

Terrick Terrick National Park



Management Plan

July 2004

This Management Plan for Terrick Terrick National Park is approved for implementation. Its purpose is to direct all aspects of management in the park until the plan is reviewed. A Draft Management Plan for the park was published in September 2001 and a total of ten submissions were received. The plan was subsequently amended in early 2002, but finalisation was held over pending the Government's response to the final recommendations of the Box-Ironbark Forests and Woodlands Investigation carried out by the Environment Conservation Council (ECC 2001).

Released in March 2003, the Government's response outlined a new vision for the management of Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands, including greater community engagement in the development and implementation of management plans for parks and reserves. Therefore, Parks Victoria undertook further consultation and in May 2003 invited interested community members and groups to meet to discuss the final plan or submit written comments. Additional information and comments received as part of this process have been carefully considered in developing this approved Management Plan.

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**TERRICK TERRICK NATIONAL PARK
MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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Disclaimers

This plan is prepared without prejudice to any negotiated or litigated outcome of any native title determination applications covering land or waters within the plan's area. It is acknowledged that any future outcomes of native title determination applications may necessitate amendment of this plan; and the implementation of this plan may require further notifications under the procedures in Division 3 of Part 2 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth).

The plan is also prepared without prejudice to any future negotiated outcomes between the Government/s and Victorian Aboriginal 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 which may arise from you relying on any information in the publication.

Cover: Terrick Terrick National Park (Photo James Gallacher)

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FOREWORD

Terrick Terrick National Park protects a diverse range of natural, cultural and archaeological values in a region that has been mostly cleared of native vegetation. The park is recognised as one of the most important areas in Victoria for the protection of the nationally threatened Northern Plains Grassland community and a number of threatened flora and fauna species including Murray Swainson-pea, Red Swainson-pea, Plains-wanderer and Hooded Scaly-foot. The park is a most significant part of Victoria's outstanding parks system.

The spectacular scenery of the Terrick Terrick Range in a semi-remote setting and the diverse and colourful wildflowers in Spring, make the park a wonderful place to visit.



Hon John Thwaites MP
Minister for Environment

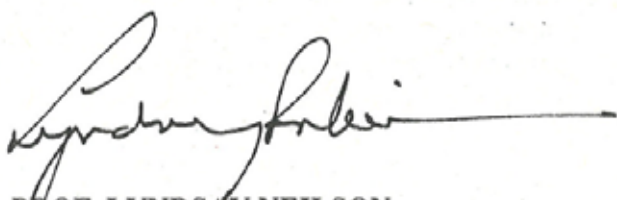
This Approved Management Plan establishes the long-term framework for protecting the significant values of the park while ensuring access for recreation and the enjoyment and appreciation of visitors. I am confident that implementation of the plan will protect the park for future generations to enjoy.

I thank those individuals and organisations who made submissions on the draft and draft final plan and look forward to the continuing support and involvement of the community in the management of this important national park.

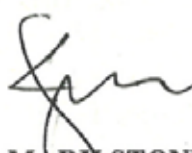
APPROVED MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Approved Management Plan, has been prepared under Section 17 of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic.), and is approved for implementation.

The Plan provides the basis and direction for the future management of Terrick Terrick National Park. It was finalised following careful consideration of the submissions received on the draft plan and the draft final Plan.



PROF. LYNDsay NEILSON
Secretary to the
Department of Sustainability
and Environment



MARK STONE
Chief Executive
Parks Victoria

SUMMARY

Terrick Terrick National Park (3770 ha) protects some of the last remaining native vegetation on Victoria's northern plains and provides important habitat for a range of significant flora and fauna. It includes the Terrick Terrick Range and adjacent plain and contains the largest contiguous area of Northern Plains Grassland in the State (Lunt *et al.* 1999). The park helps to maintain regional biodiversity, protects significant landscape values and helps to preserve important cultural and archaeological features.

The spectacular scenery, impressive granite outcrops and the diverse and colourful wildflowers of the grasslands attract visitors from across Victoria.

The park will be managed as an outstanding protected area for conservation and appropriate recreation consistent with its status. Protecting and restoring the park's highly significant plant and animal communities will be an important management goal, as will maintaining the sense of remoteness that attracts visitors to the park.

Visitors will be able to enjoy the park's features from Mount Terrick Terrick, where visitor facilities will be sensitively located. The park will make an important contribution to nature-based tourism in the State's north-west.

Future management directions for the park are summarised below:

- The structure and floristic diversity of the White Cypress-pine dominated woodland will be progressively restored to a mosaic of White Cypress-pine, Grey Box, Buloke and Yellow Box.
- The conservation values of the Northern Plains Grassland community will be preserved by continuing a low intensity sheep grazing regime pending future research outcomes.
- Populations of threatened flora and fauna species will be protected and, where possible, enhanced.
- The relatively undeveloped character of the park will be retained by continuing to centre visitor facilities and services at the base of Mount Terrick Terrick.
- Pest plants and animals that have the potential to threaten park values will be eradicated or otherwise controlled.
- Access will be improved and the track network rationalised to reduce the fragmentation of the park.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and planning area

Terrick Terrick National Park is in north-west Victoria, 225 km north-west of Melbourne and 64 km north of Bendigo. The park lies west of Echuca abutting Bendigo Creek (figure 1).

The planning area covers Terrick Terrick National Park (3770 ha) including the Terrick Terrick Reference Area (100 ha).

1.2 Creation of Terrick Terrick National Park

Terrick Terrick National Park was included in Schedule Two of the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic.) as a result of the *National Parks (Amendment) Act 1998* (Vic.) and was proclaimed on 15 April 1999. The park includes the former Terrick Terrick State Park (created in 1988) and 1277 ha of former freehold land, which, because of its nationally significant grassland values (NRE 2000), was purchased with joint State and Commonwealth funding.

Terrick Terrick Flora Reserve (26 ha), reserved forest (11 ha), water frontage reserve along Bendigo Creek (adjoining strips of reserved and unreserved Crown land totalling 43 ha) and unused road (4 ha) were added to the park on 30 October 2002 as a result of the *National Parks (Box-Ironbark and Other Parks) Act 2002*. This was in line with the final recommendations of the Box-Ironbark Forests and Woodlands Investigation carried out by the Environment Conservation Council (ECC) (section 2.5).

1.3 Developing the Management Plan

This Management Plan for Terrick Terrick National Park was prepared in consultation with key stakeholders, bearing in mind the existing Terrick Terrick State Park Management Plan (Parks Victoria 1997), the Terrick Terrick Grasslands Interim Management Statement (NRE 1997) and Parks Victoria's conservation objectives for the park.

A Draft Management Plan for the park was released for public comment in September 2001 and a total of ten submissions were received. The plan was subsequently amended in early 2002, but finalisation was held over pending the Government's response to the final recommendations of the Box-Ironbark Forests and Woodlands Investigation carried out by the ECC (ECC 2001).

Released in March 2002, the Government's response outlined a new vision for the management of Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands, including greater community engagement in the development and implementation of management plans for parks and reserves. Therefore, Parks Victoria undertook further consultation and in May 2003 invited interested community members and groups to meet to discuss the final plan or submit written comments. A total of seven written submissions were received commenting on the draft final plan. Additional information and comments received as part of this process have been carefully considered in developing this approved Management Plan which replaces the 1997 Terrick Terrick State Park Management Plan.

2 BASIS

2.1 Regional context

Terrick Terrick National Park is in a region most popular for its access to the Murray River and the Kerang wetlands.

Agricultural land, State forest and Crown land adjoin the park.

Popular destinations in the area include:

- The Murray River Reserve—an important tourist attraction in the vicinity of the park that attracts campers and day visitors wishing to experience the wonders of the ‘Mighty Murray’;
- The Kerang Wetlands—attracting day visitors and campers interested in bird watching, fishing, hunting and vehicle-based touring;
- The Port of Echuca—an important tourist destination that attracts many visitors to its historic precinct and provides a gateway for car-based touring.

2.2 Park values and significance

Terrick Terrick National Park makes a valuable contribution to Victoria’s parks system, which aims to protect viable, representative examples of the State’s natural environments occurring on public land. The park also provides opportunities for visitors to enjoy and appreciate its natural and cultural values.

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

In recognition of the area’s outstanding values and its heritage importance, the park has also been nominated for listing on the Register of the National Estate. Terrick Terrick National Park is the only national park in the Victorian Riverina bioregion.

The park’s significant natural values include:

- the largest contiguous area of threatened Northern Plains Grassland in Victoria (Lunt *et al.* 1999);
- the largest and most significant area of White Cypress-pine woodland remaining in Victoria (LCC 1985);
- 31 flora species and 33 fauna species that are rare or threatened in Victoria;
- the only known population of two threatened flora species, Annual Buttons and Pepper Grass and the only known protected population Hooded Scaly-foot in Victoria, which is also listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (Vic.) (FFG) (Robertson 1999);
- probably the largest protected populations in Victoria of two nationally threatened flora species, the Murray Swainson-pea and Red Swainson-pea;
- a significant number of woodland dependent bird species associated with the FFG-listed Victorian temperate woodland bird community;
- the most significant Plains-wanderer habitat in the State (Baker-Gabb 1998);
- a number of bird species that are at the very limit of their range including the Mallee Ringneck, Chestnut-crowned Babbler and White-winged Fairy-wren;
- three flora species and one fauna species regarded as being of high conservation significance for the Victorian Riverina bioregion;
- one flora species of high conservation significance for the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion;
- imposing granite outcrops that rise 100 metres above the vast Northern Plains.

Significant cultural values include:

- 191 Indigenous archaeological sites including middens, rock wells, burials and scarred trees;
- the site of the former Terrick Terrick West School;
- farm dwellings typical of early last century.

Significant tourism and recreational values include:

- opportunities for sightseeing, wildlife viewing, walking, camping and other appropriate recreation.

2.3 Past land use

Terrick Terrick National Park has been subject to a range of past land uses, including timber harvesting, gravel and kaolin extraction, grazing by domestic stock and cropping. Today the visible evidence of these activities and uses have diminished. Nevertheless many undesirable effects associated with past use persist, such as weed invasion and changes to the structure and composition of native vegetation communities.

Timber harvesting activities, including thinning, firewood and fence post production, were widespread throughout much of the park's woodland communities. Consistent with former Land Conservation Council (LCC) recommendations (LCC 1985), timber harvesting has not been permitted in the park since 1987.

In the past, granite-based material and kaolin was extracted from the park. Signs of this activity remain, including a large pit south-west of Mount Terrick Terrick, from which kaolin was extracted. In addition, two disused gravel extraction pits are located to the east and south-west of Mount Terrick Terrick.

Between the 1880s and 1994, domestic stock on agistment grazed the former State Park area. The newly acquired grassland property was grazed by sheep almost continually since the 1870s, with some intermittent grazing by cattle and horses. An environmentally sensitive sheep grazing regime continues on the grassland areas in order to maintain conservation values.

Approximately 790 ha (62 percent of the newly acquired grassland property was cropped prior to 1950 (CEM 1999), and a total of 332 ha (26 percent) was cropped in recent years. As a result, areas cropped in recent years are generally devoid of indigenous vegetation (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

2.4 The park visitor

Terrick Terrick National Park receives approximately 4500 visitors annually. The climate influences visitation, which mostly peaks in the spring and late autumn. It is expected that the significant and unique grasslands will attract more visitors in the future, particularly in spring. The majority of visitors to the park are from the surrounding area, Melbourne and other parts of the State.

Tourism in the region is concentrated along the Murray River, particularly at Echuca, although visits to parks and reserves in the region are increasing. The park is part of the Goldfields tourism region. The Regional Tourism Development Plan for the Goldfields tourism region (Tourism Victoria 1997) examines regional visitation trends and sets out development strategies.

2.5 ECC recommendations

Variuos recommendations in the ECC's Box-Ironbark Forests and Woodlands final Report (ECC 2001) accepted by the Government in 2002 provide direction for certain aspects of park management. Recommendations that relate to Terrick Terrick National Park include:

- honey production on licensed sites be permitted subject to research and management requirements;
- no harvesting of forest products;
- no metal detecting, prospecting, gemstone seeking or gold panning, exploration or mining, car rallies, hunting or use or carrying of firearms;
- low intensity sheep grazing, where necessary for biodiversity conservation, be permitted at the land manager's discretion
- the historical significance of Riegals's and Davies' homesteads be assessed.

In addition, there are ECC recommendations which apply to public land in the box-ironbark

region generally, including the park. These include:

R8 Land managers continue with and further develop adaptive management research and monitoring programs, develop targeted new programs and apply the results where appropriate.

R15 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.

R42 Box-Ironbark public lands be available for a range of recreation activities for community enjoyment and appreciation and appropriate to the land use category.

2.6 Legislation and guidelines

Terrick Terrick National Park is reserved and managed under the *National Parks Act 1975* (Vic.). The Act requires the Secretary to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to preserve and protect the natural condition of the park, and its natural 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 Terrick Terrick National Park.

The Terrick Terrick Reference Area, which is in the park, was gazetted on 11 July 1996 under the *Reference Areas Act 1978* (Vic.). The Reference Area, which provides a reference for comparative study purposes, is managed in accordance with ministerial directives, which require that natural processes shall be allowed to continue undisturbed, and operational policies.

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

Issues relating to native title are dealt with according to the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cwlth). An application for a native title determination, covering Terrick Terrick National Park, among

other areas, was registered with the Native Title Tribunal on 19 July 2000.

The aims for the park consistent with the legislation and Government accepted ECC recommendations, are as follows:

Conservation

- Preserve and protect the natural environment.
- Allow natural environmental processes to continue with the minimum of interference, except where habitat manipulation is proved to be desirable for biodiversity conservation.
- Maintain biodiversity.
- Conserve features of archaeological, historical and cultural significance.
- Protect water catchments and streams.
- Ensure that appropriate and sufficient measures are taken to protect the park from injury by fire.
- Eradicate or otherwise control introduced plants, animals and diseases.

The park visit

- Provide opportunities for appropriate recreation and tourism.
- Promote and encourage an appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of the park's natural and cultural values and its recreational opportunities.
- Encourage appropriate park use and visitor behaviour and foster a conservation ethic in visitors.
- Take reasonable steps to ensure the safety of visitors.

Other

- Provide for and encourage scientific research, surveys and monitoring that will contribute to a better understanding and management of the park.
- Co-operate with local, State and interstate government authorities, the community and other interested organisations to assist in the park's management.

The planning area is also managed in accordance with Parks Victoria's operational policies, and other plans including:

- Draft North West Region (Bendigo Fire District) Fire Protection Plan (NRE 2002);
- Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land (CNR 1995).

3 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

3.1 Park vision

A future visitor to Terrick Terrick National Park finds a restored remnant of Northern Plains Grassy Woodland, the largest contiguous area of Northern Plains Grassland in Victoria, impressive granite outcrops, well protected populations of threatened flora and fauna of high conservation value and sites of Indigenous and European cultural significance.

The park is highly valued as a conservation reserve in an otherwise modified landscape. It is being managed with an increasing understanding of its ecological processes and threatened flora and fauna, with emphasis placed on maintaining and restoring natural values by local community groups, adjacent landholders, research institutions and government organisations.

Increased visitor use is sensitively and sustainably managed. Visitor facilities, mainly around Mount Terrick Terrick, are in keeping with the scale and relatively undeveloped character of the park. Interpretation and education programs strengthen appreciation of the park's 'uniqueness' and its 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;
- 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 principal management zones apply to the planning area—the Conservation and

Recreation Zone, the Conservation Zone and the Reference Area Zone (table 1 and figure 2).

3.3 Management directions

Major management directions for the park are outlined below.

Conservation

- The structure and floristic diversity of the White Cypress-pine-dominated woodland will be restored to a mosaic of White Cypress-pine, Grey Box, Buloke and Yellow Box in the long-term.
- The open structure of the Northern Plains Grassland will be preserved and its floristic diversity will be increased in the long-term. The conservation values will be preserved by continuing a low intensity sheep grazing regime pending future research outcomes.
- The structure and floristic diversity of the Mixed Grassy Woodland, Riparian Woodland and Granite Outcrop Shrubland will be restored in the long-term.
- In the long-term, indigenous vegetation will be restored on areas previously cropped.
- Research into the management requirements of significant plant and animal species and communities will be encouraged.
- Aboriginal places, objects and relics and other historic places of significance will be identified and sympathetically protected and interpreted.
- Pest plants and animals that have the potential to threaten park values will be eradicated or otherwise controlled.
- Unnecessary vehicle tracks will be rehabilitated to minimise soil erosion and visual impacts, reduce fragmentation and to enhance recreational experiences.
- All visitors will be encouraged to adopt minimal impact behaviour and to adhere to codes of conduct appropriate to their activities.

TABLE 1 MANAGEMENT ZONES

ZONE	AREA/LOCATION	VALUES	GENERAL MANAGEMENT AIM
Reference Area	100 ha; 2.6% of the planning area. Terrick Terrick Reference Area between Plantation Track, Marlow Track and Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road in the north-east corner.	Relatively undisturbed land types and associated vegetation.	To protect viable samples of one or more land types that are relatively undisturbed for comparative study with similar land types elsewhere. This will be done by keeping all human interference to the essential minimum and ensuring as far as practicable that the only long-term change results from natural processes.
Conservation	947 ha; 24.6% of the planning area. The area of the park supporting the Northern Plains Grassland community and former public land water frontage along Bendigo Creek.	Broad areas containing sensitive natural environment or ecosystems.	To protect sensitive natural environments and, subject to this, provide for simple visitor facilities and recreational activities that cause minimum impact to natural processes.
Conservation and Recreation	2807 ha; 72.8%. Areas not included in the Conservation Zone and Reference Area Zone, including the woodland areas of the park, and the former Terrick Terrick Flora Reserve and State forest.	Important natural values and scope for tourism and recreational opportunities.	To protect relatively sensitive natural environments, allow sustainable, dispersed recreational activities and provide small-scale recreational facilities without significant impact on natural processes.

- The impacts of the Eastern Grey Kangaroo population on park values will be investigated.

The park visit

- Information and interpretation about the park's natural and cultural values will be improved to enhance visitor enjoyment.
- Visitor services will be maintained and developed in keeping with the scale and relatively undeveloped character of the park and will be consistent with the protection of natural and cultural values.
- The park will provide for Northern Plains Grassland education and interpretation.

- Visitor access to sensitive grassland areas will be controlled and monitored to minimise potential impacts on flora and fauna values.

- Recreation activities will be permitted as shown in table 2.

Community awareness and involvement

- Indigenous interests and aspirations in the park will be recognised and respected in planning for and managing the park.
- Community participation and support will be encouraged to help protect and conserve the park.
- Parks Victoria will through its programs enhance the community's appreciation of the park's values, particularly the biological values of the Northern Plains Grassland.

TABLE 2 SUMMARY OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	MANAGEMENT ZONES		
	CONSERVATION AND RECREATION ZONE (approx. 73% of the Park)	CONSERVATION ZONE (approx. 25% of the Park)	REFERENCE AREA (approx. 3% of the Park)
Bicycle riding	Yes #	No	No
Camping*	Yes #	No	No
Picnicking*	Yes	No	No
Walking			
• Short nature walks	Yes	Yes	No
• Bush walking	Yes #	Yes	No
Scenic viewing	Yes	Yes	No
Bird watching	Yes	Yes	No
Nature study	Yes	Yes	No
Feeding wildlife	No	No	No
Visiting historic features	Yes	Yes	No
Car touring	Yes	NA	NA
Trail bike riding	Yes H	NA	NA
Car rallies	No	NA	NA
Horse riding	No	No	No
Hunting	No	No	No
Orienteering & rogaining	No	No	No
Dogs	No	No	No
Rock climbing & abseiling	NA	NA	NA
Prospecting & metal detecting	No	No	No

KEY

Yes Appropriate

No Not appropriate

NA Not available

Subject to conditions specified elsewhere in the plan

* Use of solid fuel fires, chainsaws and generators are not permitted

H Licensed riders on registered and roadworthy motorbikes are permitted on all formed vehicle tracks open to the public

4 STRATEGIES FOR NATURAL VALUES CONSERVATION

4.1 Geological and landform features

The park contains imposing granite outcrops (Mt Terrick Terrick, Bennetts Rock and Reigals Rock) that rise 100 metres above the surrounding landscape. These outcrops form part of the Terrick Terrick Range, which was formed as a result of an igneous intrusion of granite into the Lower Palaeozoic bedrock in the late Devonian period. Some sedimentary deposits of the Late Quaternary period can also be found in the park (LCC 1985). Erosion around the granite outcrops has resulted in the formation of shallow depressions that hold and provide water for fauna in the park.

Aim

- Minimise impacts on geological landform features.

Management strategies

- *Monitor impacts from visitors, management activities and educational studies on the granite outcrops and implement management actions to minimise damage as necessary.*
- *Provide information that interprets the formation and structure of the granite outcrops, thus promoting their protection and appreciation (section 6.1).*

4.2 Rivers and catchments

The section of Bendigo Creek that intersects the park supports riparian vegetation dominated by River Red Gum and Black Box. The riparian vegetation provides suitable habitat for a number of threatened fauna species, including the Carpet Python and Barking Owl. The Bendigo Creek also provides an important corridor for the movement of fauna between the park and other areas of remnant vegetation in the region.

Stream flows and flooding affect the structure and composition of the riparian vegetation along Bendigo Creek. These water flows in turn are influenced by catchment land uses such as levee banking, stream modification and

the construction of water storages for irrigation and domestic water supply.

Aim

- Maintain habitat values of the Bendigo Creek.

Management strategy

- *Liaise with local government authorities, the North Central Catchment Management Authority and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to protect the environs of the Bendigo Creek within the planning area from management activities upstream in the catchment.*

4.3 Vegetation

The vegetation communities of the Victorian Northern Plains have been severely degraded since European settlement and now only small remnant areas remain, with little protected on public land. As a result, all five vegetation communities (White Cypress-pine-dominated Grassy Woodland, Mixed Grassy Woodland, Granite Outcrop Shrubland, Riparian Woodland and Northern Plains Grassland) within Terrick Terrick National Park are of considerable conservation significance.

Northern Plains Grassland, listed as a threatened community under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, is dominated by various Wallaby and Spear grasses. According to the Northern Plains Grassland Community Draft Action Statement (Foreman 1997), more than 99 percent of this community has been lost and up to 10 000 ha remain on private property, roadsides, rail reserves and miscellaneous Crown land. It is not known to what extent this community has been altered by agriculture since European settlement. However, it is generally accepted that today's remnants are an artefact of management and are not a true representation of the original structure or floristic composition of the vegetation (Foreman 1992).

Terrick Terrick National Park contains approximately 1200 ha of this FFG-listed

community, the largest contiguous area of Northern Plains Grassland existing in Victoria. A total of around 28 percent (332 ha) of the grassland has been cropped in recent years (zoned for conservation and recreation in figure 2). As a result, these areas are generally devoid of indigenous vegetation (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

Northern Plains Grassland and the habitat it provides for numerous threatened flora and fauna species has been relatively lightly grazed by sheep since the 1880s. It is considered that any significant change to the grazing regimes used in the past may dramatically alter the species composition and structure of the grassland community. Currently sheep grazing is being maintained on the grassland areas in the east of the park in accordance with guidelines set out in the review of the Terrick Terrick National Park land use history and grazing management guidelines (CEM 1999; CSU 2003). The guidelines need to be reviewed periodically in consultation with the Grassland Advisory Group to reflect the improving understanding of the Northern Plains Grasslands Ecology.

Other threats to the integrity of the grasslands include weed invasion (section 4.7), soil disturbance and physical injury of plants as a result of motor vehicles accessing the area for management, research or monitoring purposes.

The distribution of the White Cypress-pine-dominated Grassy Woodland is restricted to the west of Terrick Terrick National Park. Prior to European settlement, the Grassy Woodland community consisted of an open mix of Yellow Box, Grey Box, White Cypress-pine, Buloke and occasional shrubs, while some areas contained pure woodlands of Box, Buloke or White Cypress-pine. Today the community is dominated by White Cypress-pine following the extensive recruitment of the species in the 1880s and subsequent silviculture activities that have reduced the density of Buloke, Yellow Box and Grey Box (LCC 1985). This substantial change to structure and composition has reduced the habitat diversity of the vegetation community (section 4.6).

The mixed Grassy Woodland occurs north-east of the White Cypress-pine-dominated Grassy Woodland. The vegetation forms an open

woodland comprising Grey Box, Yellow Box, Buloke, White Cypress-pine and occasional shrubs.

The Bendigo Creek in the park's east supports the Riparian Woodland community. Here, Black Box and River Red Gum dominate and their distribution coincides with the extent of normal flooding events (Foreman 1993).

In all of these woodland communities, grazing pressure from domestic stock and rabbits has suppressed the regeneration of woody and herbaceous species.

The granite outcrops in the park's west support the Granite Outcrop Shrubland community. Dominated by Deane's Wattle, Cherry Ballart and herbs such as Rock Correa, the community is adapted to growing in these exposed environments (Foreman and Westerway 1994).

The park's vegetation communities support over 200 native vascular flora species including 29 threatened species (appendix 1). Two threatened species, Annual Buttons and Pepper Grass, are only found within the park's grassland habitats. These grassland habitats may also contain the largest protected populations in Victoria of three threatened species, Murray Swainson-pea, Red Swainson-pea and Plains Leek-orchid (Lunt *et al.* 1999). Regrettably, these grasslands alone may not be large enough to support viable populations of all threatened flora species in the long-term. Nevertheless, they do represent the vital core of a system of areas, including surrounding private lands, which, if managed sympathetically, could better ensure the conservation of these species in the State.

A number of threatened plant species that occur in the park are also at risk of becoming extinct in the near future owing to their small population sizes or inability to multiply under current management regimes (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

A substantial body of research has been and is currently being carried out in the park by a number of tertiary and scientific institutions. The results of this research have been instrumental in enhancing our understanding of the park's ecological processes, particularly in relation to the Northern Plains Grassland community. Further research, however, is required to guide the park's future vegetation

management including a better understanding of the distribution of flora, the ecological processes influencing these distributions, factors affecting their survival and their response to various active management regimes.

Aims

- Protect and preserve indigenous flora, particularly species significant to conservation.
- Protect and preserve indigenous vegetation communities and, where possible, restore their structure and composition to a more natural state, particularly significant plant communities.
- Increase knowledge of significant flora and vegetation communities.

Management strategies

- *Where compatible with the protection of park values, restore the structure and floristic diversity of the White Cypress-pine–dominated woodland by encouraging the natural regeneration of woody and herbaceous species. Ensure adequate representation of the fire-sensitive White Cypress-pines is maintained (section 4.6).*
- *Preserve the open structure and increase the floristic diversity of the Northern Plains Grassland.*
- *Restore the natural regeneration of woody and herbaceous species in the Mixed Grassy Woodland, Riparian Woodland and Granite Outcrop Shrubland.*
- *Progressively replace exotic vegetation in recently cropped areas by facilitating the regeneration of indigenous woody and herbaceous species to form a continuous ecological link between the Riparian Woodland community along the Bendigo Creek and the Granite Outcrop Shrubland community.*
- *Monitor the impact of grazing and grazing management practices on grassland structure and composition.*
- *Investigate the feasibility of the eventual removal of grazing by introduced stock, by*

considering alternatives including burning (section 4.6), for the management of the grasslands.

- *Manage grazing in the grassland area, in accordance with the park's approved grazing management guidelines (CSU 2003).*
- *Review grazing management guidelines every three years or more frequently as necessary to reflect monitoring and research findings and improved understanding of Northern Plains Grassland Ecology. Obtain approval of grazing guidelines from the Chief Ranger, Regional Manager, and Manager National Parks and Conservation Research.*
- *Continue to seek input and advice on the management of the grassland area from the Terrick Terrick National Park Grassland Advisory Group.*
- *Develop guidelines for management and research-related motor vehicle use in the grasslands to minimise potential impacts on flora and fauna values.*
- *Establish populations of Woolly Buttons and Rohrlach's Bluebush in suitable areas of the park protected from stock and rabbit grazing.*
- *Augment Smooth Minuria, Rohrlach's Bluebush and Downy Swainson-Pea populations in the park with artificially propagated plants.*
- *Investigate the feasibility of reintroducing viable communities of indigenous flora previously present in the park, including Yarran Wattle and Old Man Salt Bush.*
- *Enhance Silver Needlewood, Hooked Needlewood and Buloke regeneration by protecting stands from stock and rabbit grazing.*
- *Manage FFG-listed plant species and communities according to approved action statements.*
- *Encourage surveys and research on significant plant and vegetation communities to improve knowledge of their management requirements.*

- *Continue to encourage and facilitate research into the ecological processes of the Northern Plains Grassland community by tertiary educational institutions and research institutions.*
- *Work co-operatively with neighbouring landholders and with government and non-government organisations to co-ordinate and initiate sympathetic management of grassland, riparian and woodland remnants surrounding the park.*
- *Complement and enhance the protection of grassland values in Terrick Terrick National Park by co-ordinating their management with the management of grassland values in reserves across the Northern Plains, including Tomara Conservation Reserve, Yassom Flora and Fauna Reserve, Tang Tang Swamp Wildlife Reserve, Patho Wildlife Reserve, Meadows Wildlife Reserve and Kotta Bushland Reserve.*

4.4 Fauna

The diverse habitats in the park support a wide range of bird, reptile and mammal species, including 32 threatened species (appendix 2).

More than 140 bird species have been recorded in the park, including the Plains-wanderer, Bush Stone-curlew, Grey-crowned Babbler, Little Button Quail, Barking Owl and Grey Falcon. The park's grasslands are recognised as Victoria's primary habitat for the Plains-wanderer (Maher and Baker-Gabb 1993). It has been estimated that 120 Plains-wanderers, representing approximately 20 percent of the known Victorian population, use the grasslands (Baker-Gabb 1998). In addition, the park supports a significant number of woodland dependent species associated with the FFG-listed Victorian temperate-woodland bird community such as the Speckled Warbler, Diamond Firetail and Hooded Robin (appendix 2).

A total of 23 reptiles and seven amphibians have been recorded in the park to date, comprising 16 lizard, seven snake and seven frog species. Of these, the most significant are the Hooded Scaly-foot and Striped Legless Lizard. The Hooded Scaly-foot is considered critically endangered in Victoria, although it is

not thought to be threatened in other states. The population in the park is the only one known to still exist in Victoria. Terrick Terrick National Park is known to be one of only five conservation reserves throughout Australia where the Striped Legless Lizard is currently found.

Native mammal species recorded in the park include the Eastern Grey Kangaroo, Swamp Wallaby, Common Brushtail Possum, Water Rat, Short-beaked Echidna, Fat-tailed Dunnart and nine bat species.

Threats to native fauna recorded in the park include:

- habitat fragmentation caused by unnecessary roads and tracks;
- habitat modification caused by inappropriate grazing regimes, fire, removal of fallen timber and weed invasion (section 4.7);
- predation by introduced species, including foxes and cats;
- disturbance to feeding, movement and reproductive patterns as a result of visitor, management, research and monitoring activities.

In addition, the grassland and woodland habitats of the park alone may not be large enough in the long-term to support viable populations of threatened fauna, including the Plains-wanderer, Hooded Scaly-foot and Striped Legless Lizard. The complementary management of remnant habitat surrounding the park is therefore crucial to better ensure the conservation of these species in the State (Robertson 1999).

Terrick Terrick National Park is a refuge for a population of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. The kangaroos move between Bullock Creek and Bendigo Creek using the park for food and shelter.

The size of the kangaroo population using the park is currently unknown. Dams and alternate water sources in the park and on adjacent land provide a permanent supply of water for the kangaroos, allowing them to be sustained at artificially high numbers during dry periods.

Increased grazing pressure from kangaroos may, together with grazing pressure from rabbits, prevent the growth of native tree and shrub seedlings in woodland areas and alter the structure and composition of grassland communities. In addition, kangaroos in the past have damaged crops and fences belonging to adjacent landholders.

Further information concerning the distribution of fauna, the ecological processes influencing these distributions, factors affecting their survival and their response to various active management regimes is required.

Aims

- Protect and preserve indigenous fauna and faunal habitat, particularly significant species and habitats.
- Increase knowledge of significant fauna species and faunal habitat.

Management strategies

- *Enhance the existing woodland habitat of ground foraging birds including the Bush Stone-Curlew and Grey-Crowned Babbler by retaining all fallen timber.*
- *In the long-term, establish woodland links to increase Grey-crowned Babbler habitat and facilitate the movement of native fauna, including the Carpet Python, between woodland habitats in the park. However, woodland links are not to be established on areas with significant grassland values.*
- *Exclude fire from woodland and grassland areas with significant conservation values until the impact of fire on the communities and their dependent fauna is better understood.*
- *Control visitor access, particularly to woodland habitats of the Bush Stone-Curlew, to rocky outcrop habitats of the Carpet Python and to the Northern Plains Grassland.*
- *Monitor Eastern Grey Kangaroo numbers to establish an understanding of their population dynamics.*
- *Manage kangaroos in accordance with Parks Victoria's Kangaroo Management*

Strategy (Parks Victoria 1998) and co-ordinate efforts with adjacent landowners.

- *Manage FFG-listed fauna species and communities according to approved action statements.*
- *Work co-operatively with neighbouring landholders or with relevant government and non-government organisations to co-ordinate and initiate sympathetic management of threatened fauna habitat on land outside the park (section 4.3).*
- *Control introduced animals including foxes and cats (section 4.7).*
- *Control pest plants giving priority to pest plants that reduce the habitat of significant fauna, including Paterson's Curse, Bathurst Burr, Bridal Creeper and exotic pasture species (section 4.7).*
- *Investigate the impact of total grazing pressure on woodland and grassland vegetation communities.*
- *Investigate the impact of fire on threatened fauna species.*
- *Encourage surveys and research on significant fauna species and faunal habitat to improve knowledge of their management requirements.*

4.5 Landscape

The park's native grasslands and woodlands are key components of its scenic values, adding to the imposing views and providing a dramatic contrast to the isolated granite peaks rising above the vast Northern Plains (ECC 2000).

Visual intrusions within the park that detract from its landscape values include disused gravel and kaolin extraction pits, dams, water supply channels, fences for stock management and vehicle tracks.

Aims

- Minimise visual impacts on the landscape, especially from major viewing points.
- Where possible rehabilitate, remove or ameliorate undesirable visual intrusions.

Management strategies

- *Rehabilitate disused gravel extraction pits within the park.*
- *Investigate options to rehabilitate the disused kaolin extraction pit.*
- *Close and rehabilitate unnecessary internal tracks (section 6.2).*
- *Rationalise the fence network in the park (section 8.1).*
- *Site and design all facilities to take into account the need to protect landscape values.*
- *Restrict infrastructure works to existing cleared and disturbed areas where possible.*

4.6 Fire management

Fire management in the park is governed by the Draft North West Region (Bendigo Fire District) Fire Protection Plan (NRE 2002) and the Code of Practice for Fire Management on Public Land (CNR 1995).

Under the North West Region Fire Protection Plan, the majority of the park is classified for fuel management purposes as Zone 4 – Flora and Fauna Management. Subsequently prescribed burning of the park is conducted primarily for ecological management rather than for fuel reduction. This reduces the number of internal tracks needed within the park for fire management purposes (section 6.2).

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 is practicable, from the harmful effects of wildfire and inappropriate fire regimes.

The fire history of the park prior to European settlement, particularly the use of fire by Aborigines, is unknown. However, historical accounts of Aboriginal life in northern Victoria indicate that Aboriginal groups often used fire to promote the fresh growth of grass and to drive game (LCC 1985).

Prior to 1994, wildfire had not been recorded in the former State Park area since the 1800s. This absence, combined with past silvicultural

activities, has contributed to White Cypress-pine dominating the Grassy Woodlands in the west of the park (section 4.3). No wildfires have been recorded in the park's newly acquired grasslands. Prescribed experimental fires are carried out annually in Spear-grass Paddock to determine the impact of fire on the structure and composition of exotic-dominated grassland communities (figure 2).

Potential causes of wildfire include lightning strikes, campfires, discarded cigarettes and controlled burns within and adjacent to the park.

Lunt *et al.* (1999) suggest that the effects of a single fire event would be minimal and short-lived on the park's existing grassland vegetation. However, fauna species dependent on grassland vegetation, including the Plains-wanderer, Little Button Quail and Striped Legless Lizard may be greatly affected. Extensive fires over large areas of grassland vegetation may not only kill many of these animals, but also reduce cover, thus exposing them to increased predation (Robertson 1999). In addition, stock prefer to graze burnt areas, which could result in the loss, or depletion of threatened flora species including the endemic population of Annual Buttons (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

Although fire poses a low risk to grassland vegetation in the park, it poses a significant risk to woodland communities, in particular the Riparian Woodland along Bendigo Creek and the White Cypress-pine-dominated Grassy Woodlands in the park's west (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

The Riparian Woodland along Bendigo Creek contains many old Black Box with hollow trunks and branches. These hollowed trees and their fallen timber provide important habitat for native fauna, including the threatened Barking Owl and Carpet Python. While young Black Box will resprout vigorously after a fire, old growth Black Box are likely to be killed (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

White Cypress-pine is extremely fire sensitive and seedlings and mature trees are easily killed by a single fire event. The success of seedling growth is weather-dependent and requires a sequence of wet summers, which occurs rarely. Subsequently, a single fire event could

eliminate White Cypress-pine from Grassy Woodland areas (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

Fire control activities including the construction of control lines and the use of phosphate-based fire retardants may result in the fragmentation, modification or loss of native flora and fauna habitat.

Research is required into the effects of fire and fire ecology on the park's flora and fauna communities. This is particularly important in protecting species and communities identified as threatened (sections 4.3 and 4.4).

Aims

- Protect life, property and park values from injury by fire.
- Minimise the adverse effects of fires and fire suppression methods.
- Identify and implement fire regimes appropriate to the conservation of flora and fauna.

Management strategies

- *Publicise and enforce fire regulations and restrictions on the use and role of fire within the park.*
- *Promote ecological studies on the need for, and effects of, fire on vegetation and habitat.*
- *Develop and ensure application of guidelines on the preferred methods for suppression of wildfire in the park.*
- *Prepare an Ecological Burn Strategy for the park in accordance with the Interim Guidelines and Procedures for Ecological Burning on Public Land in Victoria (Fire Ecology Working Group 1999).*
- *Investigate the impact of fire on the structure and composition of exotic-dominated grassland communities by conducting experimental prescribed burns in Spear-grass Paddock, in accordance with Parks Victoria's operational policies.*
- *Following a wildfire event, ensure stock grazing is excluded from affected areas.*
- *Slash roadsides adjacent to grassland areas to create strategic fire breaks.*

- *Continue to maintain the external boundary track and the dams required for fire protection purposes (section 6.2).*

4.7 Pest plants and animals

Over 100 pest plant species have been recorded in the park. These include a number of regionally controlled weeds including African Box-thorn, Bathurst Burr, Horehound, Wheel Cactus, Paterson's Curse and Bridal Creeper. These species have primarily invaded disturbed areas, including recently cropped land, water channels, rabbit warren areas, former gravel extraction areas, erosion control works around the granite outcrops, along internal vehicle tracks and in stock camps under isolated stands of trees.

In addition to these regionally declared weeds, a number of environmental weeds such as Annual Rye-grass and Wild Oats are widespread, particularly in woodland areas in the west (Lunt *et al.* 1999).

Pest plant invasion threatens the integrity of the park's vegetation communities and the survival of small isolated populations of flora species, including populations of the threatened Hairy Tails and Rohrlach's Bluebush. The grazing guidelines (CSU 2003) include protocols to minimise the potential introduction and spread of weeds from sheep grazing the grassland.

A variety of introduced animals have been recorded in the park, including foxes, rabbits, hares, feral cats, feral bees, starlings and Red Deer. Rabbits are a particular problem because they inhibit the regeneration of native woody species in woodland areas. However, the rabbit is a key prey species of the threatened Carpet Python. The potential impact of proposed rabbit control programs on the Carpet Python population therefore needs to be investigated.

The impact of fox and cat predation on native fauna in the park is largely unknown but may well pose a significant threat to the following categories of native fauna (section 4.4):

- small mammals including the threatened Fat-tailed Dunnart;
- bird species that spend much of their time at or near the ground nesting and/or

feeding, including the threatened Little Button Quail, Grey-crowned Babbler, Plains-wanderer and Bush Stone-curlew;

- reptiles, including the threatened Tessellated Gecko, Carpet Python, Hooded Scaly-foot and Striped Legless Lizard.

Aims

- Monitor, control and, where possible, eradicate pest plants and animals in the park.
- Minimise the impact of pest control programs on native flora, native fauna and neighbouring land.
- Restore indigenous native vegetation to areas where pest plants have been eradicated.

Management strategies

- *Priority for pest plant and animal management will be given to:*
 - *areas of high conservation significance including areas of the park zoned for conservation (e.g. grasslands) (figure 2);*
 - *the control of African Box-thorn, Bathurst Burr, Horehound, Wheel Cactus, Paterson's Curse and Bridal Creeper;*
 - *the control of new pest plant infestations;*
 - *the control of pest plant infestations around populations of threatened flora species;*
 - *control pest plants around the Rohrlach's Bluebush population in the former Terrick Terrick Flora Reserve (section 4.3);*
 - *reducing opportunities for pest plant germination and growth by minimising soil disturbance;*
 - *the eradication of new pest animal populations as they are identified;*
 - *the control of foxes;*
 - *the control of rabbits in woodland communities and the Granite Outcrop Shrublands to encourage the*

regeneration of indigenous woody and herbaceous species (section 4.3).

- *Liaise and co-ordinate control efforts with neighbouring landholders and Landcare groups.*
- *Reduce the competition from exotic species in the Northern Plains Grassland (section 4.3).*
- *Investigate and where appropriate implement techniques to control exotic pasture species in woodland areas, including use of burning and herbicide application.*
- *Investigate the impact of proposed rabbit control programs on the park's Carpet Python population and revise programs if necessary to protect it.*
- *Destroy feral honeybee colonies where they become established.*
- *Where appropriate and using local provenances, indigenous vegetation will be restored to areas where pest plants have been eradicated.*
- *Inform visitors and adjacent landholders about relevant control programs.*

4.8 Salinity

Salinisation as a result of extensive clearing of native vegetation and the introduction of large-scale irrigation is a serious environmental problem in the catchment surrounding Terrick Terrick National Park.

While salinity is currently not a problem for the park or neighbouring farmland, the expansion of irrigated agriculture in the catchment area, particularly on land around the park, could see the rise of saline water tables within the planning area. This rise would adversely affect the growth and survival of native vegetation.

Since the processes influencing salinity are catchment-wide, management actions within the park cannot alone protect it from the threat of salinity. The successful management of the issue requires co-ordinated action across the catchment.

Aim

- Minimise adverse affects of rising groundwater and salinity on park values.

Management strategies

- *Liaise with the North Central Catchment Management Authority, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Loddon Community Working Group to develop priority actions that will protect park values from rising groundwater and salinity.*
- *Liaise with the Shire of Loddon to ensure that future land use planning considers the protection of park values.*
- *In conjunction with the Centre for Land Protection and Research at Bendigo, monitor groundwater levels by installing strategic groundwater monitoring bores in and around the park.*

5 STRATEGIES FOR CULTURAL VALUES CONSERVATION

5.1 Indigenous cultural heritage

Terrick Terrick National Park has a long history of Aboriginal occupation dating back at least 5500 years (Gill 1967). Given the prominence of the park's granite outcrops, which rise 100 metres above the surrounding landscape, it is highly likely that the area may have been significant to local Aborigines both culturally and spiritually.

In the park there are ten Aboriginal archaeological sites registered with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. A recent archaeological survey in the park identified a further 181 sites. Evidence of past Aboriginal occupation includes midden sites, rock wells, burial sites and scarred trees.

Degradation by erosion, grazing, fire and pillaging of artefacts are major threats to the integrity of the park's Aboriginal archaeological sites.

All Aboriginal sites 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 such sites and the involvement of local Indigenous communities are approached in accordance with the legislation.

Issues relating to native title are dealt with according to the Native Title Act. An application for a native title determination, covering Terrick Terrick National Park among other areas, was registered with the Native Title Tribunal on 19 July 2000.

Implementation of this Management Plan will take into account the existence of the native title application.

Aims

- Preserve and protect Aboriginal archaeological sites of significance.
- Respect and recognise Indigenous interests and aspirations for the park in planning and management.

- Facilitate understanding and awareness of the park's cultural and spiritual significance to Indigenous communities among park visitors.

Management strategies

- *Foster and develop opportunities for park staff and relevant Indigenous communities to share their knowledge to improve management of the park.*
- *Manage and protect Aboriginal archaeological sites in accordance with the provisions of the Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act.*
- *Ensure all management actions respect the cultural and spiritual significance of the area to Indigenous communities and are in accordance with the Native Title Act.*
- *Liaise with local Indigenous communities, including those nominated in relevant legislation, to encourage them to inform Parks Victoria of their cultural interests in the planning area.*
- *Identify and map Aboriginal archaeological sites of significance to minimise disturbance to these sites.*
- *Liaise with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and co-operate with the Indigenous communities in the identification, management and care of sites of significance.*
- *Where appropriate, provide visitor information, interpretation and educational material relating to sites of significance in consultation with the Indigenous communities.*

5.2 Post-settlement cultural heritage

There are a number of sites and relics associated with past grazing and settlement of the area now encompassed by the park. They include Riegal's and Davies' homesteads, which demonstrate farm dwellings typical of the early-20th century, and the site of the former Terrick Terrick West School. The

historical significance of the homesteads, which are in considerable disrepair, and the former Terrick Terrick West School have not been assessed.

Aims

- Preserve and protect sites and relics of post-settlement cultural heritage.
- Provide opportunities for people to learn about and understand the park's post-settlement cultural values.

Management strategies

- *Assess the cultural significance of Riegal's and Davies' homesteads in consultation with Heritage Victoria.*
- *Prepare and implement a heritage action statement for Riegal's and Davies' homesteads.*
- *Provide visitor information, interpretation and educational material relating to the park's post-settlement cultural values where appropriate (section 6.1).*

6 STRATEGIES FOR VISITORS

6.1 Information, interpretation and education

Providing information, interpretive services and environmental education can help orientate visitors, enhance their enjoyment, foster an understanding and appreciation of the park's features and values, encourage appropriate visitor use, reduce potential management problems and contribute to a broader understanding of natural environments and management objectives.

Terrick Terrick National Park offers opportunities to develop themes related to the park's unique flora and fauna, Indigenous and post-settlement cultural heritage and the geology of the granite outcrops.

Current interpretive material includes an information shelter at Mount Terrick Terrick that orientates visitors and provides some general information about the park and its attractions.

Interpretive activities have been organised on request for community and school groups. In addition, guided interpretive walks through the grasslands are usually provided in spring.

The park complements the other tourist destinations in the area including the Murray River, Kerang Wetlands and the Port of Echuca. Improved promotion of the park in conjunction with local attractions could increase visitation and help support the tourism industry.

Aims

- Encourage visitors' discovery, enjoyment and appreciation of the park's natural and cultural values.
- Orientate visitors in relation to park features.
- Inform visitors of appropriate behaviour during their park visit.
- Provide and support high-quality interpretation and education opportunities to promote understanding and appreciation of the park's values.

Management strategies

- *Develop and maintain information about the grasslands on the information board located at the picnic area. Include details about the grassland environment, rare and threatened species, current research being undertaken, management philosophy and strategy and visitor access (figure 2).*
- *Encourage the provision of interpretive programs by Parks Victoria volunteers.*
- *Interpret management strategies such as grazing, fire protection and pest control to visitors and the community through interpretive material and programs.*
- *Establish and implement monitoring and maintenance schedules for, and undertake regular evaluation of, interpretive facilities and information services related to the park.*
- *Provide visitor information, interpretation and educational material relating to the park's natural and cultural values (sections 4.1 to 5.2).*
- *Provide visitors with face-to-face interpretation of park values by Rangers where appropriate.*
- *Liaise with State and regional tourism authorities to ensure the park is appropriately promoted in regional visitor information centres and in regional tourism strategies.*

6.2 Visitor access

Access to the park is from Mitiamo via Mitiamo–Forest Road, Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road and Mitiamo–Kow Swamp Road. These gravel roads all bisect the park north-south and are managed by the Shire of Loddon. Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road provides the main north-south access in the area (section 6.8). Another Shire managed road, Mologa–Echuca Road, bisects the park east-west. There is a network of approximately 32 km of public tracks throughout the park (figure 2).

TABLE 3 MANAGEMENT OF ROADS AND TRACKS

ROAD / TRACK	CLASSIFICATION	MANAGEMENT ACTION / COMMENT
Allen Track	5, C, O	Maintain all weather access to picnic area and cemetery.
Blow Track	5, D, U	Close.
Brown Track	5, D, O	Close track east of the intersection with Rogers Track. May be seasonally closed.
Cemetery Track	5, C, O	Maintain all weather access. Close track east of the intersection with Allen Track and west of the intersection with Centre Track.
Centre Track	5, D, O	Maintain track at current standard. May be seasonally closed.
Creek Crossing Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Creek Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
External boundary track#	5, E, MVO	Maintain for fire protection purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Fabians Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Finns Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Jones Track	5, D, U	Close track west of the intersection with Rogers Track.
Leed Track	5, D, O	Maintain track at current standard. May be seasonally closed.
Link Track	5, D, U	Close.
Malone Track	5, D, O	Close east of intersection with Rogers Track. May be seasonally closed.
Marlow Track	5, D, O	Improve drainage and maintain at current standard. Close offshoots around Riegals Rock to vehicles. May be seasonally closed.
O'Toole Track	5, D, U	Close.
Possums Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Regals Road	5, D, O	Access to north-west park of the park.
Riegals Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Rogers Track	5, D, O	Maintain track at current standard. May be seasonally closed.
Sherlock Track	5, E, MVO	Close.
Squire Track	5, D, O	Close west of intersection with Rogers Track. May be seasonally closed.
Wilson Track	5, C, O	Maintain all weather access. Close track north of Allen Track intersection.
Yarran North Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.
Yarran South Track	5, D, MVO	Maintain track for management purposes. May be seasonally closed.

KEY – Parks Victoria roads classification

Function:	D	Access Track – 2WD single lane, dry weather formed from natural materials.
Class 4 roads provide for park access, and additional functions such as commercial uses, through access to other locations (outside the park), or access to private property or utilities.	E	Rough Track – 4WD single lane, unformed, earth track at or near the natural surface.
Class 5 roads exclusively provide access for visitors into parks for recreational activities, or exclusive use for park management.	Status:	
Development:	O	Open to public vehicles.
A Primary Road – 2WD all weather, two lanes, mainly sealed road.	MVO	Management vehicles only (use by bushwalkers is permitted).
B Secondary Road – 2WD all weather, two lanes formed and gravelled, or single lane sealed with gravel shoulders.	U	Unnecessary track (Parks Victoria 1997).
C Minor Road – 2WD single lane unsealed, formed road usually lightly gravelled.	#	Follows the old State Park boundary which is adjacent to Regals Road, Cemetery Track, Malones Road, Leahys Rd, Sylvaterre Timms Lake Rd, Mitiamo Forest Rd and Molga Echuca Rd - not represented on Figures 2 and 3.

Visitor use is concentrated on the tracks that lead to the picnic area in the south-west of the park and the cemetery (figure 2). In the past many of the tracks throughout the park were sited with little consideration of drainage patterns. As a result, a number of tracks are now affected by extensive soil erosion and are impassable after heavy rain. Subsequently, temporary closure of vehicle tracks is necessary when public safety and track surfaces may be at risk.

The closure of less frequented tracks will help reduce habitat fragmentation, erosion and the spread of weeds, without unduly limiting public access and access for fire management purposes.

The park has numerous entry points, many of which are inappropriately sited. As a result, visitors enter from many directions, missing a sense of arrival and possibly missing information about the features of the park.

The lack of direct routes from towns such as Echuca, Bendigo and Swan Hill and the lack of directional signs from these main centres make the park difficult to locate (figure 1).

Aims

- Provide and maintain a network of vehicle tracks appropriate for visitor use and park management.
- Minimise the impact of vehicle and track management on the park's natural and cultural values.
- Enhance the visitor's 'sense of arrival' to the park.

Management strategies

- *Manage park vehicle tracks in accordance with table 3, figure 3 and the park's management directions.*
- *Close and rehabilitate poorly sited, eroding and unnecessary tracks as shown in figure 3 in consultation with the local Shire and adjacent landholders.*

- *Enhance the visitor experience by developing defined entry points with adequate signage.*
- *Liaise with the Shire of Loddon to ensure a co-operative approach to road maintenance and retention of scenic features.*
- *Liaise with VicRoads to improve directional signage to the park from nearby major towns.*

6.3 Day visit activities

The park's scenic natural features, particularly Mount Terrick Terrick, and the diverse and colourful wildflowers of the grasslands during spring attract day visitors from the surrounding area and nearby major towns such as Echuca, Bendigo and Kerang. The current facilities that are shared by day visitors and campers include picnic tables and composting toilets. Upgraded car parking, separate from campers, is provided for day visitors.

Although most visitors collect firewood for use in the fireplace in a responsible fashion, fauna habitat in the park is becoming degraded through the depletion of fallen timber.

Aim

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

Management strategies

- *Consistent with the semi-remote character of the park, maintain mid-service levels at Mt Terrick Terrick and basic service levels at the Northern Plains Grassland, in accordance with table 4 and figure 2.*
- *Permit the use of fuel stoves.*
- *Remove the existing fireplace from the camping area and prohibit all solid fuel fires.*

TABLE 4 EXISTING AND PROPOSED VISITOR FACILITIES

SITE	TOILETS	CAR PARK	PICNIC TABLES	FIRE PLACES	WATER SUPPLY	PARK INFO	WALKING TRACK	LOOKOUT	CAMPING
Mt Terrick Terrick *	E	E	E	R	N	E	U	E	E
Grasslands **	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

KEY

- * existing and proposed Service Level: Mid–moderate level of visitor facilities and amenities provided (see below)
- ** existing and proposed Service Level: Basic–limited visitor facilities and amenities provided
- E existing facility
- N no facility
- P proposed facility
- R facility to be removed
- U upgrade facility

6.4 Camping

Camping is a popular activity for many visitors. Most camping occurs during the school holidays and on long weekends. Dispersed camping is permitted among the White Cypress-pine at the base of Mount Terrick Terrick where facilities are shared with day visitors (table 4).

A small number of designated campsites and car park have been established to reduce conflicts with other visitor activities in the picnic area during peak times and minimise impacts on native vegetation.

Aim

- Maintain low-key camping facilities that are consistent with protecting park values.

Management strategies

- *Maintain designated campsites at the base of Mount Terrick Terrick.*
- *Regularly evaluate the condition of camping area at the base of Mount Terrick Terrick to ensure visitor experiences and natural features are not compromised. Relocate the camping area to an existing disturbed area if impacts become unacceptable.*

- *Implement a ‘take your rubbish home’ policy at the camping and picnic area.*

6.5 Bush walking

Most visitors, make the most of the excellent opportunity for short scenic walks at Mount Terrick Terrick. Elsewhere in the west of the park, there are opportunities for relatively easy long-distance walking on well-formed vehicle tracks through the Grassy Woodland. Due to the sparse understorey of the Grassy Woodland, the park is often used for off-track walking.

The native grassland areas are particularly susceptible to degradation from trampling and therefore, visitor access will need to be carefully managed.

The park’s location and road access make it accessible for people with limited mobility, but many of the key attractions, including the granite outcrops and the grasslands, currently do not have suitable access for these people.

Aims

- Provide a range of walking opportunities that enhance visitor enjoyment and appreciation of park values.

- Minimise impacts of walkers, walking tracks and walking track construction on park values.

Management strategies

- *Promote minimal impact practices for bushwalkers.*
- *Define a walking track to the summit of Mount Terrick Terrick consistent with the protection of park values.*
- *Encourage walkers to keep to the Mount Terrick Terrick walking track.*
- *Provide organised tours of the grasslands during spring.*
- *Provide mobile styles to vary access points and disperse potential disturbances to grassland values and allow convenient and safe visitor access.*
- *Regularly monitor the impact of visitor use on the condition of grassland areas to ensure natural values are not compromised and take appropriate action if required.*

6.6 Cycling

The number of cyclists currently using the park is low. However, mountain bike riding in the park is expected to increase in popularity. The existing track network offers interesting and challenging mountain bike riding opportunities. Many tracks are affected by soil erosion and can be impassible for cyclists after heavy rain. The 'Mountain Bike Code' sets out guidelines for safe cycling and methods to minimise the impacts of cycling on park values.

Aim

- Maintain opportunities for cycling consistent with the protection of park values.

Management strategies

- *Permit cycling on all roads and tracks open to public vehicles (table 3). Seasonal closure of public vehicle tracks will also apply to cycling.*
- *Prohibit cycling on walking tracks and management vehicle only tracks.*

- *Encourage the adoption of the 'Mountain Bike Code' by cyclists.*

6.7 Tourism services

There are no commercial tour operators currently using the park. However its natural and cultural values, and recreational opportunities could support a range of nature-based and educational tourism activities.

Aim

- Provide opportunities for commercial tourism services consistent with the park's management directions.

Management strategies

- *Encourage the provision of commercial tour services that are consistent with legislation and the protection of park values.*
- *Ensure that operators convey appropriate messages and information regarding the park and its values.*
- *Ensure the commercial interpretation of Indigenous cultural areas is consistent with expectations of the Aboriginal community.*

6.8 Public safety

The main north-south Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road that bisects the park carries a high volume of traffic, including heavy trucks, often travelling at considerable speed. The traffic presents a significant safety risk to visitors and wildlife. The noise and dust associated with vehicles travelling along the Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road also detracts from the enjoyment of the area by visitors, has an adverse impact on roadside vegetation and may result in native animal deaths.

Motorists, cyclists and walkers share internal public vehicle tracks throughout the park. Motor vehicles travelling at excessive speeds along internal tracks pose a safety risk to other track users and fauna.

The poor structural condition of Riegal's and Davies' homesteads could pose a risk to visitor safety. In addition, the steep granite outcrops, wildfire during dry times and extremes in

weather conditions present possible hazards and risks to visitors.

Aim

- Promote and encourage safe practices among staff and visitors to the park.

Management strategies

- *Encourage visitors to use the defined access track to climb Mount Terrick Terrick.*
- *Promote responsible and safe use of vehicles on the park's internal track network through appropriate signage and publications.*
- *Seek to reduce the speed and volume of traffic through the park along Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road by liaising with VicRoads.*
- *Provide appropriate directional signage to identify wildfire refuge areas in or near the park.*
- *Liaise with VicRoads to install signs along Sylvaterre–Timms Lake Road within the park warning motorists of wildlife.*
- *Regularly assess key visitor sites, including Riegal's and Davies' homesteads and identify and eliminate hazards and impacts.*
- *Ensure staff are sufficiently trained to assist in emergency situations.*
- *Provide information on hazards and safety warnings.*

7 STRATEGIES FOR COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT

7.1 Friends and volunteers

Friends Groups and volunteers make an important contribution to the management of parks. These groups give valuable assistance by being involved in important management projects that may have little or no funding.

Currently Terrick Terrick National Park does not have a Friends Group, but there is opportunity to engage groups such as bird observers, field naturalists and other community groups to form one.

In addition, tertiary students use the park for work experience and research activities. These students give valuable assistance to the park while gaining important on-site experience in natural resources management.

Aim

- Encourage the participation of volunteers in researching, protecting, conserving and maintaining the park.

Management strategies

- *Encourage the formation and support of a Friends Group for the park.*
- *Encourage a Friends or community group to propagate and maintain plant stocks of rare and threatened species recorded in the park for restocking and revegetation purposes.*
- *Develop and implement a co-ordinated volunteer works program to allow tertiary students to undertake work experience and research studies that assist park management.*
- *Provide opportunities for and encourage tertiary students to undertake volunteer work experience and research consistent with park management aims.*

7.2 Community awareness and park neighbours

Freehold land and State forest border the park. Most neighbours are involved in agricultural enterprises, but there is an increasing amount of residential (small rural block) development near the park boundary.

Several potential issues associated with nearby residential development can directly affect both the park and its neighbours. These include pest plant and animal control, fire management and the maintenance of boundaries. Where residential developments adjoin the park, potential impacts on park values include loss of landscape values, uncontrolled access and encroachments.

Aims

- Increase public awareness of the park's values, and regulations and management activities.
- Encourage conservation and sound land management practices on private land adjoining the park.

Management strategies

- *Liaise with local community groups to co-ordinate the management of land management programs within the park and adjacent areas (sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.6 and 4.7).*
- *Apply and encourage the application of the Good Neighbour Program to management issues on or near the boundary of the park.*
- *Encourage landowners to use covenants and support initiatives such as Landcare and Land for Wildlife to enhance conservation values on adjacent land.*
- *Encourage landowners to maintain fences along the park boundary.*

8 STRATEGIES FOR OTHER ISSUES

8.1 Management infrastructure

Terrick Terrick National Park contains extensive grazing management infrastructure (section 4.3). Fences remain throughout the park, a number of which are in considerable disrepair (section 4.5).

A ford provides all weather stock and management vehicle access across Bendigo Creek from Creek paddock to Finn's paddock. Otherwise access to Finn's paddock is only gained indirectly via public roads. This results in stock introducing pest plant seeds into the park, which they collect along public roadsides as they move to and from Finn's paddock. A system of channels, part of the Terrick Terrick Community Dam Fill System, pass through Riegal's, Silo, O'Neill's and Yarran paddocks in the east of the park. The system supplies water for stock and domestic use on nearby properties and to dams in the park. The maintenance and operation of the channel system contributes to the dispersal and establishment of pest plants in the grasslands (section 4.7).

The shearing shed, stockyards, machinery shed and associated out-buildings of the old Davies property continue to be used for grazing management. Researchers and contractors also currently use the shearing shed and associated out-buildings of the old Davies property while working and carrying out research in the park. The occupational health and safety standards of these buildings need to be improved and maintained if they are to continue being used for these purposes.

A number of dams used to supply water for stock are sited throughout the east of the park. The accumulation of silt in these dams reduces their storage capacity and the grazing capacity of a paddock. Subsequent changes to the grazing regime may result in the loss of grassland values.

Aim

- Ensure that the operation and maintenance of management and support services infrastructure is consistent with the protection of park values.

Management strategies

- *Rationalise the fence network in the park, taking into account future management requirements and conservation values.*
- *Maintain the storage capacity of stock dams in the grasslands.*
- *Ensure appropriate occupational health and safety standards are met in the shearing shed, stockyards, machinery shed and associated outbuildings of the old Davies property.*
- *Maintain for stock management purposes the existing ford across Bendigo Creek, consistent with the protection of Bendigo Creek and its environs. Use the ford for all stock access to and from Finn's paddock.*

8.2 Authorised uses

Trigonometric stations on Mount Terrick Terrick and Riegal Rock are used and maintained by the Office of the Surveyor-General. Infrequent access is required for maintenance of these structures. No new installations are proposed for the park.

The former LCC (1985) recommended that apiculture be permitted in the park. More recently the ECC (2001) recommended apiculture be generally permitted subject to research findings into the impacts of the industry and park management requirements. Parks Victoria's operational policies prohibit apiary sites within Reference Areas or within two km of their boundary and not within one km of visitor areas. Four temporary apiary sites available in the former State Park area have not been used since 1994. Current site locations have the potential to conflict with recreational use and one site is within two km of the park's Reference Area.

The Defence Force on occasion have used the former State Park for training purposes.

Aim

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

Management strategies

- *Seek section 27 consents for the performance of public authority functions in the park in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies.*
- *Continue to permit apiculture in licensed sites subject to research findings and Parks Victoria’s operational policies.*
- *Investigate review of the long-term requirement for apiary sites in consultation with the Victorian Apiarists’ Association.*
- *Continue to permit Defence Force training in areas traditionally used for these purposes in the former State Park in accordance with Parks Victoria’s operational policies.*

8.3 Boundaries and adjacent uses

The majority of the park abuts private agricultural land. The Shire of Loddon exercises controls for development on private land adjoining the park. The park is under increasing pressure from unsympathetic development near its boundaries, including housing subdivisions and agricultural activities such as olive growing.

Past gravel extraction in the block of State forest abutting the eastern boundary of the park within the planning area, and within the two blocks of State forest adjoining the southern boundary of the planning area, has resulted in widespread disturbance and loss of soils. This has a range of implications for the management of the landscape, access, weed invasion and conservation of these areas.

Mitiamo Cemetery, which adjoins the park’s southern boundary, is managed by a local Committee of Management. The cemetery and a number of roadside reserves running adjacent to grassland areas in the east of the park, support significant remnant vegetation.

The Mitiamo Golf Course, which abuts part of the park’s southern boundary, is also managed by a local Committee of Management. This area supports a large modified stand of White Cypress-pine.

Aim

- Minimise conflicts between park management and surrounding land use.

Management strategies

- *Liaise with DSE to promote complementary management of adjoining State forest areas on the southern boundary of the park.*
- *Liaise with DSE to investigate opportunities for co-operative management programs to be carried out in adjoining State forest areas on the southern boundary of the park, including trialing vegetation management regimes (section 4.3).*
- *Seek maximum planning scheme protection for the park on adjoining land through the Shire of Loddon and provide input into planning matters that may affect the park.*
- *Maintain effective liaison with the Committees of Management of Mitiamo Cemetery and Mitiamo Golf Course to promote conservation of significant flora values in these areas and provision and maintenance of access to the cemetery.*

9 IMPLEMENTATION

This plan provides the strategic framework that governs the development and delivery of all management programs and actions affecting Terrick Terrick National Park.

The management programs for the park are prepared annually, in accordance with Parks Victoria's Corporate Plan and as a part of statewide, prioritised programs.

The performance of the plan's implementation will be measured and reported as part of these statewide programs as implemented to June each year.

Amendments may be made to this plan from time to time consistent with an authorised approval process. A partial or complete review of the plan will be considered ten years after its publication.

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- Mark Antos, PhD student studying temperate woodland birds.

APPENDIX 1 CONSERVATION STATUS OF THREATENED FLORA SPECIES

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	CONSERVATION STATUS	LOCATION
<i>Acacia deanei</i> ssp. <i>deanei</i>	Deane's wattle	e, L, 1A#	GOS
<i>Acacia deanei</i> ssp. <i>paucijuga</i>	Deane's Wattle	r	GOS
<i>Acacia oswaldii</i>	Umbrella Wattle	v, L	GW
<i>Amyema linophylla</i> ssp. <i>orientale</i>	Buloke Mistletoe	v	GW
<i>Aristida obscura</i>	Rough-seed Wire-grass	e	G
<i>Allocasuarina leuhmannii</i>	Buloke	L	GW
<i>Austrostipa gibbosa</i>	Spurred Spear-grass	r	G
<i>Austrostipa tenuifolia</i>	Long-awn Spear-grass	v	GW
<i>Cheilanthes lasiophylla</i>	Woolly Cloak-fern	e	GOS
<i>Eleocharis pallens</i>	Pale Spike-sedge	v	G, RW
<i>Eryngium paludosum</i>	Long Eryngium	v	G
<i>Hakea tephrosperma</i>	Hooked Needlewood	v	G, RW
<i>Hakea leucoptera</i> ssp. <i>leucoptera</i>	Silver Needlewood	v	GW
<i>Haloragis glauca</i> f. <i>glauca</i>	Bluish Raspwort	k	G, RW
<i>Leiocarpa panaetioides</i>	Woolly Buttons	r	RW
<i>Leptorhynchus scabrus</i>	Annual Buttons	e, L, 1A	G
<i>Maireana rohrlachii</i>	Rohrlach's Bluebush	R	GW
<i>Minuria intergerrima</i>	Smooth Minuria	r	G
<i>Muehlenbeckia horrida</i> ssp. <i>horrida</i>	Spiny Lignum	k	G
<i>Myriophyllum porcatum</i>	Ridged Water-milfoil	v, N, V	GW
<i>Panicum laevinode</i>	Pepper Grass	v	G
<i>Prasophyllum suaveolens</i>	Plains Leek-orchid	e, L, E, 1A	G
<i>Ptilotus erubescens</i>	Hairy-tails	L	GW, G
<i>Sida trichopoda</i>	Narrow-leaf Sida	r	G
<i>Sporobolus caroli</i>	Yakka Grass	r	G
<i>Swainsona murrayana</i>	Murray Swainson-pea	e, L, 1A, V	G
<i>Swainsona plagiotropis</i>	Red Swainson-pea	e, L, V	G
<i>Swainsona swainsonoides</i>	Downy Swainson-pea	e, L	G
<i>Tripogon loliiformis</i>	Rye Beetle-grass	r	GW, G

Source: NRE (database) 2003b.

Conservation status:

V vulnerable in Australia

R rare in Australia

v vulnerable in Victoria

r rare in Victoria

k species poorly known in Victoria – suspected of being in one of the above Victorian categories

L FFG listed

N nominated for FFG listing

1A of high priority for conservation management in the Victorian Riverina bioregion (NRE 2000)

1A# of high priority for conservation management in the Northern Inland Slopes bioregion (NRE 2000)

Location:

GOS Granite Outcrop Shrubland

GW Grassy Woodland

G Northern Plains Grassland

RW Riparian Woodland

APPENDIX 2 CONSERVATION STATUS OF THREATENED FAUNA SPECIES

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	CONSERVATION STATUS	LOCATION
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew	End, L, LC	GW
<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i> *	Speckled Warbler	Vul, L, LC	GW
<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i>	Brown Treecreeper	NT, LC	GW
<i>Coturnix ypsilophora australis</i>	Brown Quail	NT	G
<i>Delma impar</i>	Striped Legless Lizard	End, L, VUL	G
<i>Diplodactylus tessellatus</i>	Tessellated Gecko	NT	G
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i>	Grey Falcon	End, L	GW, G, RW
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon	Vul	GW, G, RW
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater	Vul, L	GW
<i>Gregone fusca</i>	Western Greygone	LC	GW
<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	Brolga	Vul, L	G
<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Warty Bell Frog	End, L	GW, G, RW
<i>Lichenostomus fuscus</i>	Fuscous Honeyeater	LC	GW
<i>Lophoictinia isura</i>	Square-tailed Kite	Vul, L	GW, G, RW
<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin	NT, L, LC	GW
<i>Melithreptus brevirostris pallidiceps</i>	Brown-headed Honeyeater	LC	GW
<i>Melithreptus gularis</i>	Black-chinned Honeyeater	LC	GW
<i>Microeca fascinans</i>	Jacky Winter	LC	GW
<i>Morelia spilota metcalsei</i>	Carpet Python	End, L	GOS, RW
<i>Ninox connivens connivens</i>	Barking Owl	End, L, LC	GW, RW
<i>Nyctophilus timoriensis</i>	Greater Long-eared Bat	Vul, L	GW, G, RW
<i>Oreoica gutturalis gutturalis</i> *	Crested Bellbird	NT, L	GW
<i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>	Plains-wanderer	CEn, L, VUL	G
<i>Petroica goodenovii</i>	Red-capped Robin	L, LC	GW
<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Pied Cormorant	NT	G, RW
<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler	End, L, LC	GW, RW
<i>Pygopis schraderi</i>	Hooded Scaly-foot	CEn, L, 1A	G
<i>Sminthopsis crassicaudatus</i>	Fat-tailed Dunnart	NT	G
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail	LC	GW
<i>Suta suta</i>	Curl Snake	Vul	G
<i>Turnix varia</i>	Painted Button Quail	LC	GW
<i>Turnix velox</i>	Little Button Quail	NT	G

Source:

NRE (database) 2001b; 2003a & Mark Antos (PhD student) pers comm

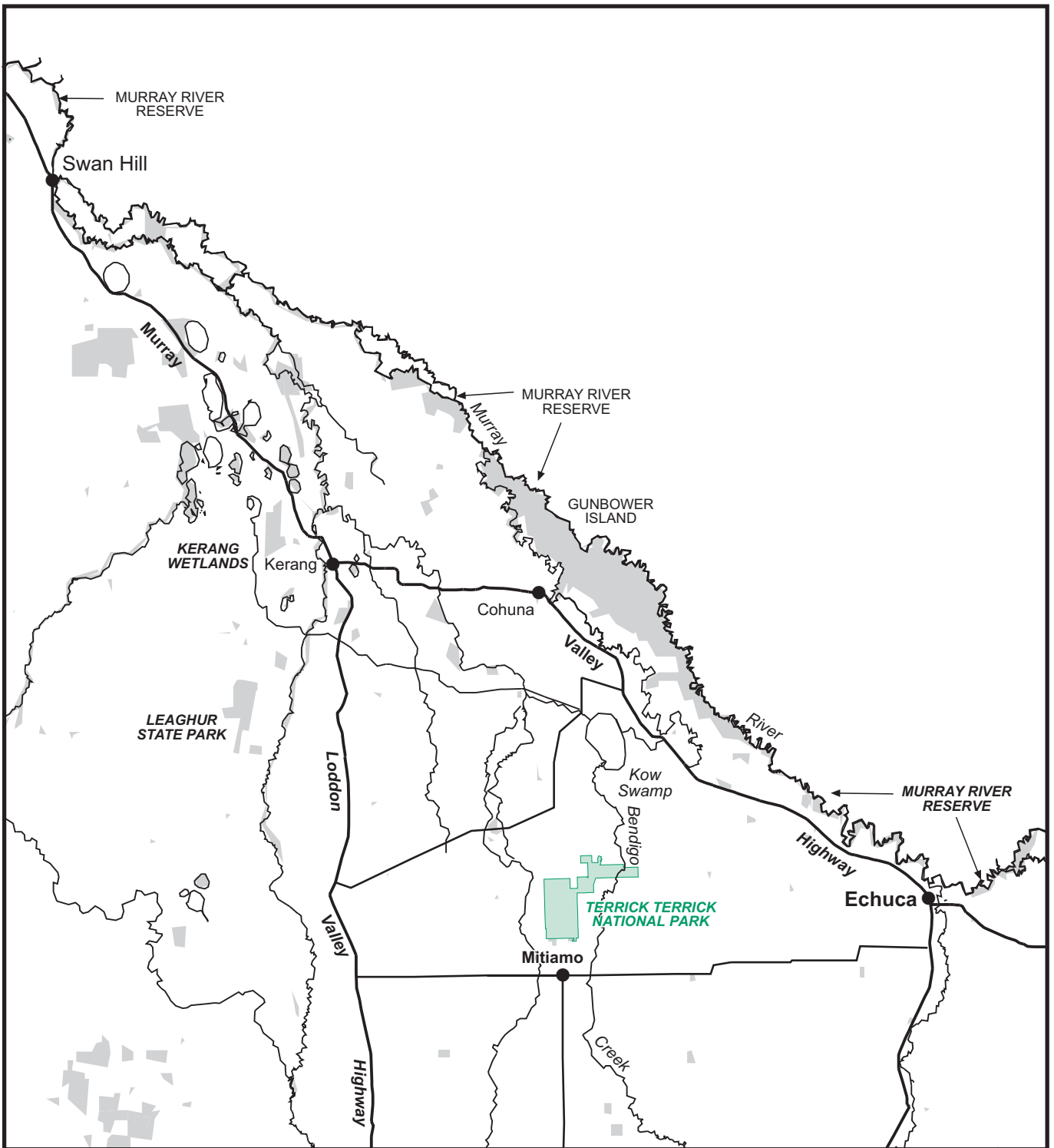
* No records within last 30 years

Conservation Status:

VUL Vulnerable in Australia
 CEn Critically Endangered in Victoria
 End Endangered in Victoria





Vul Vulnerable in Victoria
 NT Near threatened in Victoria
 L FFG listed
 LC Species associated with the FFG listed Victorian temperate-woodland bird community

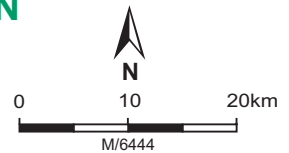
1A of high priority for conservation management in the Victorian Riverina bioregion (NRE 2000)
 Location:
 GW Grassy Woodland
 G Northern Plains Grassland
 RW Riparian Woodland
 GOS Granite Outcrop Shrubland

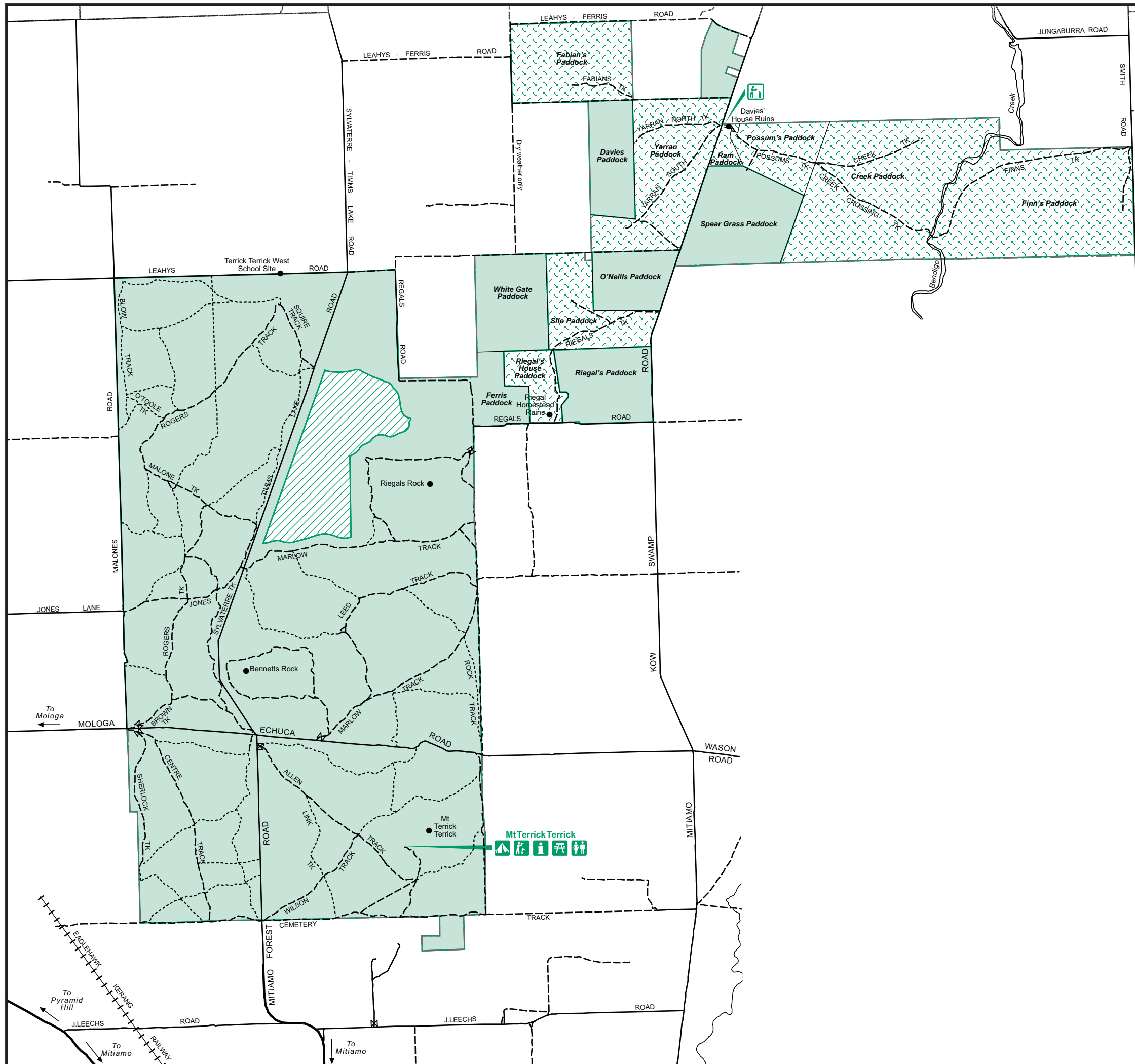


TERRICK TERRICK NATIONAL PARK

Figure 1 REGIONAL LOCALITY PLAN

- Highway 
- Minor road 
- Terrick Terrick National Park 
- Other Public Land 





TERRICK TERRICK NATIONAL PARK

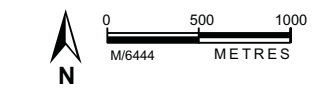


Figure 2 MANAGEMENT ZONES & VISITOR FACILITIES

- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- 2WD track
- Minor track
- Park boundary
- Fence
- Gate

ZONES

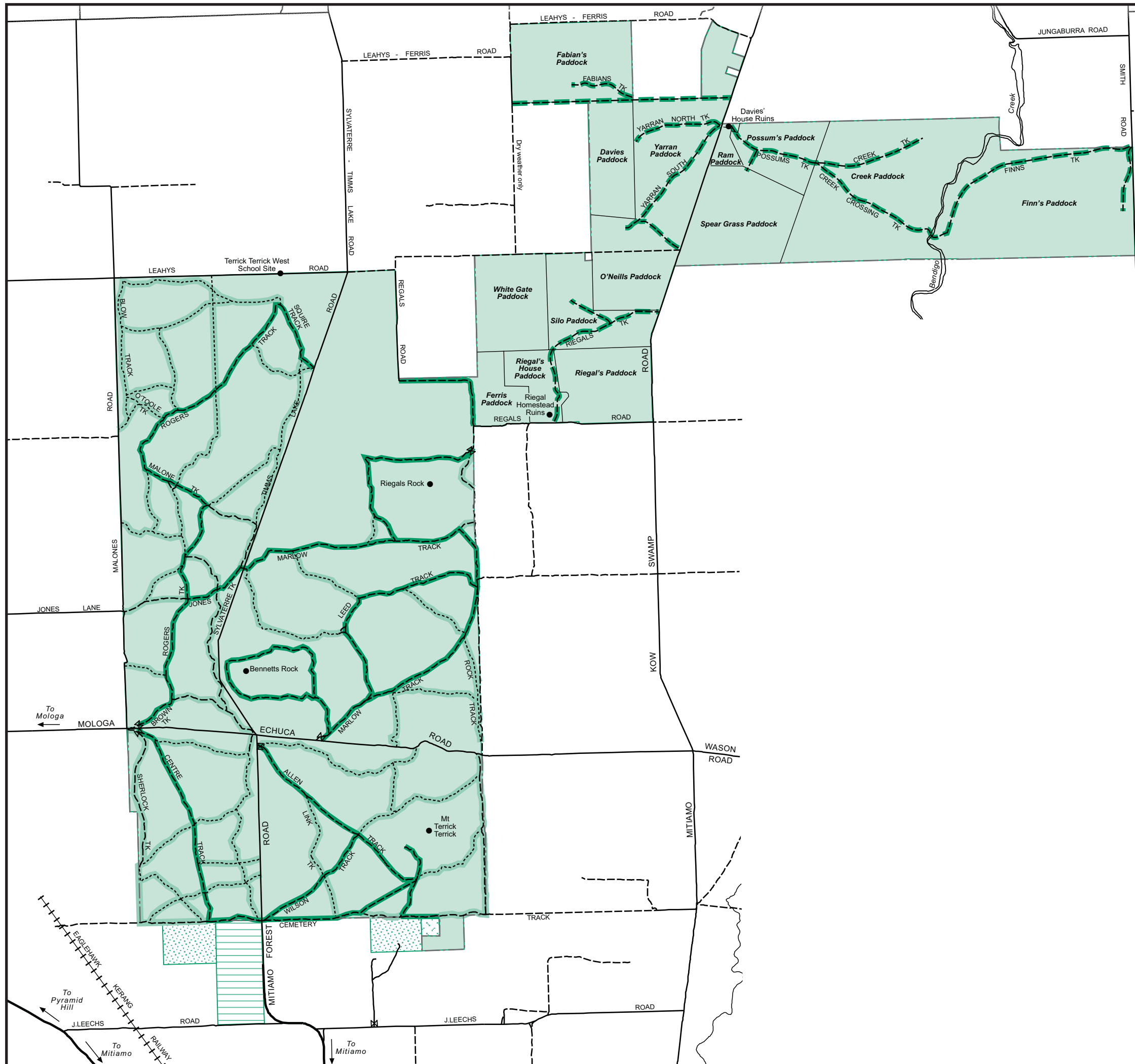
- Reference Area Zone
- Conservation and Recreation Zone
- Conservation Zone

EXISTING FACILITIES

- Campsite
- Lookout
- Park information
- Picnic table
- Toilets

PROPOSED FACILITIES

- Nature walk



TERRICK TERRICK NATIONAL PARK

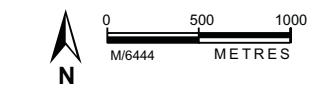


Figure 3 LAND TENURE & ACCESS

- Sealed road
- Unsealed road
- 2WD track
- Minor track
- Park boundary
- Fence
- Gate

- Terrick Terrick National Park
- Reserved Forest
- Mitiamo Golf Course Reserve
- Mitiamo Cemetery Reserve
- All vehicle access
- Permanent closure
- Management vehicles only