of high conservation (least modified) value and protect from invasion of pest plants and animals, in particular St John’s Wort and rabbits.

- Protect large old trees during prescribed burning operations (section 4.5).

- Review current monitoring techniques and identify additional sites for monitoring (in particular in the Killawarra Forest and Boweya sections), which are representative of the park’s values and ecological vegetation communities and in line with Parks Victoria monitoring protocols.

- Encourage flora surveys and research into flora species and enter records into Parks Victoria’s Environmental Information System.

- Where appropriate, encourage research to identify Indigenous knowledge relating to vegetation and flora and harvesting practices.

- Reflect Indigenous knowledge of vegetation in management practices as appropriate, and respect the cultural obligations of Traditional Owners in relation to plants and their significance in all management and visitor activities.

4.5 Fauna

The park is habitat for almost 200 native species of vertebrate animals — 146 birds, 22 mammals, 21 reptiles and 9 amphibians. The location of the park between the Great Divide and the inland plains has resulted in a unique environment containing elements of both habitats. The woodland vegetation on the range contains an abundance of hollow-bearing trees as well as ground cover for a range of species. Rocky slopes on the western escarpment provide an ideal habitat for the Carpet Python, which is at the southernmost extent of its range in Victoria in the park.

Twenty-nine threatened species have been recorded in the park (appendix 3). Action statements have been prepared under the FFG Act for eight of these species, and recovery plans for the Regent Honeyeater and Swift Parrot have been prepared under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwlth) (EPBC Act).

Many of these threatened species have breeding populations in the park, including the Turquoise Parrot (largest population in
Victoria), Hooded Robin, Speckled Warbler, Diamond Firetail, Brown Treecreeper, Powerful and Barking Owl, Squirrel Glider, Carpet Python and Tree Goanna. Swift Parrots and Regent Honeyeaters (nationally endangered nectarivores) often visit the park over winter and spring to coincide with Mugga Ironbark and White Box flowering.

The open Box–Ironbark Forest of the Killawarra Forest section provides habitat for woodland birds, including Grey Crowned Babblers and Regent Honeyeaters. These birds, and others such as the endangered Swift Parrot, are depleted because of habitat loss on the northern riverine plains of Victoria. The occasional winter flowering of eucalypts attracts a range of nectarivorous birds such as honeyeaters, and parrots and lorikeets. The Heathy Dry Forest of the plateau also supports nectarivores, such as Fuscous Honeyeaters and Yellow-tufted Honeyeaters, but is more widely inhabited by insectivorous forest birds such as Buff-rumped Thornbills, Brown-headed Honeyeaters and Dusky Woodswallows (ECC 1997).

Key threats to fauna and fauna habitat are pest animals, pest plant infestations, plant diseases such as P. cinnamomi (section 4.7) and potential hazards from wildfire and prescribed burning (section 4.6). Agricultural practices and the introduction of pest species have led to the loss of many indigenous species, in particular those native to the northern plains. Fox predation on Carpet Pythons and competition for food is a serious concern due to the limited habitat of this species. Cat predation on birds and small mammals is also of concern. Further subdivision on adjacent land could increase the number of cats around the park. Local municipalities can help reduce the threat that cats pose to the park’s fauna by promoting responsible pet ownership and an overnight cat curfew.

Land clearing, agriculture and subdivision of adjacent land have isolated the park and created a long-term loss of connectivity with other key habitat sites for the park’s fauna. Links with remnant vegetation between the Ovens River and Chesney Hills would help to protect fauna populations in the park.

Aims
- Protect indigenous fauna, particularly threatened species.
- Improve management by increasing knowledge of significant fauna and threatening processes.

Management strategies
- Implement priority actions from approved action statements or recovery plans to address threats to threatened species or communities listed under the FFG and EPBC Acts.
- Encourage research into, and surveys of, threatened fauna including Carpet Python, arboreal mammals and support national programs involving Swift Parrot and Regent Honeyeater.
- Generally exclude fire from Carpet Python habitat, particularly escarpments and large hollow-bearing trees (both alive and dead) and fallen timber.
- Manage visitor activities to minimise impacts on fauna (chapter 6).
- Enhance fauna habitat by revegetating highly modified and cleared areas.
- Maintain linkages to habitat corridors and remnant vegetation on adjoining land, particularly creeklines that link the park to the Ovens River and Chesney Hills (section 4.3).
- Where possible, maximise the protection and development of large hollow-bearing trees (section 4.4).
- Work cooperatively with neighbouring landholders or with relevant government and non-government organisations to coordinate management of threatened fauna habitat within and outside the park.
- Work with DSE, Rural City of Wangaratta, Benalla Rural City and Moira Shire to promote responsible pet ownership.
- Where appropriate, encourage research to identify Indigenous knowledge relating to fauna.
- Reflect Indigenous knowledge of fauna in management practices as appropriate, and
Strategies for natural values conservation

- Respect the cultural obligations of Traditional Owners in relation to fauna and their significance in all management and visitor activities.

- Review current monitoring techniques and identify new sites for monitoring (particularly in the additions to the park such as Killawarra Forest and Boweya sections), which are representative of the park’s values and key fauna habitat in accordance with Parks Victoria protocols.

- Encourage fauna surveys and research into fauna species and enter records into Parks Victoria’s Environmental Information System.

4.6 Fire management

The National Parks Act requires the Secretary to DSE to ensure that appropriate and sufficient measures are taken to protect parks from injury by fire. Current fire protection measures are carried out in accordance with the North East Region Fire Protection Plan (DSE 2003b), the Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land (DSE 2006a), and Parks Victoria’s operational policies.

The North East Region Fire Protection Plan is a strategic work plan to prevent, prepare for, suppress and recover from wildfire on public land in the Shepparton Fire District, which includes the park.

The Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land requires that fire management activities ensure that environmental values, including the vigour and diversity of the State’s indigenous flora, are protected, as far as practical, from the harmful effects of wildfire and inappropriate fire regimes.

The North East Region Fire Protection Plan applies the following three fuel management zones to the park:

- Zone 3 – Broad Area Fuel Reduction Mosaic (most of the park excluding the Reference Areas and Boweya section)
- Zone 4 – Flora and Fauna Management (Boweya section, formerly a Flora Reserve)
- Zone 5 – Exclusion of Prescribed Burning (Warby Range and Killawarra Reference Areas).

Fire in the Australian environment has played a considerable part in the structure of our remnant vegetation communities. Naturally occurring fires caused by lightning and other sources created a fire-adapted ecosystem long before the arrival of humans (Kemp 1981, Singh et al. 1981). The fire history of the park prior to European settlement, particularly the use of fire by Indigenous people, is unknown. However, local Indigenous communities and historical accounts of Indigenous life in northern Victoria by early explorers and settlers indicate that Indigenous people used fire to promote the fresh growth of grass, drive game, protect camp areas and attract grazing fauna (ECC 1997). European settlement changed the fire regime that had operated over a long period of time and replaced it with a more variable pattern of intensity and frequency. Since late 1970s prescribed burning practices have been used in the park as a management tool to reduce the fuel loads and to combat uncontrolled wildfire. This may have impacted on the structure and floristics of vegetation communities.

There are records of three large wildfires in recent times. A fire in 1961–62 burnt 250 ha from Taminick Gap to Chick Hill, a fire in 1989 burnt 950 ha in the middle section of the park around Mt Warby, and a fire in 1991 burnt 250 ha from Tower Rd into the Killawarra Forest section. Several smaller fires (less than 250 ha) have occurred throughout the park, started mainly from lightning strikes, campfires, and prescribed burning on private property adjacent to the park.

Since the 1970s regular prescribed burning has been undertaken, and it has been estimated that around 20% of the park has been burnt over the last 25 years (Barrow pers. comm. 2006).

The park has areas with large numbers of hollow-bearing trees, which are important as wildlife habitat. Hollow trees are particularly vulnerable to fire and require protection during prescribed burning. White Cypress-pines and grass-trees are also vulnerable to damage by fire and require protection. Extensive research into the effects of fire on grass-trees (Curtis 1998, 2003) and some research on the response
Strategies for natural values conservation

of Spur-wing Wattle to fire (Keenan 2001) has been undertaken and is encouraged to continue.

Local park rangers work with adjoining landholders and the CFA to promote joint prescribed burning activities. This has taken place in the 2003–04 and 2004–05 fire seasons. Adjoining landholders are also encouraged to have fire preparedness plans and consider protection measures, such as pumps and sprinklers. This program has been supported by partnerships with local municipal authorities and ‘Living in the Bush’ brochures.

Fire control activities which could be considered threats to the natural features of the park include the construction of control lines and the use of phosphate-based fire retardants. These may result in the fragmentation, modification or loss of native flora, fauna habitat and cultural sites, places, landscapes and objects. The spread of P. cinnamomi in the park must also be considered in all fire management activities in the park (section 4.7). This disease can be carried in soil adhering to vehicle tyres or by earthmoving machinery and tools, and may be spread during fire management operations.

The Draft Warby Ranges Ecological Fire Management Strategy (Parks Victoria 2006b) identifies and prioritises areas within a defined Land Management Unit where fire needs to be introduced or excluded to achieve desired ecological outcomes. The strategy uses a combination of life history characteristics (vital attributes) of key fire response plant species to determine maximum and minimum time intervals between fires. Analysis of age-class and spatial distribution of ecological vegetation classes (EVCs) in the landscape is also undertaken to identify areas that needs to be either protected or exposed to fire. The strategy is an internal working document that guides land managers in the selection of appropriate burn units for both ecological and fuel reduction purposes. Selected burn units are then nominated for listing on DSE’s Fire Operations Plan, which is open for public comment. The strategy will be reviewed once all nominated burns have been implemented or after a significant wildfire event.

Aims

- Protect park values from the deleterious effects of wildfire or inappropriate fire regimes.
- Cooperate with relevant agencies and land managers in the protection of human life, neighbouring properties and assets.
- Identify and implement fire regimes appropriate to the conservation of native species and communities.

Management strategies

- Implement fire protection works in accordance with the North East Fire Protection Plan and the Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land.
- Seek to amend the North East Fire Protection Plan to ensure the protection of known cultural and environmental values during fire management activities.
- In partnership with DSE, work towards the use of prescribed fire to reduce fuel loads – protecting life and property, and to meet ecological and cultural requirements, and seek to update the fire protection plan accordingly.
- Implement the Warby Range State Park Ecological Burns strategy and review according to the Guidelines and Procedures for Ecological Burning on Public Land in Victoria.
- As far as practicable, avoid earthmoving and other suppression operations in sensitive areas including scenic areas, sites of significance, recreation areas and areas infested with P. cinnamomi (section 4.7). Where operations in such areas are unavoidable exercise extreme care to minimise environmental disturbance.
- Undertake fire management works in accordance with the Phytophthora cinnamomi Control Strategy and practice strict hygiene to minimise spread of the disease (section 4.7).
- Continue and encourage research into the impact fire has on natural values of the park in particular Spur-wing Wattle, White Cypress-pine and grass-trees, where possible exclude fire and prescribed
burning from Special Protection Areas—Natural Values (Northern Sandalwood, Spur-wing Wattle and grass-trees) as shown on figure 2.

- Prior to undertaking prescribed burns in the Conservation Zone and Special Protection Area (Grass-trees) review current research of the impacts of fire and amend the operational plan for burns accordingly.
- Work in partnership with adjoining landholders and CFA when planning prescribed burns on boundaries to include private land where possible.
- Liaise with local municipal authorities to develop ‘Living in the Bush’ brochures on fire protection and preparedness.
- Encourage research into Indigenous knowledge relating to use of fire, in cooperation with the Traditional Owners. Reflect Indigenous knowledge in education and management programs as appropriate.
- Ensure that the park’s natural and cultural values and its Indigenous cultural heritage are taken into account in planning and implementing fire protection and management operations.

4.7 Pest plants and animals, and diseases

Pest plants
A number of pest plant species are present within the park. Paterson’s Curse and St John’s Wort are widespread at varying densities throughout the park, especially in areas that have been disturbed or modified by grazing, clearing or timber harvesting. Both these weeds are regional priority weeds in the GBCMA and NECMA Weed Action Plans 2001–2005. St John’s Wort has the potential to have a considerable impact on the structure of the understorey in Granitic Hill Woodlands and Heathly Dry Forest. Chemical and biological control programs have been in place in the park since 1994. Other pest plants of importance include annual grasses such as Quaking Grass, Cootamundra Wattle in the Killawarra Forest section, and some patches of Bridal Creeper. Vectors contributing to the spread and establishment of pest plants in the park include illegally dumped garden refuse, pest animals, vehicles, pest plant infestations on adjacent land, and road and track maintenance.

New weeds have the potential to infest the park from gardens on adjacent private land. Because such weeds could have severe effects on the vegetation of the park, communication with adjoining landholders establishing gardens is encouraged (section 7.2).

Pest animals
A variety of pest animal species have been recorded in the park, including foxes, rabbits, hares, cats, feral pigs and goats. Predation by foxes and cats poses the greatest threat to the fauna in the park, in particular reptiles such as Tree Goanna and the endangered Carpet Python and small mammals such as the Squirrel Glider and Sugar Glider. The woodland bird communities in the Killawarra Forest section are also at high risk from foxes and cats, especially threatened ground-dwelling species such as the Bush Stone-curlew and Speckled Warbler, which are occasionally found on the fringe of the park (NRE 2002a). Fox control programs have been undertaken in the park since 1993 and are working to reduce impacts on fauna as well as domestic stock on neighbouring properties.

Rabbit numbers fluctuate over time, but the Rabbit Buster programs conducted throughout the 1990s reduced the numbers significantly. Warby Range State Park is considered to be a high priority by Parks Victoria because of the susceptibility of Granitic Hills Woodland to rabbit impact (DSE 2003c). Since rabbit calicivirus disease (RCD) was first recorded in the park in 1996, rabbit numbers have declined. Seasonal fluctuations of rabbit numbers are monitored.

Study into the Portuguese Millipede (*Ommatoiulus moreleti*) has shown it is severely impacting on bryophytes and lichens in the park, but its impact on the overall ecosystem is still unknown (Smith 2003). The millipede is thought to be increasing in abundance and distribution. Further research and monitoring is needed to determine other impacts and effective treatments.
The Warby Range State Park Pest Animal Control Plan (NRE 1996) and Warby Range State Park Pest Plant Control Plan (NRE 1994) were written to guide management activities for the park. These plans need to be updated to address changes to the park area and priorities. Priorities for control programs are pest plants and animals that pose a high potential risk to the ecological values of the park, particularly foxes, St John’s Wort, Paterson’s Curse and new and emerging weeds. Conservation objectives for the park will focus management effort on weed-free areas and on controlling infestations that may encroach upon clean areas.

Plant diseases

*Phytophthora cinnamomi* is a soil-borne plant pathogen that attacks several plant species in the park. It is listed as a threatening process under the FFG and the EPBC Acts. Grass-trees, Daphne Heath and Nodding Blue-lily are particularly susceptible and can be used as indicators of the disease’s presence in the park. The effect on vegetation is noticeable through dieback and eventual death of the plant, while the effects on fauna such as birds and arboreal mammals could be the loss of nesting sites, loss of food from seeds and nectar, and changes in invertebrate populations as a food source (CEM 2002a). The rate of spread of the disease in Warby Range State Park is not fully known. Research in other areas has shown passive spread to be up to two metres downslope per annum through subsurface and surface water flow (CEM 2002b). Human activity is the most significant factor in the rapid spread of the disease and its spread to new areas. Road construction and maintenance, fire control works, horses, walkers and vehicles can move infected soil to new parts of the park. Isolating known infestations and employing strict hygiene practices when leaving infected areas is the most appropriate method of control. Sterilisation of vehicles and machinery with a chlorine-based wash after working in infected areas is currently undertaken by local staff. Treatment of infected plants and soil (including grass-trees) with phosphonate has been trialled in some areas, but further research into its impact on other vegetation needs to be undertaken before broadscale treatment is attempted.

*Armillaria* fungus is suspected to have caused the dieback and death of trees at some sites within the park. The fungus attacks the overstorey species, leaving the affected site with little canopy and susceptible to invasion by weeds.

Aims

- Control and where possible eradicate pest plants, animals and diseases from the park.
- Minimise the impact of control programs on native flora and fauna.
- Restore native vegetation in areas affected by pest plants, animals or diseases.

Management strategies

- Review and implement the Warby Range State Park Pest Animal Control Plan and the Warby Range State Park Pest Plant Control Plan to reflect changes in the park size and:
  - priority species — St John’s Wort, Paterson’s Curse and new and emerging species
  - priority zones — areas free from infestations and infestations adjacent to weed free areas.
- Use control methods that minimise disturbance to soil and avoid the use of chemicals during wildfire suppression, fuel reduction burning, and road and facility maintenance, in accordance with Parks Victoria operational guidelines.
- Control or eradicate pest plant and animal species in accordance with the following priorities:
  - protect fauna such as reptiles and arboreal mammals from foxes
  - control St John’s Wort within the park, in particular Granite Hill Woodlands and Heathy Dry Forest
  - control Paterson’s Curse in disturbed areas and the private land interface
  - eradicate new or emerging weeds before they become established
• control priority weeds listed under the CALP Act and regional priority weeds for GBCMA and NECMA.

• Liaise and coordinate pest plant and animal control programs, particularly for foxes, with adjacent land managers and GBCMA and NECMA.

• Liaise with local municipalities in a program to communicate with new and existing park neighbours to promote the planting of endemic plant species and alert them to the potential of environmental weeds.

• Encourage research into the effects of the Portuguese Millipede and plant pathogens, and control methods.

• Review and implement a Phytophthora cinnamomi management strategy that includes:
  • containing the spread of plant pathogens in the park by practising hygiene strategies and managing recreation activities that might spread the disease
  • closing affected tracks to all vehicles, cyclists, horses and bushwalkers from 1 June to 30 November inclusive
  • identifying and recording the areas affected by plant pathogens in the park
  • working closely with municipalities, neighbours, user groups and other agencies to optimise containment measures
  • revegetating sites affected by plant pathogens.

• Work with relevant Indigenous communities to ensure that Indigenous places and sites are not adversely affected by management activities such as rabbit control programs.

• Record all pest plant, animal and disease control activities in the park in Parks Victoria’s Environmental Information System.
5 STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL VALUES CONSERVATION

5.1 Indigenous cultural heritage

The park is part of Country of the Pangerang and Kwat Kwat (Waveroo) people. Before the arrival of Europeans, food resources were abundant around the park in the rivers and swamps and surrounding landscape. The range would have been used from time to time by small hunting parties or by larger groups that moved through the lower passes, stopping where water was predictable and plentiful in the nearby springs (Freslov 2002).

A survey of the Indigenous cultural heritage of the park in 2002 found evidence of isolated artefacts, several rock wells and a scar tree (Freslov 2002). There is evidence of an occupation site at a spring on the eastern boundary of the park at Taminick Gap, including evidence of stone tool making (Briggs pers. comm.). Other sites were found on freehold land adjacent to the park, near reliable springs.

The arrival of Europeans had a significant impact on Indigenous communities through disease, massacres, dispossession, and forced removal of people to missions and reserves (ECC 2001). The disturbance caused by European settlement could explain the present-day scarcity of sites. The Killawarra Forest section was not included in the most recent survey, but it is known to have the highest density of recorded sites for the area (Freslov 2002).

The Yorta Yorta people applied for a native title determination, which concluded in 2002, over an area that included the park. The outcome of the determination and subsequent litigation was the extinguishment of native title across all land within the Yorta Yorta claim, including the park. A Yorta Yorta Cooperative Management Agreement signed in June 2004 covers approximately 50,000 ha of public land in the area, but does not include reference to the park.

Places and objects are integral to the Dreaming of the Traditional Owners and are important to Indigenous people. Associating a traditional Indigenous name with the park could be a way of further recognising and encouraging greater respect for Indigenous values and knowledge. Victoria’s Registrar of Geographic Names encourages the use of Indigenous names and offers a process to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate to the area and has the agreement of relevant Indigenous communities.

All Indigenous places and objects are protected under the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972 (Vic.) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984 (Cwlth). Issues relating to the protection of Indigenous cultural heritage and the involvement of the scheduled Aboriginal community are approached in accordance with these Acts.

It is an offence to damage, interfere with or endanger an Aboriginal site, place or object without obtaining prior written consent from the scheduled Aboriginal community, which is the Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative.

Parks Victoria respects views of the Traditional Owners and seeks to reflect their knowledge, interests, rights and aspirations for Country in planning and management of the park (Parks Victoria 2006a).

Aims

- Protect Indigenous cultural heritage from interference or damaging activities.
- Support the views of the Traditional Owners in managing the park.

Management strategies

- Protect Indigenous places and objects from disturbance and damage in partnership with the Traditional Owners, and in cooperation with the scheduled Aboriginal community and AAV (section 8.3), and in accordance with:
  - the provisions of relevant legislation, including the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act
  - Parks Victoria’s Guidelines for Working with Aboriginal Communities

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Assess annual park programs to integrate relevant Indigenous practices and minimise potential impacts of park management activities on Indigenous cultural heritage, in consultation with the Traditional Owners and the scheduled Aboriginal community.

Maintain confidentiality in respect of Indigenous cultural obligations, knowledge, places, objects and aspirations, in accordance with the views of the Traditional Owners (section 6.1 and 8.2).

Respect the views of the Traditional Owners and the cultural obligations of Indigenous communities.

Reflect/Integrate the Traditional Owners’ knowledge, interests, rights and aspirations for Country in all planning and management of the park in consultation with the scheduled Aboriginal community and in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies (sections 4.1, 4.4, 4.5, 6.1, 7.1 and 8.2).

Work with the Traditional Owners to assess and identify Indigenous cultural heritage suitable for promotion and interpretation (sections 6.1 and 8.3).

Liaise with relevant Indigenous communities and Indigenous support groups to investigate the application of a traditional Indigenous name for the park.

5.2 Post-settlement cultural heritage

Historic and cultural places are managed in accordance with the Heritage Act 1995 (Vic.), the Burra Charter (Australia ICOMOS 1999) and Parks Victoria’s Heritage Management Strategy (Parks Victoria 2003). Heritage Victoria has primary responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Heritage Act. Parks Victoria and Heritage Victoria have signed a formal memorandum of understanding to achieve mutual objectives for heritage conservation.

Warby Falls Weir and Race Heritage Action Plan (Vines 2001) outlines measures to restore and protect the site from threats, including damage from water, fire, rabbits, visitor impacts, and lack of use and maintenance. A walking track and interpretive display at the site are to be developed (section 6.4).

During the latter half of the 19th century, the Warby Range was the haunt of bushrangers, including the Kelly Gang and Mad Dog Morgan, who used Mt Glenrowan as a lookout. Rowens Gap at the southern end of the park was named after the Rowen brothers, who in 1846 occupied Springs or Rowens run. The township that developed on the western fall of their run was named Glen Rowen, and the parish was named Glenrowen. Over time the spelling was corrupted to Glen Rowen.

Community action resulted in its permanent protection as a State Park in 1978 (section 1.2).

The Warby Range was used for grazing, and for timber production that yielded construction timber, firewood and fence posts. The northern section of the range was a State Forest used for timber harvesting until 1989, when it was reserved as a State Park. Apiculture, including the wintering of hives, has been practiced in the Warby Range for 120 years.

The subdivision of land for orchards, clearing of the range for agriculture (a government requirement for land acquisition) and the possibility of mining after World War 2 led to concerns for the future of the Warby Range. Community action resulted in its permanent protection as a State Park in 1978 (section 1.2).

The Warby Fire Tower, at the north end of the park, was built in response to local concerns after widespread fires in 1939 and 1943. The tower was last used in 1991–92, and was
dismantled in 2000. A survey trig point close to the fire tower site was constructed by an engineering unit of the Australian Army in 1946.

Pink granite was quarried from the range for the construction of a number of buildings in Wangaratta, including the Anglican Cathedral, which began in 1909. The quarry site, at the end of Dellaro Rd, can still be seen today.

**Killawarra Forest and Boweya sections**

Named after squatter Edward Greene’s Killawarra run (1841), the former Killawarra State Forest comprised Crown land and four freehold blocks along Irishtown Creek. The last of these properties was purchased by the Crown in 1924. For many years the Forest was administered by a forester who lived in a house near Selection Track. A few bricks are all that remain of the house.

As a young man, Ned Kelly worked at a sawmill in the southern part of the forest, operated by Heach and Dockendorf. They operated between Mt Killawarra and the Ovens River, taking out timber for railway sleepers for the first section of the Wangaratta–Beechworth branch line (Jones 1995).

During the Depression (1932–34), three Forests Commission tent camps were set up in the forest. These employed up to 20 men at a time to cut green timber for firewood, which was transported to Melbourne via the train at Peechelba East (Frost pers. comm. 2005).

During World War 2, male migrants who were not naturalised were interned in camps established throughout Australia. Two camps were built in the Killawarra Forest section, each housing up to 40 Italian migrants. Contemporary pictures show the forest bare of understorey, and large felled or ringbarked trees. Most of the present-day trees in the forest are regrowth from this period, although some older large trees remain.

A charcoal kiln off Charcoal Track, operated by Gepharts, used dead trees and dry timber. The ironbark charcoal produced from the kiln was not as high a quality as Red Gum charcoal produced elsewhere (Frost pers. comm.).

Post-war uses of the forest included grazing, post and pole cutting, and firewood collection. Grazing was excluded in the 1980s, and firewood collection continued until 2003. Apiculture commenced in the forests in 1882, and the range is still a valuable honey producing and wintering area.

Timber production in the former Boweya Flora Reserve was similar to that of the former Killawarra State Forest. The last commercial wood was removed in 1985, when the area was reserved for the protection of flora.

Because of the number and variety of post-settlement cultural heritage places in the park, there is a need for a heritage action statement to guide the management of significant places.

**Aims**

- Conserve and protect places of historic and cultural significance.
- Provide opportunities for people to learn about and understand the heritage values of the park.

**Management strategies**

- Support research into social history, technological change, past land uses and their impact on the park, and the significance of particular heritage places.
- Document heritage places, particularly in the Killawarra Forest section, and record the information in Parks Victoria’s information systems.
- Manage the Warby Falls weir and race in accordance with the Heritage Action Plan (Vines 2001).
- Improve access for historic sites, in particular the Warby Falls weir and race (section 6.4).
- Interpret the park’s notable historic places, including the Warby Fire Tower, Warby Falls race and weir, Killawarra sawmill site and charcoal kiln site, to give an insight into the European post-settlement use of the park’s resources (section 6.1).
- Develop a Heritage Action Statement for the park’s significant heritage places that addresses threats and ongoing maintenance requirements, including for The Forest Camp, Sawmill, Warby Fire Tower and historic granite quarry.
6 STRATEGIES FOR VISITORS

6.1 Information, interpretation and education

Providing information, interpretation and education can help orientate and inform visitors. This will foster an understanding and appreciation of the park’s special natural and cultural values, build understanding of management activities and help visitors to experience, understand and appreciate the park in a safe and appropriate manner. Parks Victoria delivers information, interpretation and education to visitors by various means, including its website, Park Notes, signage, tourism brochures and other publications, displays, ranger patrols, and licensed tour operators. These services may be developed and provided in collaboration with other agencies.

Although many of Victoria’s parks and reserves play an integral role in the delivery of nature-based tourism, many of the Box-Ironbark parks are unlikely to become a key destination themselves. However, Warby Range State Park could become a valuable complementary product to existing regional tourism products. The North East Regional Development Tourism Development Plan outlines the strategic, product and infrastructure directions for the north-eastern region. Nature-based tourism is one of the major attractions in the region. Parks managed by Parks Victoria play a large role in this throughout the year. Parks Victoria’s role in tourism is to work in partnership with the tourism industry and local municipal authorities to promote and facilitate appropriate and sustainable tourism (Tourism Victoria 2004).

Pre-visit information

Parks Victoria provides pre-visit information, including activities and facilities, via its website (www.parkweb.vic.gov.au). The park is promoted as having ideal conditions for bushwalking as well as excellent vantage points along the ridge, which provide views of the high country and snow fields in winter. These aspects are described in a Park Note, available via the website and also distributed through the Tourism Visitor Information Centres in Wangaratta and Benalla. The Park Note gives additional information on the park’s significant natural and cultural values and a map showing the key visitor attractions. Information displays at the Visitor Information Centres would help increase awareness and promotion of the park in the region. Because of an increasing focus on nature-based tourism in the north-east, there is also an opportunity for commercial operators to complement this promotion of the park’s values and appropriate visitor behaviours.

There are opportunities to add to this promotion through the increased regional interest in cultural heritage. Glenrowan is a major destination for visitors interested in the Kelly Gang, and the Warby Range is an integral part of the Kelly story. The North East Regional Development Tourism Plan (Tourism Victoria 2004) lists the development of a ‘Kelly Story Centre’ at Glenrowan as a statewide priority project. The centre will be the home for key artefacts, interpretation of key elements of the Kelly story and a base for commemorative events. It is also intended to act as a hub for a ‘Ned Kelly Touring Route’ that would span many townships and promote the attractions of heritage features such as Mt Glenrowan and areas of natural beauty managed by Parks Victoria, including the park.

On-site information and orientation

The park has many entry points, particularly the Killawarra Forest section in the north, which has twelve. Pre-visit information directs visitors to the major visitor sites where information boards are provided: Ryans Lookout, Pine Gully Picnic Area and The Forest Camp. These information boards provide information on the park and permitted activities as well as a location map and suggested activities for the site. There are no information boards at Wenhams Camp, Briens Gorge Falls and Warby Tower Lookout, which are becoming more popular with visitors.

Signage throughout the park is generally of a high standard, with most tracks signposted and management vehicle only tracks clearly marked. Walking tracks at Wenhams Camp,
Pine Gully and The Forest Camp are clearly marked with directional arrows and some interpretive signs. Friends Walking Track, which was developed by the Friends of the Warbys, has interpretive signage describing features along the walk. Walk information pamphlets are available at the start of the Friends Walking Track and Springtime Wildflower Walk. Signs identifying the risk posed by *P. cinnamomi* and the seasonal closure of affected tracks need to be upgraded.

**Interpretation and schools education**

Park staff, tour operators and community groups deliver interpretive programs relating to the park’s natural and cultural values. Rangers provide interpretive activities for school and community groups on request whenever possible, and also prepare presentations and newsletter articles for Friends groups and other park users such as 4WD and car clubs.

School and outdoor education groups conduct activities in the park at Wenhams Camp and other visitor sites. More detailed education material for primary and secondary schools is available via Parks Victoria’s website. The Box–Ironbark Education Kit is being upgraded in conjunction with DSE and catchment management authorities. Involving local schools and Indigenous groups in the future development of interpretive material will further develop their partnerships with the park and help to promote conservation and sound use of the park.

**Aims**

- Promote and encourage visitors’ discovery, enjoyment and appreciation of the park’s natural and cultural values in a safe and appropriate manner through information, interpretation and education.
- Encourage public support for parks and park management practices.

**Management strategies**

- Provide pre-visit information through continued support of the Wangaratta and Benalla Visitor Information Centres. Further develop promotional material used at the centre including visual displays.
- Seek to provide pre-visit and other information at the proposed development of the Kelly Story Centre in Glenrowan.
- Provide interpretation and education programs through Park Web information, improved information signage at key locations (table 4), and face-to-face ranger contact. Promote key messages about:
  - flora and fauna values
  - Indigenous and historic heritage
  - landscape.
- Develop stimulating and innovative approaches to the presentation of the values of the park, including threatened flora and fauna and its cultural heritage.
- Maintain visitor signage at key locations in the park (table 4) to assist with orientation and to provide information about park features and recreational opportunities. Subject to increasing demand, develop information boards at Wenhams Camp, Warby Tower Lookout and Briens Gorge Falls.
- Develop interpretive signage at the historic granite quarry site.
- Upgrade signage on tracks seasonally closed because of Phytophthora.
- Promote greater public understanding appreciation of, and respect for, Indigenous culture by incorporating information about Indigenous tradition, places and objects in information, interpretation and education programs in collaboration with the Traditional Owners (sections 5.1 and 8.2).
- Provide appropriate opportunities to encourage and support Indigenous communities to participate in the interpretation of Indigenous cultural heritage relating to the park, with the agreement of the Traditional Owners (section 8.2).
Host park visits for regional tourism stakeholders to familiarise them with park opportunities, and to explore the role of the park in complementing regional tourism products and experiences.

Inform visitors of appropriate behaviour during their park visit, to conserve and protect park values and maximise visitor safety, and encourage them to adopt minimal-impact techniques and to adhere to codes of conduct appropriate to their activity.

Continue to allow sustainable educational use by school and community groups. Ensure school and formal interpretative groups adopt the minimal-impact guidelines.

Encourage local educational institutions, Indigenous groups and activity groups to assist in the development of interpretive information.

Regularly evaluate information and interpretive programs relating to the park.

Promote Indigenous cultural awareness among recreational user groups, particularly where there is potential for adverse impacts on cultural values from an activity.

Use Indigenous language for natural features, plants and animals in interpretive material and signs, and encourage the discussion on the incorporation of Indigenous names into the park.

6.2 Vehicle access

Access to the park is mainly via three primary roads — Boweya Rd, Wangaratta–Devenish Rd and Taminick Gap Rd — which divide the park from east to west into four sections (figure 3). These sealed roads are managed by the Rural City of Wangaratta and Benalla Rural City, and are the major routes from Wangaratta, Benalla and Glenrowan. Major sealed roads also run parallel to the park from north to south (Glenrowan–Boweya Rd on the west and Warby Range Rd and Yarrawonga Rd on the east). A large number of secondary roads also provide access into the park.

Most of the park is readily accessible by 2WD roads. There is an extensive network of over 230 km of roads and tracks in the park, giving good access for a range of recreational activities including vehicle-based day touring, cycling, horse riding and walking. About 130 km of unsealed tracks are open to the public. The remainder are maintained for management purposes, which allow access for fire management, conservation and pest control activities (table 3). Many of these tracks were developed for fire protection and past uses such as agriculture and timber harvesting. The Killawarra Forest section has a recent history of timber harvesting, which led to many informal tracks that are no longer necessary for management or access. These tracks have resulted in significant fragmentation of vegetation and habitats (CEM 2005). Rationalisation and closure of some tracks will help reduce fragmentation and protect the park’s natural values.

Popular touring routes by day visitors include: Garrets Rd into Wenhams Camp, Adams Rd to Spring Creek Picnic area, and Camp Rd and Centre Rd in the Killawarra Forest section. There is parking for buses at Warby Tower Lookout. The park’s roads are also used as through routes to private land and for travel to and from places west of Wangaratta, including Thoona, Lake Mokoan and Wilby.

The Killawarra Forest section of the park is popular with car rally enthusiasts. Consistent with the Recreation Framework for Box–Ironbark Public Land (DSE 2003a), car rallies approved by the Confederation of Australian Motor Sports (CAMS) with time and/or speed components will continue to be permitted in the Killawarra Forest section of the park. CAMS-approved car rallies without time and/or speed components may be permitted throughout the park.

The park is used occasionally for trail-bike riding, including legal riding on public roads and illegal riding of unregistered vehicles off roads. The noise associated with trail-bike riding can disturb wildlife and visitors, and illegal riding off roads causes soil disturbance and loss of native vegetation, promotes soil erosion and can spread pathogens such as Phytophthora.
The presence of \textit{P. cinnamomi} in the park influences the management of roads and tracks, including seasonal closures, and the timing of management activities in infected areas (section 4.7; tables 3 and 5).

**Aims**

- Provide and maintain a safe and sustainable network of vehicle tracks appropriate for visitor use and management.
- Minimise the impact of vehicle and track management on the park’s cultural and natural values.
- Provide a range of opportunities for recreational driving while minimising the impact on park values.

**Management strategies**

- Manage roads and tracks in accordance with table 3 and the park’s management directions (figure 3).
- Liaise with the Rural City of Wangaratta and Benalla Rural City to ensure a cooperative approach to the maintenance of park access roads, and adoption of hygiene measures to contain \textit{P. cinnamomi}.
- Close and rehabilitate informal tracks no longer necessary for management to reduce fragmentation within the park and promote connectivity of habitat (table 3).
- Permit CAMS-approved car rallies without time and/or speed components on open vehicle tracks in suitable areas of the park that are free of \textit{P. cinnamomi} (table 3), in accordance with Parks Victoria operational policies.
- Permit CAMS-approved car rallies with time and/or speed components on open vehicle tracks in suitable parts of the Killawarra Forest section of the park only.
- Ensure permit conditions for CAMS-approved car rallies address frequency, timing, locations and repair of damage to minimise impacts on park values and other park visitors.
- Work with CAMS to establish methods for advising the wider community of potential conflicts between car rallies and other park users.
- Promote Four Wheel Drive Victoria’s Code of Ethics for the use of 4WD vehicles in the park.
- Encourage trail-bike riders to adopt minimal impact guidelines outlined in the Trail Bike Riding Code (DSE 2003d).
- Ensure that hygiene measures in relation to \textit{P. cinnamomi} are adhered to by all staff and contractors working in affected areas to minimise spread (section 4.7).
- Seasonally close tracks with known \textit{P. cinnamomi} presence to all traffic from the 1 June to 30 November inclusive (table 3).

**6.3 Visitor site activities**

Visitors are attracted by the scenic viewing and natural values found in the park. The main day visitor areas are Ryans Lookout, Pine Gully Picnic Area, Briens Gorge Falls, Wenhams Camp, and The Forest Camp in the Killawarra Forest section.

Activities in the park include bushwalking, car touring, bird-watching, nature observation, horse riding, bike riding, searching for gemstones, picnicking and camping.

A range of day-visitor facilities, including toilets, are provided at Ryans Lookout, Wenhams Camp, Pine Gully Picnic Area and The Forest Camp. Fireplaces and/or picnic tables are provided at Briens Gorge Falls, Spring Creek, Warby Tower Lookout and two sites on Tower Rd (table 4).

Camping with limited facilities is promoted at Wenhams Camp and The Forest Camp (section 6.5). Camping with more facilities is available at caravan parks in Wangaratta and in State forest areas along the Ovens and Murray Rivers.

Impressive views of the surrounding landscape are accessed via a structure at Ryans Lookout and vantage points at Mt Killawarra, Mt Glenrowan, Warby Tower, Pangerang and Kwat Kwat Lookouts (table 4).
## TABLE 3  PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF VEHICLE ACCESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROAD NAME</th>
<th>CURRENT CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>PROPOSED CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>ACTION /COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed by Benalla Rural City</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Road (adj. private prop)</td>
<td>5D, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>From corner of Gerretts Rd to end of private property on Adams Road provides access to private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baileys Road (west of barrier)</td>
<td>5C, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>From west of steel barrier, provides access to park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boweya Road</td>
<td>5A, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Through sealed road provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devenish–Wangaratta Road</td>
<td>5A, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Sealed road through park, provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Griffiths Track</td>
<td>5B, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Unsealed road providing access to private property adjacent to park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taminick Gap Road</td>
<td>5A, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Through sealed road provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed by Rural City of Wangaratta</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boweya Creek Road</td>
<td>5B, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Sealed road adjacent to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boweya Road</td>
<td>5C, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Through sealed road adjacent to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devenish–Wangaratta Road</td>
<td>5A, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Sealed road through park, provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerretts Road</td>
<td>5B, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Unsealed road providing access to private property adjacent to park.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grandview Drive</td>
<td>5C, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Unsealed road provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taminick Gap Road</td>
<td>5A, M2</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Through sealed road provides access to park and private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Managed by Parks Victoria</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adams Road</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allans Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy</td>
<td>Accessed through private property, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allans East Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>Accessed through private property, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allans West Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>Accessed through private property, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back Salisbury Falls Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baileys Road (east of barrier)</td>
<td>5C, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5C, MV</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management road is blocked by steel barrier.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Springs Access Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access to Black Springs and used for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blakelys Track*</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Part of pest animal baiting control program, has P. cinnamomi present and should not be accessed in wet conditions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluff Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boilerwood Track</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3 cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROAD NAME</th>
<th>CURRENT CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>PROPOSED CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>ACTION /COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Booth Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Main track to Wenhams Camp, important for park network, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boweya Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briens Gorge Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Only access to Briens Gorge Falls provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronds Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. No change, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronds Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>East of Selection Track, track becomes unsuitable to drive in wet conditions, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By-Pass (east)</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>East of Selection Track, track becomes unsuitable to drive in wet conditions, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By-Pass (west)</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only. West of Selection Track, track becomes unsuitable to drive in wet conditions, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Main access to The Forest Camp from Wangaratta, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casuarina Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellar Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management, track ends at private land boundary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Main access to The Forest Camp from Peechelba provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charcoal Track (west of North West Track)</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as only 4WD access only. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charcoal Track (east of North West Track)</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chick Hill Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colson Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cox Road (southern section to MVO)</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. From Tower Rd to start of MVO, provides access to Warby Tower Lookout and for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cox Road (northern section to barrier)</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>From start of MVO to Cox Track, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cox Track (between barriers)</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Between Tower Rd and Cox Rd barriers on each end of track except when shooting range is active, as shown by red flags.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as only 4WD access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferris Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Tower Lookout Access</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Main access to Warby Tower Lookout, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foothills Track</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management. Track suitable for use in dry weather only as it is prone to erosion and near P. cinnamom infestation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frosts Lane</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all-weather access. No change, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3 cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROAD NAME</th>
<th>CURRENT CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>PROPOSED CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</th>
<th>ACTION /COMMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frosts Track</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Upgrade to standard suitable for 2WD access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gap Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gepharts Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granite Track*</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management. Track is prone to erosion and P. cinnamomi and should be used in dry weather only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grey Box Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoysteads Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management. Track is prone to P. cinnamomi infestation and should be used in dry weather only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunkins Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irishtown Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Langford Track</td>
<td>4C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link Track (Killawarra Forest section)</td>
<td>5D, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link Track</td>
<td>5D, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logger Lane</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marys Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moonlight Track</td>
<td>4D, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management, no cycling or horse riding allowed, some of track is on private property.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Killawarra Track</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrow Track</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nason Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Night Jar Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West Lane</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orchard Track</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangarang Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management also used as walking track to Pangerang Lookout.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parallel Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peregrine Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perimeter Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perimeter Track (Killawarra Forest section)</td>
<td>5D, M2</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peters Track</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Gully Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5C, M2</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Main access to Pine Gully Picnic Area provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Patch Track</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipeline Track</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Track</td>
<td>5B/E, MV, Cy</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Sealed road to communication towers, provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Table 3 cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ROAD NAME</strong></th>
<th><strong>CURRENT CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</strong></th>
<th><strong>PROPOSED CLASSIF’N &amp; USE</strong></th>
<th><strong>ACTION /COMMENT</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandy Creek Track</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sargents Road</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School House Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short Cut Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skeets Track*</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot Mill Track</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spurwing Track*</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stypandra Track*</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>5E, MV, Ho</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarrawalla Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taylors Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Track</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Road</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wallaby Hill Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watts Track*</td>
<td>5E, M4, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5E, MV</td>
<td>Maintain as access for fire and park management only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenhams Access Track</td>
<td>5C, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Maintain all weather access. Main access to Wenhams Camp provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Track</td>
<td>5D, M2, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>no change</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodland Track</td>
<td>5D, MV, Cy/Ho</td>
<td>5D, MV</td>
<td>Provides access for fire and park management.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Key:**

**Classification**

- **5A** Primary Road — all weather, two-laned, mainly sealed road.
- **5B** Secondary Road — all weather, two-laned formed and gravelled, or single lane sealed with gravel shoulders.
- **5C** Minor Road — Single lane unsealed, formed road usually lightly gravelled.
- **5D** Access Track — Single lane, dry weather formed (from natural materials).
- **5E** Rough Track — Single lane, unformed earth track at or near the natural surface.

**Use**

- **M2** Public access, 2WD and 4WD
- **M4** Public access, 4WD
- **MV** Management vehicles only
- **Cy** Cycling (incl. mountain bikes)
- **Ho** Horses

* Dry weather only - no access to vehicles, cyclists, horses and walkers June 1st – November 30th because of risk of erosion and spread of *P. cinnamomi*

**Notes**

- Walkers permitted on all vehicle tracks
- CAMS approved rallies are permitted on open tracks through consultation with Parks Victoria
The Mount Bruno Picnic has been held on the site of Mount Bruno Recreation Reserve, now part of the park, for over 100 years. The annual event is organised by a committee of community volunteers (section 8.2).

**Aim**
- Establish and maintain visitor facilities that enhance visitor enjoyment and are consistent with the protection of park values.

**Management strategies**
- *Provide and maintain visitor facilities in accordance with table 4 and figure 3.*
- *Continue to permit the annual Mount Bruno Picnic in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational guidelines, and liaise with the organising committee to facilitate the event.*

### 6.4 Bushwalking

The park has a network of walking tracks for exploring the diverse vegetation, rocky valleys and scenic views (table 5 and figure 3). Self-guided nature trails at Pine Gully and the Friends Walking Track at Wenhams Camp describe and explain the park’s natural values through interpretive signage.

The Friends Walking Track gives access to spectacular views at Kwat Kwat Lookout and a range from short easy walks to longer, more challenging walks. Walks of 2 km to 10 km start from Wenhams Camp, linking to the Alpine Views Track and roads such as Boilerwood Track, Taylors Track and Booths Rd. This network of tracks can also be accessed from the walk to Salisbury Falls that starts at Shanley St, at the bottom of the range. A proposed extension linking Briens Gorge Falls to Wenhams Camp would join the Friends Walking Track and showcase the eastern escarpment of the range.

The Sunrise Walking Track complex offers a variety of options, including walks of up to three hours. Three alternative routes allow walkers to explore the largely undisturbed bushland on the plateau. The historic granite quarry can be accessed from the tracks and provides panoramic views of the Alps and Ovens Valley.

The walk along the management track to Mount Glenrowan is also a popular track used by visitors. It follows the ridge for 4.5 km from Taminick Gap to the park’s highest vantage point of 514 m. The lookout provides a superb view of the town of Glenrowan. It was used by the bushranger Dan Morgan and is often referred to as Morgans Lookout. The 2 km walk to Pangerang Lookout provides views of the western side of the range, and looks out across the northern inland plains of Victoria to the Murray River.

The 3.6 km Springtime Wildflower Walk is a loop track starting from The Forest Camp in the Killawarra Forest section. The walk is especially popular when the ground cover of native orchids comes to life in spring with colourful flowers. The track’s uniform gradient allows access for people with reduced mobility, but minor upgrading along the entire length would improve access.

The Warby Falls Walking Track could be developed to give walkers access to an historic water race and weir site and explore remnants of early European settlement (section 5.2). There is also potential to develop the Warby Way Walking Track, following the range from Mt Glenrowan all the way to the Killawarra Forest section. This could link all parts of the park in a continuous network using existing tracks, subject to an agreement for access across freehold land at Taminick Gap and south of Mt Glenrowan.

The Friends of the Warbys are developing an arboretum of plants native to the Warby Range. A short walk (100 m) through the arboretum allows visitors to see many species, such as grass-trees and Spur-wing Wattles.

Bushwalking during wet periods through areas infected with *P. cinnamomi* is likely to spread the disease further through the park. Tracks near infected areas will be subject to seasonal closures that will apply to all traffic and walkers (tables 3 and 5, and section 4.7). Walking off-track in other areas particularly along animal and old access tracks can also lead erosion and fragmentation of habitats.
### TABLE 4  CURRENT AND PROPOSED VISITOR FACILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SITE</th>
<th>CURRENT LOS</th>
<th>PROPOSED LOS</th>
<th>TOILET</th>
<th>PICNIC TABLE</th>
<th>FIRE PLACE</th>
<th>PARK INFO</th>
<th>SHELTER</th>
<th>LOOKOUT</th>
<th>CAR/BUS PARKING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camping areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Forest Camp</td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E/E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenhams Camp</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Mid</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E/E</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other visitor sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt Killawarra</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warby Tower Lookout</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E/E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Creek Picnic Area</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangerang Lookout</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryans Lookout</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Gully Picnic Area</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briens Gorge Falls</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Road North</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tower Road South</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kwat Kwat Lookout</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–/–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mt Glenrowan</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>Very Basic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–/–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key:
- E Existing facility
- P Provide facility
- R Remove facility
- U Upgrade/update facility
- – No facility

Levels of service (LOS):
- High: High level of visitor facilities and amenities provided.
- Mid: Moderate level of visitor facilities and amenities provided.
- Basic: Limited visitor facilities and amenities provided.
- Very Basic: Little or no visitor facilities provided.
- –: No facility

### Aim
- Provide and maintain a range of walking opportunities from short easy walks to challenging walks to enhance visitors’ experience in the park, while minimising impacts on natural values.

### Management strategies
- Upgrade Briens Gorge Track and develop a walking track from Briens Gorge to Wenhams Camp.
- Develop Warby Falls Track and include interpretation of the historic water race and weir (section 5.2).
- Upgrade the Springtime Wildflower Walk to provide better access for visitors with limited mobility.
- Develop interpretation signs at the historic granite quarry site.
• Develop the ‘Warby Way Walking Track’ linking Mt Glenrowan to the Killawarra Forest section, in conjunction with the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs (FVWC), other bushwalking groups, volunteers, Friends of the Warbys.

• Seek an agreement for access across private land at Taminick Gap and south of Mt Glenrowan to provide a continuous walking link through the park.

• Promote the FVWC’s Tread Softly minimal impacts and bushwalking ethics.

• Monitor the impact of walking activities, particularly on old access tracks, animal trails and around Phytophthora-infested areas (section 4.7) and close and rehabilitate informal walking tracks to protect park values.

6.5 Camping

There are car-based designated camping areas in the park at Wenhams Camp and The Forest Camp (Killawarra Forest section). Toilets and fireplaces at these sites are sometimes used by individuals and small groups. Black Springs and a site off Tower Rd (both without facilities) are the most suitable sites for walk-in camping for people without vehicles. Dispersed walk-in camping is allowed elsewhere in the park, except in the Reference Areas and Special Protection and Special Management Areas (section 3.2). The limited availability of water is a constraint for camping throughout the park.

Firewood collection for use in existing fireplaces is permitted within the park’s Conservation and Recreation Zone.

Aim
• Provide opportunities for a range of camping experiences consistent with the protection of park values.

Management strategies
• Continue to maintain camping facilities in accordance with table 4 and promote walk-in camping at Black Springs and Tower Road. Monitor impacts and use and minimise impacts on park values.

• Encourage dispersed camping throughout the park by bushwalkers, with guidance from Parks Victoria staff. Do not allow dispersed camping within 100 m of roads or within 50 m of designated camping areas, visitor sites or areas affected by Phytophthora.

• Permit solid fuel campfires in existing fireplaces, and the use of portable gas or liquid fuel stoves throughout the park.

• Permit the collection of fallen timber from the Conservation and Recreation Zone only for use in fireplaces provided (table 4). Monitor the impacts of firewood collection and take action if necessary to minimise any impacts.

6.6 Cycling

Cycling, particularly mountain bike riding, is a popular activity for visitors to the park. Cycling is permitted on all open roads in the park as well as some management vehicle only tracks (table 3). Cycling is also permitted on Pangerang Lookout Walk and Ridge Track, where there is room for shared use without conflict with bushwalkers (table 5). If mountain bike riding in the park continues to increase there is potential to upgrade the Friends Walking Track to provide for dual use.

The Mountain Biking Code (DSE 2003e) sets out guidelines for safe cycling and minimising the impacts of cycling on park values.

Cycling during wet periods through areas infected with P. cinnamomi has a high potential to further spread the disease through the park. Roads and tracks near infected areas will be subject to seasonal closures that will apply to cycling (tables 3 and 5; section 4.7).

Aims
• Provide opportunities for cycling and mountain bike riding.

• Protect park values and avoid conflicts with the activities of other park visitors.

Management strategies
• Provide opportunities for cycling and mountain bike riding on formed roads and tracks as shown in tables 3 and 5 and in figure 3.
### TABLE 5  PROPOSED MANAGEMENT OF WALKING TRACKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Length (km)</th>
<th>Current Grade</th>
<th>Current Use</th>
<th>Proposed Grade</th>
<th>Proposed Use</th>
<th>Management Actions/ Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpine Views Track</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Part of Friends Walking Track Network, links Friends Track with Boilerwood Track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briens Gorge Track</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrade, provides access to Briens Gorge Falls from picnic area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briens Gorge Falls to Wenhams Camp</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proposed link track from Briens Gorge Falls to Wenhams Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends Walking Track</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Interpreted nature trail. Maintained by the Friends of the Warbys and Parks Victoria, accesses Mt Warby and Kwat Kwat Lookout. Potentially suitable for cycling (see section 6.6).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ridge Track</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4 Wa</td>
<td>4 Wa, Cy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allow cycling. Follows management vehicle track from Taminick Gap Rd to Mt Glenrowan, adequate room for shared use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pangerang Lookout Walk</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>3 Wa, Cy, Ho</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allow cycling and horse riding. Follows management vehicle track from Ridge Rd to lookout, adequate room for shared use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Gully Nature Walk</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Self-guided interpreted loop track from picnic area, includes access to Pine Gully Falls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryans Lookout Track</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Provides access to Lookout tower from picnic area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salisbury Falls Track</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrade, provides access to Salisbury Falls and links with Salisbury Walk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salisbury Walk</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4 Wa</td>
<td>4 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Link track from Shanely St to Wenhams Camp, links with Friends Walking Track, Boilerwood Track and Alpine Views Track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springtime Wildflower Walk</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrade entire length to a level suitable for use by people with limited mobility, and promote as only track in the park for this type of user. Accessed from The Forest Camp (Killawarra Forest section).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunrise Walking Track Complex</td>
<td>2.0–6.0</td>
<td>3–4 Wa</td>
<td>3–4 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Network of loop tracks in Warby Range section, needs improved interpretation and information board and map at start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Friends of the Warbys Arboretum</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td>2 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Short track through the developing Arboretum is maintained with assistance by Friends of the Warbys and accessed from Wenhams Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warby Falls Track</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>3 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proposed track to historic race and weir (section 5.2) as part of proposed Warby Way Walking Track that links to Booths Rd and Wenhams Camp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warby Way Walking Track</td>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>2-4 Wa</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Proposed track from Killawarra Forest section to Wenhams Camp and, subject to access agreement, through private property to Glenrowan via Mt Glenrowan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Key:

Australian Standards Classification for walking tracks (AS 2156.1—2001)

Grade 2 For a large number of visitors to walk easily in a natural environment with frequent encounters and a moderate to high level of interpretation and facilities.

Grade 3 For visitors to walk in slightly disturbed natural environments, requiring moderate levels of fitness with occasional encounters and perhaps signage—interpretation and facilities are not common.

Grade 4 For visitors to explore and discover relatively undisturbed natural environments along defined and distinct tracks with few encounters and no interpretive signage.

Use: Cy — Cycling (including mountain bike riding); Ho — Horse riding; Wa — Walking.
• Investigate allowing mountain bike riders access to the Friends Walking Track and upgrading the track for dual use in partnership with local bike riders.

• Promote minimal-impact practices outlined in the Mountain Biking Code, integrate messages about minimal impact into park information and interpretation, and encourage cyclists to adhere to the Code (section 6.1).

• In conjunction with cycling groups, develop information for cyclists, including a map of areas available for cycling.

• Exclude cycling from areas of the park infected by P. cinnamomi to prevent its spread, and implement seasonal closures of tracks to cycling as shown in table 3.

6.7 Dog walking
Traditionally dogs have not been allowed in Warby Range State Park. In the past, dog walking was permitted in the Killawarra Forest section of the park and many visitors, particularly from Wangaratta, enjoyed walking dogs in this area.

Dogs may disturb or prey on native fauna, particularly ground-nesting or feeding birds (section 4.5). Dogs may also be a nuisance to park visitors.

Dogs will be permitted on leash in all of the Killawarra Forest section except the Killawarra Reference Area (table 1).

Aims
• Provide opportunities for walking dogs on leash.

• Protect park values and visitor enjoyment from disturbance by dogs.

Management strategies
• Continue to permit dogs in the Killawarra Forest section of the park (except the Killawarra Reference Area) provided dogs are on a leash at all times.

• Continue to exclude dogs from the Warby Range, Mt Glenrowan and Boweya sections of the park.

• Publicise where dogs are allowed in the park and the requirement for them to be on a leash.

• Promote the adjacent Ovens River State Forest as an alternative location for walking dogs.

• Monitor the impacts of dogs on wildlife and visitors in the park. Consider prohibiting dogs from Killawarra Forest section of the park if the impacts become unacceptable.

6.8 Horse riding
Horse riding in the park is a popular activity for individuals, small groups and organised local clubs, including the North East Trail Riding Club. The vast network of roads provides many different horse riding routes, particularly in the Killawarra Forest section where there is easy access to most tracks. Access to the Warby Range section of the park from the east is limited at present to Wangaratta — Devenish Rd, which is a steep bitumen road with very little road shoulder to safely ride on. Access to this section would be improved by allowing horse riding along Boilerwood and Stypandra Tracks.

Trampling of vegetation and disturbance to ground-dwelling mammals and birds, weed dispersal, soil erosion and the spread of P. cinnamomi are the main potential impacts on natural values associated with horse riding. Horses and horse dung can also cause annoyance and distress to park visitors. Consistent with government-accepted ECC recommendations, horse riding is permitted on open public roads in the park (DSE 2003a). Off-track riding is not permitted in the park, and riding on walking tracks is permitted only on Pangerang Track.

To prevent the further spread of P. cinnamomi in the park (section 4.7), access to affected areas will not be permitted for horse riding, and seasonal track closures (1 June to 30 November inclusive) to horse riding will apply in accordance with table 3.

Aim
• Provide opportunities for horse riding within the park while minimising impacts
on park values and conflicts with the activities of other park users.

Management strategies

- Allow horses on all open roads and tracks, specified management access tracks and Pangerang Track in accordance with table 3.
- Monitor the impact of horses on tracks through the annual roads maintenance program (section 6.2), and carry out repairs and/or limit access where necessary.
- Investigate access for horses from the eastern side of the park on Boilerwood and Stypandra Tracks.
- Encourage horse riders to adopt minimal impact practices outlined in the Horse Riding Code (DSE 2003f).
- Exclude horse riding from tracks known to be infested with P. cinnamomi from 1 June to 30 November (inclusive), in accordance with table 3.

6.9 Orienteering and rogaining

The park’s extensive network of all-weather roads, undulating terrain and natural outcrops are attractive for orienteering and rogaining. The Box–Ironbark forest of the Killawarra Forest section is ideal for such events and is often used by school groups and orienteering clubs. This activity may lead to some trampling of vegetation, but in the past has usually had little impact on the park.

The Special Management Area – Public Safety (figure 2) is closed to public access when either of the adjacent firing ranges is in use and flags are displayed (sections 3.2 and 6.13).

Because of the risk of spreading Phytophthora, access to some areas in wetter months will not be permitted (section 4.7, table 3).

Aim

- Permit orienteering and rogaining while minimising the impact on park values.

Management strategies

- Allow orienteering and rogaining in the Conservation and Recreation Zone (figure 2), except for Special Protection Areas, Phytophthora-infested areas and Special Management Area – Public Safety (when active) and seasonally closed tracks (table 3), in accordance with Parks Victoria operational policies.
- Work with event organisers, representative organisations and schools to identify and protect sensitive values or features in proposed event areas.
- Monitor the impacts of orienteering and rogaining, particularly around Phytophthora-infested areas, and exclude access from infested areas.

6.10 Prospecting

Searching for gemstones is the only type of prospecting permitted in the park (DSE 2003a) and is permitted under section 32D of the National Parks Act 1975. As recommended by the ECC, this activity is permitted in an area 200 metres either side of Parallel and Tarrawalla Tracks, between Boweya Track and a point 200 metres west of the junction of Parallel and Tarrawalla Track, using non-mechanical hand tools (figure 2). A person searching for gemstones must hold a Miner’s Right or Tourist Fossicking Authority (TFA) and metal detecting is not permitted.

Parks Victoria, with the Prospectors and Miners Association of Victoria (PMAV) and the Victorian Gem Club Association Incorporated (VGCA), has developed the Prospectors and Miners Code, which sets out guidelines for safe prospecting and mining and methods to minimise the impacts of prospecting and mining on park values.

Aim

- Provide opportunities for searching for gemstones, while protecting park values.

Management strategies

- Continue to permit searching for gemstones only in an area 200 metres either side of Parallel and Tarrawalla Tracks between Boweya Track and a point 200 metres west of the junction of Tarrawalla and Parallel Tracks (figure 2).
Strategies for visitors

- Monitor the impacts of searching for gemstones on cultural and environmental values of the gemstone collecting area.
- Develop and implement solutions to address existing or potential adverse effects or impacts of prospecting identified through monitoring, in consultation with the PMAV and other relevant stakeholders.
- Work cooperatively with the PMAV and VGCA to encourage gem hunters to adhere to the Prospectors and Miners Code.

6.11 Rock climbing

Rock climbing, including abseiling, has not been permitted in the park since 1998 (Parks Victoria 1998) because the cliffs in the area are unstable, and climbers could damage populations of the endangered Northern Sandalwood and disturb Peregrine Falcon nesting sites.

There are alternative sites for rock climbing at Chiltern–Mt Pilot National Park and Mt Buffalo National Park.

Aim
- Protect visitors and park values from impacts from rock climbing.

Management strategies
- Continue to prohibit rock climbing and abseiling in the park.
- Provide information on alternative climbing sites outside the park.

6.12 Tourism services

The park’s location close to the Hume Freeway makes it a potential attraction for regional tour operators. Its close proximity to regional centres of Wangaratta and Benalla also provides scope for day tours. The park is within Tourism Victoria’s High Country product region.

Licensed tour operators play a key role in nature-based tourism in Victoria by offering guided park tours and supported recreation activities, and information that promotes park values and appropriate use. They also facilitate access for visitors who may not otherwise have the opportunity to visit the park.

Three licensed tour operators currently undertake activities within the park, including bird watching, bushwalking, mountain bike riding and vehicle-based sightseeing.

Aim
- Provide opportunities and encourage provision for external tourism services while minimising impacts on the natural and cultural values of the park.

Management strategies
- Ensure that all tour operators using the park are licensed and promote awareness of Adventure Activity Standards and minimal impact guidelines.
- Liaise with tourism associations within the High Country product region to promote the park and encourage visitors to appreciate its natural beauty and other values.
- Encourage licensed tour operators to develop and deliver guided tours that enhance the park experience of visitors (sections 6.1 and 8.2).
- Provide opportunities and encourage Traditional Owners to facilitate tours of appropriate Indigenous places.
- Continue to work with licensed tour operators and the tourism industry to add to the tourism experience in the park by developing and delivering appropriate interpretive and educational tours and message, and subject to the views of the Traditional Owners, on tours and messages on Indigenous culture and history.

6.13 Public safety

The steep terrain and difficult access on the escarpment present natural dangers and risks to visitors. Cliffs and unstable rocky slopes around some of the attractive waterfalls are also potential hazards.

Visitors need to be cautious regarding safety risks to ensure that they enjoy a safe visit. Public information and education programs are among the most effective ways to promote safety (section 6.1). Safety messages are
Strategies for visitors

Management strategies

- Increase visitors’ awareness of safety issues and potential hazards in the park through the use of Park Notes, Parks Victoria’s website and information signs.
- Provide and maintain safety and information signage, including water unavailability, at Wenhams Camp, Ryans Lookout, Pine Gully Picnic Area and The Forest Camp.
- Do not permit access to the Special Management Areas – Public Safety when either of the adjacent shooting ranges is in use and red flags are displayed.
- Ensure signage for Special Management Area – Public Safety is maintained, and work with local groups to continue safe management practices.
- Update the Emergency Management Plan for the park, and ensure staff and licensed tour operators are aware of the plan.
- Liaise with the Rural City of Wangaratta and Benalla Rural City to ensure that the Municipal Emergency Response Plans make adequate provision for likely incidents in the park.
- Audit identified risks and hazards within the park regularly.
- Cooperate with and support agencies responsible for emergency response, and ensure that Parks Victoria staff have adequate levels of training in emergency procedures.

Presented to visitors through signs, Park Notes and ranger patrols.

The climate of north-eastern Victoria increases the threat of wildfire in the summer fire danger period. A fire protection plan has been developed for the region, and applies to the park (section 4.6).

Fallout areas for two shooting ranges adjacent to the park pose a risk to park visitors, especially walkers. A Special Management Area – Public Safety overlay for these areas is proposed (section 3.2, figure 2). Signs highlighting the danger and red flags displayed during operating periods warn visitors to stay out of the area.

Drinking water is not supplied or available in the park.

Parks Victoria is not the lead agency for most emergency response situations, but provides a support role for emergency incidents where required.

Relevant agencies respond to incidents within the park in accordance with the Rural City of Wangaratta’s Municipal Emergency Response Plan and Benalla Rural City’s Municipal Emergency Response Plan. Parks Victoria’s response to emergency incidents during normal operating activities within the park is guided by the Wangaratta Municipal Emergency Management Plan, which covers Warby Range State Park and other areas managed by the Wangaratta work centre.

Aims

- Promote visitor safety and awareness of safety issues and risks within the park.
- Promote and observe safe practices, and cooperate with emergency services.
7 STRATEGIES FOR AUTHORISED AND ADJACENT USES

7.1 Authorised uses

A number of uses and activities may be permitted in the park, subject to specified conditions to minimise impacts on the park, park visitors and other park uses.

Infrastructure

The installation and operation of infrastructure by public utilities is subject to consent from the Secretary to DSE, with conditions to minimise effects on the park and visitors.

Because of its prominent position in northeastern Victoria, Warby Range is a strategic location for communication facilities. There are major facilities at four sites in the region, two of which are in the park. SP Aus Net (formerly TXU) manages a tower on Mt Glenrowan, and Rural Ambulance Victoria manages a repeater station and tower near Taminick Gap.

Other telecommunications infrastructure of the Country Fire Authority, VEC Network, Rural Ambulance Victoria and State Emergency Service is accommodated on the SP Aus Net tower.

Two overhead powerlines cross the park from the tower site in the Mt Glenrowan section of the park and a tower on a nearby inlier of Commonwealth land (figure 2). SP Aus Net maintains the powerlines and the area underneath in accordance with a consent from the Secretary to DSE and subject to the Code of Practice for Electrical Line Clearance (Vegetation) 1999 in relation to clearing and pruning of vegetation under the electrical transmission lines (section 3.2).

The expansion and development of additional communication facilities could have an adverse impact on the visual integrity of the area and the landscape values in the park (section 4.1). In issuing and monitoring consents it is important to consider any potential impacts, especially from any developments near key visitor sites.

A spring close to Gerretts Rd has a bore and pump to provide water to neighbouring properties. A licence under the National Parks Act will be reviewed and alternative sources of water investigated.

Apiculture

Warby Range has a long association with apiculture and is a valuable site for honey production and overwintering of hives.

In accordance with ECC recommendations, the park has 18 apiary sites available for use, subject to licences issued under Section 21(1)(b) of the National Parks Act for a period not exceeding six months. Two sites that were close to visitor areas at Mt Warby and Black Springs have been relocated in consultation with licensees and the apiculture industry, in accordance with the operational guidelines for managing Reference Areas (section 3.2).

Some apiary sites are infested with pest plants and Armillaria fungus (section 4.7) has also been recorded in the vicinity of some sites.

Occasional uses

All research and monitoring in parks requires a research permit under the National Parks Act, issued by the Department of Sustainability and Environment (applications available at www.dse.vic.gov.au).

Protected areas are generally avoided as locations for Defence Force training exercises, although they occasionally host search and rescue, field navigation and incident response activities. Defence Force units sometimes use the park for adventure training and field navigation exercises, subject to a permit outlining conditions to ensure minimal impacts on the park. Emergency services also occasionally make use of the park for training.

The park accommodates a range of major events and functions, such as the Mount Bruno Picnic (section 6.3), and is also a popular site for weddings and photography.

Aim

- Manage authorised uses and activities in accordance with the National Parks Act, and minimise their impact on park values.
Management strategies

• Monitor compliance of existing public authority installations and services with Ministerial consents including conditions to ensure construction, operation and maintenance are consistent with protection of the park’s natural and cultural values and amenity of visitors.

• Ensure that co-location of infrastructure or alternative sites outside the park are thoroughly investigated, and a full environmental impact study is undertaken before consent is given for the installation of any new or additional facilities.

• Review current water resource use, in particular the pump site adjacent to Gerretts Rd, and investigate alternative sources of water.

• Continue to allow up to 18 apiary sites in accordance with the government-accepted ECC recommendations and Parks Victoria’s operational policies.

• Maintain the location of apiary sites away from visitor areas as appropriate and at least 2 km from the Reference Areas, in consultation with the Victorian Apiarists’ Association (VAA) and the licensees.

• Work with apiarist to maintain access to sites, ensure all equipment is weed free when entering the park and co-ordinate treatment of existing infestations with pest plant priorities (section 4.7).

• Permit Defence Force and emergency services training or field navigation exercises in the park in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies and relevant permit conditions.

• Permit events and functions that:
  • have acceptable environmental impacts
  • do not damage cultural values of the park
  • do not unduly disturb and disadvantage other visitors
  • do not unduly increase liability risk exposure
  • can be appropriately managed with available resources.

  • Favour events and functions that provide community benefits or complement park values.

  • Ensure that the Traditional Owners are consulted and involved in the planning and participation of relevant events.

  • Manage commercial filming and photography in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies.

7.2 Park boundaries and adjacent uses

Private land borders the entire boundary of the park (figure 4). Because the boundaries are complex there is a variety of management issues.

The park has over 150 km of boundary, which is mostly fenced although some of the fencing is inadequate or poorly maintained, so that domestic stock occasionally enter the park from neighbouring properties.

Three major east–west roads (Taminick Gap Rd, Wangaratta–Devenish Rd and Boweya Rd) intersect the park. The park is almost a continuous unit from north to south except for the Boweya and Mt Glenrowan sections.

Private land at Taminick Gap that is under a Trust For Nature conservation covenant helps reduce the impacts of fragmentation in the park. Access through private land for a long-distance walking track is being investigated (section 6.4).

Much of the adjoining land has been cleared for grazing, although some remnant vegetation remains, in particular on properties south and south-east of Mt Glenrowan and west of the Killawarra Forest section. Other adjacent land uses include vineyards, orchards and extractive industries.

Adjacent remnant vegetation is managed by private landholders. Parks Victoria is working to build partnerships, especially in relation to fuel reduction burning, through the local CFA (section 4.6), and undertakes pest plant and animal control programs under the Good Neighbour Program, focusing on the public–private land interface. An annual fox control
baiting program, which has been undertaken since 1993, is conducted during March to coincide with lambing on adjacent land when stock is most at risk.

Two shooting ranges abut the park: the North East Muzzle Loaders off Pipeline Track and the Wangaratta Pistol Club off Boweya Rd. Special Management Area overlays are applied for public safety over the fallout area for the shooting ranges (section 3.2 and figure 2). The Wangaratta Pistol Club, which meets most weekends, erects warning flags around the fallout area on Tower Rd and Cox Rd and checks for any visitors in the areas before shooting. The Muzzle Loaders site is used less often and is in an isolated part of the park, where access is already limited. Visitors are not permitted in the fallout zones when the ranges are in use and flags are displayed.

There is a telecommunications facility and tower managed by Telstra on a Commonwealth inlier in the Mt Glenrowan section of the park. Another communications tower exists on private land adjacent to the park near Baileys Track.

Two active quarries operate on land adjacent to the park (Taminick Gap Rd and adjacent to the Boweya Forest section off Wangaratta Rd). The remains of disused quarries in other areas are visible from the park.

Adjacent zoning allowing further subdivision may change the views from the park through an increase in residential and commercial buildings that are visible from the park. Land adjacent to the park is currently zoned Rural Zone, which limits subdivision to 40 ha, and Rural Living Zone, which limits subdivision to 8 ha (DSE 2006b). An increase in areas zoned Environmental Living Zone (currently small areas adjacent to the park), which allows subdivision to 0.4 ha, would further alter views from the park and potentially impact significantly on park values and increase conflict due to wildlife, pest plants and domestic animals issues. A major subdivision area is adjacent to the park at Hamilton Park.

Aims

- Cooperate with adjoining landholders and local municipalities to manage boundary and adjacent land use issues.
- Increase awareness and support for the park and maintain good relations with neighbours.

Management strategies

- Continue to encourage the application of the Good Neighbour Program to manage issues on or near the boundary of the park.
- Liaise with local community groups and landholders and involve them in relevant aspects of the park’s planning and management.
- Encourage neighbours, developers, the Rural City of Wangaratta and Benalla Rural City to use covenants and support initiatives such as Landcare and Land for Wildlife to enhance conservation values on adjacent land.
- Encourage and ensure that landholders maintain fences along the park boundary.
- Liaise with the Wangaratta Pistol Club and North East Muzzle Loaders to maintain safe operating procedures that will ensure the safety of park visitors.
- Cooperate with adjoining landholders in coordinating fire and pest control programs.
- Liaise with the Rural City of Wangaratta, Benalla Rural City and Moira Shire in relation to zoning schemes changes that could have adverse effects on park values, including the implementation of Vegetation Protection Overlays on significant adjacent remnant vegetation.
- Liaise with DSE and planning authorities to minimise the impacts developing adjacent land has on the viewshed of the park.
8 STRATEGIES FOR COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

8.1 Community awareness

Raising the community’s awareness of the park’s values is an essential step in developing a sense of custodianship for the park and engagement in the area’s management. The community is more likely to develop a sense of custodianship for the park if its views and values are respected and park-related social networks are encouraged and supported. A strong connection with the park among visitors and in the local and wider community will assist in broader public education, raising awareness and reaching others in the community.

Education and interpretation programs (section 6.1) play an important role in raising the awareness of the park in the wider community. Parks Victoria aims to communicate the benefits of a healthy parks system and its contribution to the health of individuals and society through the ‘Healthy Parks Healthy People’ program.

Through information, interpretation and education programs, there are also opportunities to build broader community awareness of the significance of the park to the Indigenous communities. This will aid in the development of greater recognition of and respect for Indigenous culture in the broader community.

Existing community networks, particularly those with a strong commitment to the park such as Friends of the Warbys and Warby Range Landcare and Rabbit Action Group, provide an opportunity to increase awareness in the wider community about the park and its values. Annual community forums, which began in 2004, enable the wider community to have an input into park management and create awareness and understanding of park issues.

Increasing awareness among the community about key threatening processes to the park’s values can assist in minimising the potential for further impacts. Management issues that would benefit from greater community awareness include fire management (section 4.6), pest plant and animal control — particularly the importance of preventing introduction and establishment of weeds (section 4.7) — and ecological and threatened species management (sections 4.5, 4.6).

Aims

- Increase the community’s awareness and understanding of the park’s values and management activities.
- Build a sense of shared ownership and custodianship for the park in community groups and individuals.

Management strategies

- Continue to host the annual Warby Range State Park Community Forum to provide information to the local community on the annual works program, including progress in implementing the management plan and to celebrate the achievements of Friends, volunteers and other groups participating in the park’s management.
- Build broader community awareness of the opportunities to make a difference to management through taking shared responsibility and becoming directly involved in the park’s management through events such as the community forum and information, interpretation and education programs (section 6.1).
- Increase public awareness and understanding of key park management activities, including fire management and fuel reduction burning, pest plant and animal control, ecological management and the conservation of threatened species, by liaising with neighbours and community groups such as CFA, Landcare, CMA and local government to develop strategies for these activities.
- Promote information on park features, values and management activities to the local community through articles in newspapers and community group newsletters.
• Communicate the work of Friends, volunteers and community groups to the broader community.

• Liaise with the local community and local municipalities to enhance community understanding of responsible pet ownership, planting of indigenous vegetation and problems associated with the introduction and establishment of environmental weeds.

8.2 Community participation

The participation of community groups and individuals in the park’s management is pivotal for effective long-term planning and the use and care of the park’s values.

The Traditional Owners have considerable interest in and aspirations for the park as part of Country and are an important potential source of traditional knowledge about the area. A strong working partnership will be essential to the reflection of Indigenous knowledge in the park’s planning and management and reconciliation of their interests and aspirations with those of other members of the community.

Volunteers and community groups make valuable contributions to park management projects. They bring diverse and valuable information, knowledge, skills and experience to the park that may otherwise not be available to the park’s managers. Volunteers also bring great enthusiasm and add valuable resources to assist with the care of the park.

The Friends of the Warbys have been active in the park since 1990. They have been involved in a range of management activities, in particular threatened species monitoring, weed control, and the development of the Friends Arboretum and walking tracks from Wenhams Camp.

Future involvement of the Friends and Landcare in research activities and monitoring programs would enhance the protection of natural values within and linked to the park.

Students undertaking work experience and other community volunteers regularly carry out voluntary work associated with several park management projects. The CFA and 4WD clubs also volunteer time to help in track maintenance, and the Mount Bruno Picnic Committee maintains the picnic facilities at this site in conjunction with Parks Victoria.

The interests of community groups in the park often overlap and may not be complementary. There can be considerable mutual benefits where such groups work together and with Parks Victoria and the Traditional Owners to achieve common goals.

Aim

• Support and encourage the whole community including groups and volunteers to actively assist in the park’s management by participating and contributing their knowledge and skills.

Management strategies

• Work to build a strong relationship with the relevant Indigenous communities. In particular, seek to further develop a close inclusive working partnership with the Traditional Owners and cooperation with the scheduled Aboriginal community.

• Liaise and cooperate as appropriate with the relevant Indigenous communities in dealing with Indigenous cultural issues that relate to the park.

• Seek to establish, maintain and strengthen relationships with the Friends, volunteers and other community groups that use or have a particular interest in the park. Encourage and support such groups to work with each other and Parks Victoria to achieve shared goals for the park.

• Ensure that Friends and community groups participating in the park’s management have sustainable and rewarding volunteer experiences.

• Maintain liaison with Friends, volunteers and community groups that participate in the park’s management in order to provide guidance and support and to ensure that they have opportunities to appropriately exercise their interests and utilise their knowledge and skills.

• Support capacity-building initiatives among communities participating in the planning, use and care of parks through appropriate training, tools and supports.
strategies for community awareness and involvement which better enable volunteer participation in the planning, use and care of parks.

- **Encourage and support Friends and other interest groups and volunteers to develop an understanding and appreciation of the park’s values and the rich and diverse knowledge and aspirations of the Traditional Owners.**

- **Encourage and support groups that use or have an interest in the park to work together to pursue sources of funding, including Parks Victoria grants, for projects in the park, as appropriate.**

- **Encourage and support tertiary students to undertake volunteer work experience and research activities that assist park management and are consistent with the plan.**

### 8.3 Agency partnerships

Although Parks Victoria is responsible for overall management of the park, other agencies are responsible for planning, managing or regulating certain activities in the park.

All activities relating to the park that are carried out by Parks Victoria or other agencies must conform with legislation and government policy and, as far as practicable, must be consistent with relevant policies and guidelines. To ensure this occurs, Parks Victoria works closely with relevant agencies and collaborates in implementing activities where appropriate.

DSE establishes parks and provides strategic direction and policy advice for the management of parks, including the management of flora and fauna values and threatening processes. Parks Victoria is a support agency for fire management (section 4.6) operating at the direction of DSE.

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) provides advice in relation to pest plants and animals, salinity and sustainable production.

The Goulburn–Broken Catchment Management Authority (GBCMA) and North East Catchment Management Authority (NECMA) are responsible for ensuring the protection and sustainable development of land, vegetation and water resources within the region, including the implementation of regional catchment strategies (GBCMA 2003, NECMA 2003) (section 4.3).

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) is a volunteer-based community service that responds to a variety of fire and emergency incidents.

The Rural City of Wangaratta, Benalla Rural City and Moira Shire administer the planning schemes for land adjacent to the park, including assessing developments that could have an impact on park values. Parks Victoria provides input into planning applications to ensure that park values are protected. The local councils are also responsible for the management of a number of roads that pass through the park (section 6.2).

Through Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV), the Department of Victorian Communities has responsibility for administering legislation protecting cultural heritage (section 5.1). AAV and the North East Cultural Heritage Unit advise Parks Victoria on Indigenous matters.

Heritage Victoria (DSE) is the central government agency which provides information and advice about places listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and Archaeological Inventory. It supports the Heritage Council through research, recommends additions to the Register and issues permits for alterations to heritage places.

Tourism Victoria is the state government authority responsible for developing and marketing Victoria to Australian and international travellers. The park is within Tourism Victoria’s High Country product region. Parks Victoria actively works with state and regional tourism authorities to ensure that the park is appropriately promoted in regional information centres and regional tourism strategies.

Victorian agencies work cooperatively with the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Heritage on the management of regional ecosystem conservation issues.

### Aim

- Enhance park management by collaborating with other agencies to ensure they give appropriate consideration to park
values in planning and implementing activities that relate to the park.

**Management strategies**

- Work collaboratively with all agencies to implement the plan vision and direction. In particular, work with:
  - DSE regarding future planning and management, including fire management and protection of flora and fauna from potentially threatening processes
  - NECMA and GBCMA to reduce the impacts of land use and management on the park and the development of appropriate actions in the Regional Catchment Strategies
  - the Country Fire Authority and DSE to ensure safety and protection of park values in managing fire within and around the park
  - AAV and the North East Cultural Heritage Unit on issues relating to Indigenous affairs and to ensure compliance with the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act
  - Heritage Victoria on heritage management, and compliance with the Heritage Act
  - State and regional tourism authorities to promote the park in regional visitor information centres and in regional tourism strategies
  - the Rural City of Wangaratta, Benalla Rural City and Moira Shire regarding administration of the planning scheme, including input into adjacent or nearby developments that may impact on the park and the promotion of responsible pet ownership (section 7.3)
  - the Rural City of Wangaratta and Benalla Rural City regarding maintenance of roads which provide access to or through the park (section 6.2)
  - the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Heritage on the management of regional ecosystem conservation issues.
9 PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

9.1 Delivery and reporting

A range of approaches will be used to implement strategies in this plan. Some will be undertaken as part of routine management activities such as ranger visits; others will be addressed as part of regional programs undertaken across the State each year.

A priority list of all of the strategies in the plan will be used to guide routine management and identify detailed actions in annual regional programs. Priorities for regional programs vary from year to year, depending on available resources and government priorities.

At the end of each year, progress towards implementing strategies in the plan will be reviewed and the priority list updated. Staff report internally against on-time and within-budget delivery of regional programs and whether the completed strategy has achieved the objective. Parks Victoria reports annually to government on the overall delivery of regional and divisional programs. This broader reporting on management performance is available in annual reports on the National Parks Act and Parks Victoria.

During the implementation of the plan, Parks Victoria will work in partnership with Traditional Owners and the scheduled Aboriginal community. Ongoing collaborative activities with the relevant Indigenous communities, interested members of the community, scientists and agencies in realising the vision and management directions for the park will be especially important, as outlined in previous sections of the plan.

Implementation of the plan will be consistent with Parks Victoria’s commitment to sustainable practices, which involves the delivery of operations, services and facilities in an ecologically and socially responsible manner with minimal use of expendable resources and minimal generation of waste.

In implementing the plan, management will respond to monitoring and research information as it emerges. Parks Victoria’s environmental management framework makes this possible. Based on the International Standard for Environmental Management Systems (ISO 14001), the framework ensures that the future condition of values is considered in identifying threats and developing actions to ameliorate them. Over time, the success of actions is reviewed against set objectives to ensure ongoing learning and refinement of management. The selection of actions and treatments of threats are guided by the precautionary principle. Management options are evaluated on the basis of least impact on the environment. Treatment of threats with a potential for serious damage that are not addressed in the plan will not be postponed for lack of information.

Parks Victoria will use a variety of means to report to the community about the progress of implementation of the plan. The primary means will be through routine liaison between Parks Victoria, interested groups and individuals from the local community and relevant government agencies. In addition to giving regular updates, there will be opportunities for input by interested members of the community into annual priority setting and feedback on management performance. Events such as community and volunteer forums will offer similar opportunities for reporting and discussions about annual programs.

The results of monitoring and research work will continue to be available to the community as technical reports available on Parks Victoria’s website (www.parkweb.vic.gov.au).

Future State of the Parks reports, which will be available on Parks Victoria’s website, will also include information on management performance in the park.

9.2 Plan amendment

During the 10-year life of the plan, amendments to the plan may only be made by the Secretary to DSE, following an authorised process which includes appropriate community consultation.
Circumstances that might lead to amendment of the plan include:

- the results of monitoring or research, management experience or new information (such as greater understanding of new threatening processes) which indicate the need for a change in management direction
- significant changes in visitation or use
- a change in policy that calls into question plan objectives
- new legislation (such as significant boundary changes).

The plan may also be amended if an activity, development or use which conflicts with the provisions of the plan is approved by government (such as native title outcomes).

9.3 Evaluation and review

Periodically through the life of the plan Parks Victoria will assess overall progress towards implementing the strategies in the plan and also assess progress towards achieving the plan vision and directions. These evaluations will inform a decision about whether a new or revised plan is required. The achievements of the plan will be assessed by considering performance areas such as:

**Protecting natural values**

- Maintaining populations of threatened flora and fauna.
- Maintaining age class mosaic across all management areas.
- Restoring and maintaining ground cover and understorey layers in modified areas.
- Meeting prescribed burn targets.
- Meeting community expectations as a good environmental manager.
- Timely management intervention to minimise threats of pest plant and animals and fire.
- Minimal impact of permitted uses.
- Compliance with park regulations.

**Protecting cultural values**

- Progress towards working with Traditional Owners in managing the park and in protecting and interpreting Indigenous cultural heritage.
- Timely management intervention to avoid threats to:
  - the Warby Falls water race and weir
  - the sawmill and charcoal kiln site.
- Meeting community expectations as a good manager of historic places.

**Managing recreation and visitor use**

- Maintaining the levels of information and interpretation (section 6.1).
- Meeting and maintaining the levels of service for facilities (table 4).
- All facilities meet public safety standards and the majority of facilities with more than five years life expectancy.
- Meeting agreed road and track standards (table 3).
- All 2WD roads in at least fair to good condition.
- Minimal impact from visitors, including individuals and school and tour groups.
- Maintaining visitor use levels.
- Maintaining visitor satisfaction with adequacy of recreational opportunities.
- Meeting community expectations in relation to Parks Victoria’s management of the park.

**Providing for research and promoting understanding**

- Progress towards reflecting Traditional Owners’ views and aspirations in the park’s planning and management.
- Improved understanding of key threats, including foxes, St John’s Wort, millipedes, fire and *P. cinnamom.*
- Ongoing partnerships with Indigenous communities and wider community participation.
Methods for evaluating the benefits of the plan are likely to be refined over time. Parks Victoria has introduced a range of structured monitoring practices to collect standardised and scientifically-robust information. In particular these will improve understanding of the outcomes of management on natural values; and allow improved reporting and assessment of performance.

Parks Victoria also partners external research agencies to enhance knowledge and understanding of the values and features of the park and inform management decisions particularly in relation to pest and fire management. By using sound monitoring and assessment methods this monitoring and research work will strengthen the basis for comparing management performance over time.
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Personal communications
Biodiversity – the natural diversity of all life: the sum of all our native species of flora and fauna, the genetic variation within them, their habitats and the ecosystems of which they are an integral part.

Bioregion – an area with unique underlying environmental and ecological features.

Catchment – the area of land that drains to a watercourse or estuary.

Country – all of nature, culture and spirituality relating to an area.

Crown land – land belonging to the State.

Customs – observances and practices of people (includes land management and resource use) in accordance with tradition.

Dreaming – the primordial creative world of the spirit ancestors and the continuing reality for their totem ancestors.

Ecological values – the importance of natural assets in maintaining natural ecosystems and ecological processes, of which it is a part.

Ecologically sustainable development (ESD) – development that improves the total quality of life both now and in the future, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

Ecologically sustainable use – the use of a species or ecosystem at a level that enables it to recover naturally.

Ecosystem – a dynamic complex of interacting organisms and their associated non-living environment.

Freehold land – land held in private ownership.

Geomorphology – the scientific study of landforms and geological formations and the processes that shape them.

Heritage – a place, activity, cultural way of life, structure or group of structures that has aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for the past, present or future generations.

Indigenous cultural heritage – all aspects of contemporary and traditional culture, places and objects of significance to Indigenous people in accordance with tradition.

Indigenous people – people who are descendants of Aboriginal Australians.

Infrastructure – physical structures that facilitate the human use of an area (e.g. roads, paths, toilet blocks).

Monitoring – the process of systematic observation of one or more elements of the environment over time.

Nature-based tourism – tourism that provides a range of experiences that rely on attractions directly related to the natural environment.

Pest – exotic organisms (plants, animals or pathogens) that, if introduced outside their natural or previous distribution, they cause significant changes to habitats, food chains, ecosystems or human health by feeding on or competing with native species. Can refer to either terrestrial or marine species.

Prospecting – the search for gold, gemstones and other minerals under a Miners Right or Tourist Fossicking Authority, using non-mechanical hand tools.

Relevant Indigenous communities – includes the Traditional Owners and the scheduled Aboriginal Community for the area including the park.

Sediment – insoluble material suspended in water, consisting mainly of particles derived from rock, soil and organic material.

Scheduled Aboriginal community – body/s scheduled as the Local Aboriginal Community under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act relating to the park.

Stakeholders – those people and organisations who may affect, be affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by, a decision or activity.

Threatening processes – a source of potential harm or a situation with a potential to cause loss.

Tradition – the body of knowledge, beliefs and customs that is passed from generation to generation.

Traditional Owners – communities of people that reasonably assert an association with the park area that is based on direct descent from the original Indigenous custodians of Country, in accordance with Indigenous tradition.

Values – natural and cultural assets (e.g. historic artefacts, features, landscapes, flora and fauna species, flora communities) that have been given worth or are considered to be desirable.

Acronyms

AAV – Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.

BRC – Benalla Rural City.
CEM – Centre for Environmental Management, University of Ballarat.

DPI – Department of Primary Industries.

DSE – Department of Sustainability and Environment.

ECC – Environment Conservation Council.

EPA – Environment Protection Authority (Victoria).


EVC – Ecological Vegetation Class.


GBCMA – Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

HV – Heritage Victoria.

LCC – Land Conservation Council.

NECMA – North East Catchment Management Authority.

NRE – the former Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

PV – Parks Victoria.

RCW – Rural City of Wangaratta.

VEAC – Victorian Environmental Assessment Council.
APPENDIX 1  MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES FOR STATE PARKS

Management objectives for state parks included on Schedule Two B of the National Parks Act are given in Section 4 of the Act and the requirements of the Secretary in Section 17 as listed below.


4. Objects of the Act
The objects of this Act are-
(a) to make provision, in respect of national parks, State parks, marine national parks and marine sanctuaries –
   (i) for the preservation and protection of the natural environment including wilderness areas and remote and natural areas in those parks;
   (ii) for the protection and preservation of indigenous flora and fauna and of features of scenic or archaeological, ecological, geological, historic or other scientific interest in those parks; and
   (iii) for the study of ecology, geology, botany, zoology and other sciences relating to the conservation of the natural environment in those parks; and
   (iv) for the responsible management of the land in those parks;

Section 17. National parks and State parks
17 (2) The Secretary shall, subject to this Act –
(a) ensure that each national park and State park is controlled and managed, in accordance with the objects of this Act, in a manner that will -
   (i) preserve and protect the park in its natural condition for the use, enjoyment and education of the public;
   (ii) preserve and protect indigenous flora and fauna in the park;
   (iii) exterminate or control exotic fauna in the park;
   (iv) eradicate or control exotic flora in the park; and
   (v) preserve and protect wilderness areas in the park and features in the park of scenic, archaeological, ecological, geological, historic or other scientific interest;
   (aa) have regard to all classes of management actions that may be implemented for the purposes of maintaining and improving the ecological function of the park;
(b) ensure that appropriate and sufficient measures are taken to protect each national park and State park from injury by fire;
(ba) ensure that appropriate and sufficient measures are taken –
   (i) to protect designated water supply catchment areas; and
   (ii) to maintain water quality of and otherwise protect the water resources in those areas; and
   (iii) to restrict human activity in those areas for the purposes of sub-paragraphs (I) and (ii);
(c) promote and encourage the use and enjoyment of national parks and State parks by the public and the understanding and recognition of the purpose and significance of national parks and State parks; and
(d) prepare a plan of management in respect of each national park and State park.
APPENDIX 2   RARE AND THREATENED FLORA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCIENTIFIC NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>CONSERVATION STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acacia deanei ssp. paucijuga</td>
<td>Deane’s Wattle</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia decora</td>
<td>Western Silver Wattle</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia flexifolia</td>
<td>Bent-leaf Wattle</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia triptera</td>
<td>Spur-wing Wattle</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acianthus collinus</td>
<td>Hooded Mosquito-orchid</td>
<td>v, L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austrodanthonia monticola</td>
<td>Small-flower Wallaby-grass</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachyscome gracilis</td>
<td>Dookie Daisy</td>
<td>v, L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caesia parviflora var. vittata</td>
<td>Pale Grass-lily</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dodonaea boroniiifolia</td>
<td>Hairy Hop-bush</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucalyptus sideroxylon s.s.</td>
<td>Mugga</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fimbristylis dichotoma</td>
<td>Common Fringe-sedge</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonocarpus micranthus subsp. ramosissimus</td>
<td>Branching Raspwort</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodenia macbarronii</td>
<td>Narrow Goodenia</td>
<td>v, L, A, Vul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodiea medicaginea</td>
<td>Western Golden-tip</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haeckeria ozothamnoides</td>
<td>Cottony Haeckeria</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolepis congesta</td>
<td>Slender Club-sedge</td>
<td>v, L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostanthera decussata</td>
<td>Dense Mint-bush</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pterostylis bicolor</td>
<td>Black-tip Greenhood</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pterostylis hamata</td>
<td>Scaly Greenhood</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pultenaea foliolosa</td>
<td>Small-leaf Bush-pea</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pultenaea platyphylla</td>
<td>Flat-leaf Bush-pea</td>
<td>r</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santalum lanceolatum</td>
<td>Northern Sandalwood</td>
<td>e, L, A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utricularia uniflora</td>
<td>Single Bladderwort</td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DSE 2005a

Conservation status

TIV - Threatened in Victoria:
- e Endangered
- v Vulnerable
- r Rare
- k Species poorly known – suspected of being in one of the above Victorian categories

FFG status:
- L Listed under the FFG Act
- A An action statement has been prepared for its management

EPBC status:
- Vul Vulnerable
## APPENDIX 3  RARE AND THREATENED FAUNA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCIENTIFIC NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>CONSERVATION STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>MAMMAL</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petaurus norfolcensis</td>
<td>Squirrel Glider</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BIRDS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ardea alba</td>
<td>Great Egret</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burhinus grallarius</td>
<td>Bush Stone-curlew</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrysococcyx osculans</td>
<td>Black-eared Cuckoo</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chthonicola sagittata</td>
<td>Speckled Warbler</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</td>
<td>Brown Treecreeper</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coturnix ypsilophora australis</td>
<td>Brown Quail</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco subniger</td>
<td>Black Falcon</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geopelia cuneata</td>
<td>Diamond Dove</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grantiella picta</td>
<td>Painted Honeyeater</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lathamus discolor</td>
<td>Swift Parrot</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</td>
<td>Hooded Robin</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melithreptus gularis gularis</td>
<td>Black-chinned Honeyeater</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neophema pulchella</td>
<td>Turquoise Parrot</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ninox strenua</td>
<td>Powerful Owl</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nycticorax caledonicus hillii</td>
<td>Nankeen Night Heron</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</td>
<td>Grey-crowned Babbler</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stagonopleura guttata</td>
<td>Diamond Firetail</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xanthomyza phrygia</td>
<td>Regent Honeyeater</td>
<td>cc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADDITIONAL BIRDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE VICTORIAN TEMPERATE-WOODLAND BIRD COMMUNITY</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerygone fusca</td>
<td>Western Gerygone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossopsitta pusilla</td>
<td>Little Lorikeet</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lichenostomus fuscus</td>
<td>Fuscos Honeyeater</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lichenostomus melanops</td>
<td>Yellow-tufted Honeyeater</td>
<td>LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melithreptus brevirostris</td>
<td>Brown-headed Honeyeater</td>
<td>LC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microeca fascinans</td>
<td>Jacky Winter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petroica goodenovii</td>
<td>Red-capped Robin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turnix varia</td>
<td>Painted Button-quail</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Appendix 3 cont’d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCIENTIFIC NAME</th>
<th>COMMON NAME</th>
<th>CONSERVATION STATUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>REPTILES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morelia spilota metcalfei</td>
<td>Carpet Python</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramphotyphlops proximus</td>
<td>Woodland Blind Snake</td>
<td>nt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varanus varius</td>
<td>Lace Monitor</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AMPHIBIANS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pseudophryne bibronii</td>
<td>Brown Toadlet</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uperoleia rugosa</td>
<td>Rugose Toadlet</td>
<td>dd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INSECT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myrmecia sp.17</td>
<td>Bullant</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DSE 2005b, SAC 2000

Conservation status

- **TIV** Threatened in Victoria status:
  - ce critically endangered
  - e endangered
  - v vulnerable
  - nt lower risk or near threatened
  - dd data deficient

- **FFG Status**
  - L listed under the FFGAct
  - LC Associated with the FFG-listed Victorian temperate-woodland bird community
  - A An action statement has been prepared for its management

- **EPBC Act status:**
  - EN endangered
Figure 1 REGIONAL LOCALITY PLAN
WARBY RANGE STATE PARK

- Freeway/Highway
- Other major road
- Warby Range State Park
- Other Box-Ironbark Parks
- Other Parks & Reserves
- Other Public Land
- Waterbody

Cartography by Spatial Vision 2004
NATMZ

MELBOURNE
Figure 2  MANAGEMENT ZONES
WARBY RANGE STATE PARK
Figure 4  PARK AND ADJACENT LAND TENURE
WARBY RANGE STATE PARK
This Draft Management Plan for Warby Range State Park is now released for public comment. It contains the proposed vision for the park and management directions and strategies to implement the vision. The key information about natural and cultural values and visitor opportunities on which the plan is based is also included.

The publication of this draft plan gives people a further opportunity to contribute to the planning for the park’s future management. Community organisations, groups, agencies and individuals are invited to make written submissions by Monday 5 March 2007.

Submissions should be addressed to:

Chief Ranger
Murray Central District
PO Box 3100
Bendigo VIC 3550
Email: WarbyPlanSubmissions@parks.vic.gov.au

Information
For further information about this draft plan, please contact:

Ranger in Charge
Warby Range State Park
62-68 Ovens Street
PO Box 1084
Wangaratta VIC 3676
Phone: (03) 5723 8660

Copies
This plan may be downloaded from the Parks Victoria website ‘www.parkweb.vic.gov.au’. Copies of the plan may be purchased for $8.80 from:

Parks Victoria Information Centre
Level 10, 535 Bourke Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
Phone 13 1963

Parks Victoria Wangaratta Office
62-68 Ovens Street
PO Box 1084
Wangaratta VIC 3676

All submissions will be carefully considered and taken into account when the final Management Plan is being prepared for approval. The names of groups and individuals submitting comments will be published in the final plan unless comments are marked ‘CONFIDENTIAL’ when submitted. After publication of the approved Management Plan, copies of all submissions received will be made available for public inspection unless marked ‘CONFIDENTIAL’.