

Tingha Plateau



MAINLAND ISLAND CHARACTERISTICS

Jurisdiction	New South Wales
NRM Region	Border Rivers/Gwydir
LGAs	Guyra Inverell
Size	76, 000 hectares
Dominant Type	Eucalypt open forests
Land Tenure	Agriculture
Surrounding Issues	Land use Pest density

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

Key Biodiversity Values

Key biodiversity and conservation values of TINGHA PLATEAU

- 22 threatened species
- 3 threatened communities
- 7 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	Very High (8)
2 Pest impact level	High (6)
3 Invasion fronts/range boundaries	High (3)
4 Land use risk	Very High (5)
5 Weed density	Medium (2)
6 Area without statutory protection	High (3)



Key Threats and Impacts

Pest Species Present or Potentially Present

<input 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

Carp, European carp <i>Litoria booroolongensis</i>	Feral goat <i>Acacia pubifolia</i> <i>Homoranthus prolixus</i> <i>Boronia granitica</i> <i>Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus</i>
Feral cat <i>Apus pacificus</i> <i>Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus</i>	Feral pig <i>Diuris sheaffiana</i> <i>Homoranthus prolixus</i> White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland
Wild dog <i>Merops ornatus</i>	European wild rabbit <i>Dichanthium setosum</i> <i>Poephila cincta cincta</i> <i>Diuris sheaffiana</i> <i>Thesium australe</i> <i>Eucalyptus mckieana</i> <i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>
European red fox <i>Elseya belli</i> <i>Rostratula australis</i> <i>Gallinago hardwickii</i> <i>Underwoodisaurus sphyrurus</i> <i>Merops ornatus</i>	
Mosquito fish, Plague Minnow <i>Litoria booroolongensis</i>	

Other threatening processes

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

Highest priority biodiversity issues

Pest management actions listed in recovery plans for *Boronia granitica*, *Poephila cincta cincta* and *Xanthomyza phrygia*



CRITICAL SYNOPSIS OF VERTEBRATE PEST MANAGEMENT REGIME

Need for vertebrate pest management	<p>Pest animals have the potential to impact on plantation productivity (Mount Topper and Clive State Forests), the natural environment and agricultural production in both State forest and adjoining lands by damaging crop trees and other vegetation, competing for food resources and directly preying on desired animal species. Tingha Plateau mainland island also provides habitat for numerous species protected under the <i>Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995</i> and <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. Vertebrate pests pose a threat to these species.</p> <p>NSW NPWS is obligated to protect the Goonoowigal State Conservation Area from threatening processes under the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i>. Other private landowners within the area are required to control vertebrate pest species under the <i>Rural Lands Protection Act 1998</i>.</p>
Planning instruments	<p>The following management plans and strategies provide requirements for pest management within the Tingha Plateau mainland island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Pest Animal Management Plan : North East Region 2006 – 2011 (Forests NSW, 2007) ■ Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management. Northern Region NSW (Forests NSW, 2008) ■ 1992 National Forest Policy Statement ■ <i>NSW Forestry Act 1916</i>
Management actions	<p>The Pest Animal Management Plan for the North East region details the numerous management actions required for eradication or control of vertebrate pest species in this area.</p>
Monitoring regimes	<p>No specific information available</p>
Management responsibility	<p>Forests NSW Private Landholders Northern Slopes Livestock Health and Pest Authority LHPA (previously Rural Lands Protection Board) NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service</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 ration in protecting biodiversity, productivity and community most threatened by invasive species.</p>
Special features	<p>Nil</p>
Summary / comments	<p>Forests NSW partakes in a regional approach to pest management through joining with the LHPA, local government, other agencies and stakeholders to develop regional strategies to manage pest animals within the Northern Slopes of NSW (Forests NSW, 2008).</p>

References:

Forests NSW (2008) Ecologically Sustainable Forest Management Plan. Northern Region, NSW. State of NSW.

http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/266193/esfm-northern.pdf

Forests NSW (2007) Pest Animal Management Plan : North East Region 2006 – 2011. Department of Primary Industries. http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0011/268058/forests-nsw-pest-animal-management-plan-northeast-region.pdf

