



NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Bongil Bongil National Park

**Draft amendment to the plan of management
Improving opportunities for access and
enjoyment**



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Summary

Bongil Bongil National Park is reserved to achieve the objectives of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. These objectives are centred on conserving nature and cultural heritage values, and fostering public appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of these special values.

The *Bongil Bongil National Park plan of management* (DPIE 2021) describes how the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) intends to achieve the Act's objectives. All operations undertaken in the park need to be in accordance with this plan of management.

An amendment to a plan of management is required if there is a proposed change to the park's management that is not consistent with the current plan. Section 73B of the National Parks and Wildlife Act enables the Minister to amend a plan of management following public exhibition of a draft amendment.

This draft amendment to the Bongil Bongil National Park plan of management is proposed to further the objects of the National Parks and Wildlife Act by improving opportunities for people to access and enjoy the park.

The following points were considered in preparing this draft amendment:

- the 8 management principles for national parks listed under section 30E of the National Parks and Wildlife Act
- the matters listed under section 72AA of the National Parks and Wildlife Act.

The draft amendment proposes to replace some of the existing plan of management's text, add some new text, update one table and replace one figure. These changes should be read in conjunction with the adopted plan of management, specifically the section and page numbers referred to in the amendment.

Where a change is proposed to an action in the body of the plan of management, corresponding changes will also be made to Table 8 'List of management responses' in Section 6 of the plan of management as required.

Have your say

We want to know what you think about this proposed amendment. To give us feedback, please send a written submission via:



the online submission form at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say



email to npws.parkplanning@environment.nsw.gov.au



post to: Manager Planning and Assessment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124.

Written submissions must be received by **4 March 2024**.

Our response to your submission will be based on the merit of the ideas and issues you raise, rather than the quantity of submissions making similar points. For this reason, a submission that clearly explains the matters it raises will be the most effective way to influence the finalisation of the plan amendment.

Submissions are most effective when we understand your ideas and the outcomes you want for park management. Some suggestions to help you write your submissions are:

- write clearly and be specific about the issues that are of concern to you
- note which part or section of the document your comments relate to
- give reasoning in support of your points – this makes it easier for us to consider your ideas and will help avoid misinterpretation
- tell us specifically what you agree or disagree with and why you agree or disagree
- if you can, suggest solutions or alternatives to managing the issue.

What happens to your feedback?

- Step 1: At the close of the public exhibition period all submissions will be reviewed.
- Step 2: We provide relevant statutory advisory bodies with the draft amendment and the submissions. They may then provide advice to the Minister for the Environment.
- Step 3: The Minister considers the amendment, submissions and advice, makes any necessary changes and decides whether to adopt the amendment under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Your privacy

Your submission will be provided to relevant advisory bodies. Your comments on the draft amendment may include personal information. The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water complies with the NSW *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998*, which regulates the collection, storage, quality, use and disclosure of personal information. For details, see our [privacy statement](#).

Information that identifies you may be gathered when you use our website or send us an email. If you indicate in your written submission that you object to your submission being made public, we will ask you before releasing your submission in response to any access applications under the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009*.

Background

Improving opportunities for access and enjoyment

National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is proposing to establish a new multi-use track for walkers and cyclists. This will improve access to Bongil Bongil National Park for adjacent residents and the community. The proposed multi-use track would connect new and existing residential areas with Bonville Creek and Bongil Picnic Area. Providing an all-weather multi-use track is expected to limit the formation of informal tracks and trails into the park from growing adjacent residential areas. It is envisaged that a track head and car park would be established in a council reserve adjacent to the park.

The proposed new multi-use track would follow a park management trail which is currently unused and classified as dormant in the reserve fire management strategy. The track will be approximately 400 metres long. Precise details and siting of the new track would be subject to heritage, environmental and sustainability assessments, and detailed design. The indicative location of the proposed multi-use track is proposed to be shown on the plan of management map.

The draft amendment also proposes several minor corrections to identify the walking track at Bluff Trail (the Bluff Loop Track) which was omitted from the plan of management in error.

Proposed amendments

Section 3.6 Visitor use

Plan reference: page 18

Replace the final sentence in the fifth paragraph:

NPWS is actively encouraging greater use of the national park by cyclists and a number of management and public vehicle trails are identified in the park as suitable for a variety of riders, including children.

With:

NPWS is actively encouraging greater use of the national park by cyclists. A multi-use track for cycling and walking and a number of management and public vehicle trails are identified in the park as suitable for a variety of riders, including children.

Section 3.6 Visitor use, Walking

Plan reference: page 19

Replace the final sentence in the first paragraph:

The park provides four walking tracks and one proposed track as outlined in Table 4.

With:

The park provides 4 walking tracks and one multi-use track – suitable for walking and cycling - as outlined in Table 4.

Plan reference: page 20

Add a new row 5 to Table 4:

Walking tracks	Location	Setting	Distance	Walking track grade
Bilandarra multi-use track	North of Bongil Day Use Area	Wetland and forest. Connects Bonville Creek to urban areas. Sections of the track have raised boardwalks.	0.8 km return	Multi-use track for walking and cycling

Replace existing row 3 in Table 4:

Walking tracks	Location	Setting	Distance	Walking track grade
Bluff Trail (proposed)	Bluff Trail, Tuckers Rocks	Views over Bundagaree Creek. Walk follows Bluff Trail and the southern part of the Bundagaree Rainforest Walk.	1.8 km circuit	Grade 3

With:

Walking tracks	Location	Setting	Distance	Walking track grade
Bluff Loop Track	Bluff Trail, Tuckers Rocks	Views over Bundageree Creek. Walk follows Bluff Trail and the southern part of the Bundageree Rainforest Walk.	2.2 km circuit	Grade 2

Section 3.6 Visitor use, Cycling

Plan reference: page 21

Add a new second last paragraph

A multi-use track may be established along a dormant park management trail between the park boundary and Bonville Creek (see Figure 1 and Table 4). The Bilandarra multi-use track would provide additional cycling and walking access to Bonville Creek and the Bongil Day Use Area for park neighbours, the local community and visitors.

Section 3.6 Visitor use, Issues

Plan reference: page 23

Replace issue 4

There are opportunities to provide a new cycling track in the west of the park (i.e. Sid Burke Trail).

With:

There are opportunities to provide a new cycling track in the west of the park (i.e. Sid Burke Trail), and a new track for cycling and walking to connect Bonville Creek with adjacent urban areas.

Section 3.6 Visitor use, Management response, Cycling

Plan reference: page 24

Replace management response 3.6.7

Permit cycling on park roads and management trails shown on Figure 1. Cycling is not permitted on walking tracks.

With:

Allow cycling on park roads, management trails and the multi-use track shown on Figure 1. Cycling is not allowed on walking tracks.

Figure 1

Plan reference: page 1

Replace Figure 1

With: Revised Figure 1 showing the proposed multi-use track and existing Bluff Loop Track (see below)

Bongil Bongil National Park Draft Amendment to the Plan of Management – improving opportunities for access and enjoyment

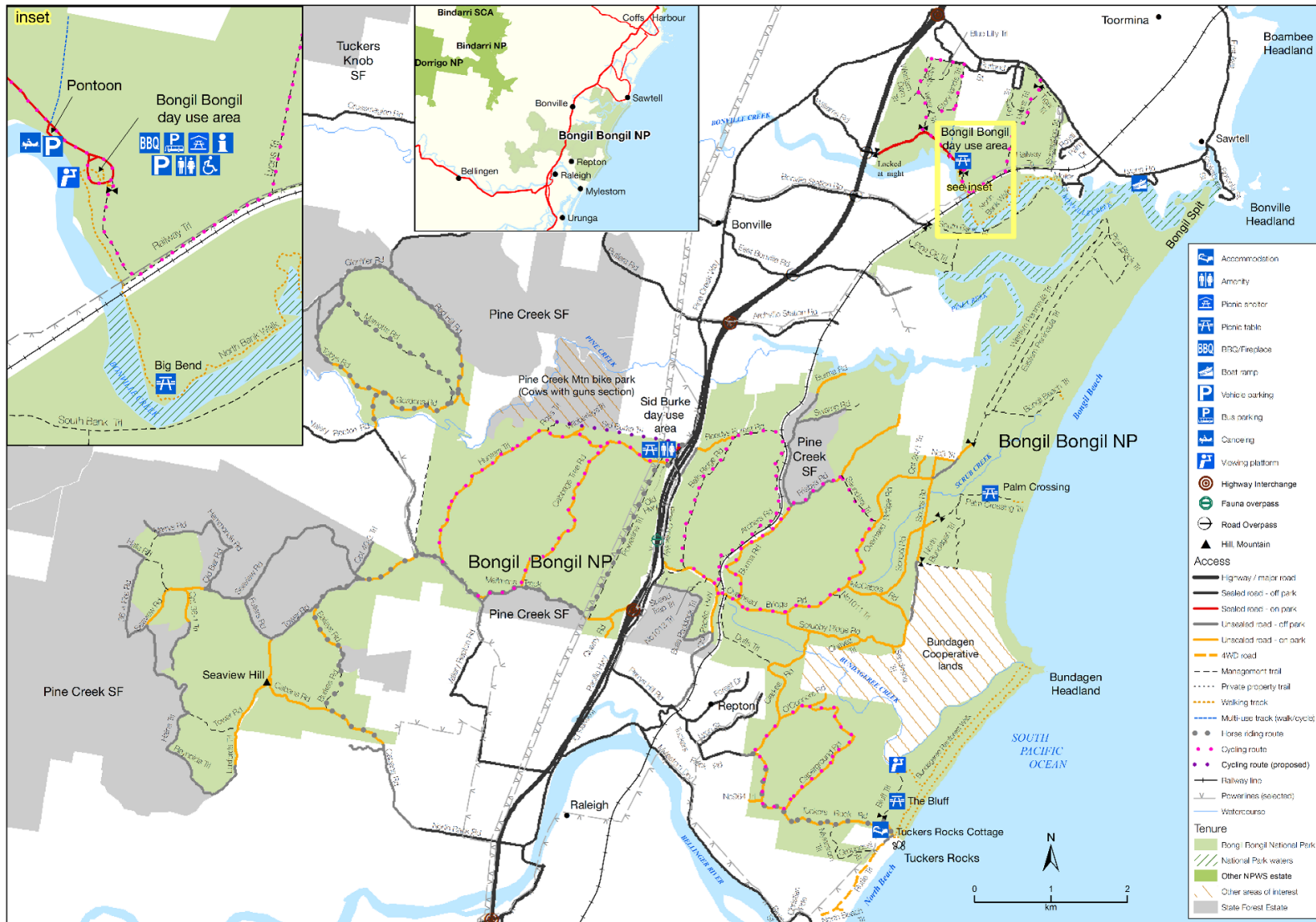


Figure 1 Map showing the proposed multi-use track and existing Bluff Loop Track

References

DPIE (2021) *Bongil Bongil National Park Plan of Management*, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, Parramatta.