

Stanthorpe Plateau, - NSW (Part 1) -

MAINLAND ISLAND CHARACTERISTICS

Jurisdictions	New South Wales Queensland
NRM Regions	Border Rivers Maranoa/Balonne Condamine Northern Rivers
LGAs	Southern Downs Regional Tenterfield
Size	83, 000 hectares
Dominant Type	Eucalypt open forests
Land Tenure	Agriculture National Park
Surrounding Issues	Land use Pest density Weed density



Overall Priority	Conservation Value	Threat Status
Very High	Very High	Very High

Key Biodiversity Values

Key biodiversity and conservation values of STANTHORPE PLATEAU, NSW (PART 1)

- 29 threatened species
- 3 threatened communities
- 8 migratory species
- Very high species richness
- Very high endemism
- Native vegetation present
- Vertebrate pest species present

CONSERVATION VALUE

Categories	Ranks/Scores
1 Biodiversity values	High (12)
2 Uniqueness	High (3)
3 Representativeness	High (3)
4 Adjacency	Very High (4)
5 Area to perimeter ratio	Very High (4)

THREAT STATUS

Categories	Ranks/Scores
1 Density of pest species	High (6)
2 Pest impact level	Very High (8)
3 Invasion fronts/range boundaries	Very High (4)
4 Land use risk	Very High (5)
5 Weed density	Very High (4)
6 Area without statutory protection	High (3)



Key Threats and Impacts -

Pest Species Present or Potentially Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cane toad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral cat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral pig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rodents
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carp, European carp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral deer	<input type="checkbox"/> Feral water buffalo	<input type="checkbox"/> Tilapia, Mozambique Tilapia
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European red fox	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral donkey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indian Myna, Common Myna	<input type="checkbox"/> Weather loach; Oriental weather loach
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European wild rabbit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral goat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mosquito fish, Plague Minnow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wild dog
<input type="checkbox"/> Feral camel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Feral horse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Red-eared slider turtle	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Potential impacts of pest species on matters of National Environmental Significance

Cane toad <i>Merops ornatus</i>	Mosquito fish, Plague Minnow <i>Mixophyes balbus</i>
Feral cat <i>Apus pacificus</i> <i>Petrogale penicillata</i> <i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>	Wild dog <i>Merops ornatus</i> <i>Petrogale penicillata</i> <i>Potorous tridactylus tridactylus</i>
Feral goat <i>Acacia macnuttiana</i> <i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	Feral Pig <i>Diuris sheaffiana</i> <i>Turnix melanogaster</i> White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland
European red fox <i>Elseya belli</i> <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i> <i>Petrogale penicillata</i>	European wild rabbit <i>Diuris sheaffiana</i> <i>Lepidium hyssopifolium</i> <i>Petrogale penicillata</i>
<i>Pseudomys oralis</i> <i>Turnix melanogaster</i>	<i>Poephila cincta cincta</i> <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>

Other threatening processes

- Situated on pest invasion front / range boundary
- High risk land use
- High density of Weeds of National Significance
- Lack of statutory protection

Highest priority biodiversity issues

Pest impacts on *Petrogale penicillata*

Pest management actions listed in recovery plans for *Pseudomys oralis*, *Peophilia cincta cincta* and *Xanthomyza phrygia*

Other threatening processes



CRITICAL SYNOPSIS OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT REGIME

Need for vertebrate pest management	<p>The NSW State Plan sets out natural resource management targets, one of which is that by 2015 there is a reduction in the impacts of invasive species. Furthermore, the NSW Department of the Environment and Climate Change has a legal obligation to protect threatened species listed under the <i>NSW Threatened Species Act 1995</i>. Vertebrate pests can cause direct and indirect impacts to threatened plant and animals species located in the Stanthorpe Plateau, NSW (part 1) mainland island.</p>
Planning instruments	<p>The following New South Wales and Queensland management plans and strategies are relevant to the Stanthorpe Plateau, NSW (part 1) mainland island ;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bald Rock and Boonoo Boonoo National Park Plan of Management (NSW NPWS, 2002a) ▪ Maryland National Park Plan of Management (NSW NPWS, 2002b) ▪ Pest Animal Management Plan North East Region (Forests NSW, 2006) ▪ Sustainable Forests Pest Management Strategy 2008 (FPQ, 2008) ▪ 1992 National Forest Policy Statement
Management actions	<p>Management actions identified for the Maryland National Park include (NSW NPWS, 2002b);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A pest species plan, which includes identification, control and monitoring of pest species, will be prepared and implemented. ▪ Fox baiting, and the control of any other significant pest species, will be undertaken in the Park. <p>The Bald Rock and Boonoo Boonoo National Park Plan of Management is not available. Management actions and strategies for state forestry reserves in the Stanthorpe Plateau, NSW (part 1) mainland island are detailed in the Management Strategies listed above.</p>
Monitoring regimes	<p>The Sustainable Forests Pest Management Strategy 2008 (FPQ, 2008) states that operational staff will monitor the effectiveness of pest control programs according to agreed mechanisms and performance indicators.</p> <p>Monitoring requirements detailed in the Pest Animal Management Plan North East Region (Forests NSW, 2006) include an annual ESFM Report which will document monitoring results, area treated by species, annual expenditure on control, continuous improvement initiatives, assessment of the success of this Plan in meeting objectives.</p>
Management responsibility	<p>Forestry Plantations Queensland Forests NSW NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change</p>
Cost-benefit analysis	<p>The NSW Invasive Species Plan highlights that pest management will be prioritized in areas where it provides the best cost to benefit ratio in protecting biodiversity, productivity and community most threatened by invasive species.</p>
Special features	<p>The Darling Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board (DDMRB) rabbit fence prevents incursions into the northern (Qld) portion of this mainland island.</p>
Summary / comments	<p>Jurisdictional issues may present a challenge to pest management of this mainland island. When considering pest management options, it may be sensible to split the island into its Queensland and NSW components.</p>

References:

Forestry Plantations Queensland (2008) Forestry Plantations Queensland Sustainable Forest Management System Pest Management Strategy. Forestry Plantations Queensland.

<http://www.fpq.qld.gov.au/data/portal/00000005/content/18524001210060912011.pdf>

Forests NSW (2005) Upper North East NSW Ecologically Sustainable Forests Management Plan. State of NSW.

http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/266197/esfm-northeast-upper.pdf

NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) (2008) *NSW Invasive Species Plan 2008-1015*, NSW DPI, Orange.

Available on-line at: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/nsw-invasive-species-plan>

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (2002a) Bald Rock and Boonoo Boonoo National Park Plan of Management. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (2002b) Maryland National Park Plan of Management. NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service. <http://nativevegetation.nsw.gov.au/resources/parks/pomfinalmaryland.pdf>

