

SASPoM Four-Year Land Management Priorities

Annual Review completed June 2025

The Special Areas Strategic Plan of Management 2015 (SASPoM) requires Water NSW and the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to develop a rolling set of four-year land management priorities for the Special Areas.

The priorities listed below align with the nine SASPoM Strategic Management Objectives (statutory obligations are not included here).

Under the SASPoM planning framework (Figure 3, SASPoM), agencies will develop, in consultation with the Special Areas Operations Group, annual work plans to deliver on the four-year land management priorities. The annual work plans will provide the detailed actions, locations, intended outcomes and performance measures to deliver on the SASPoM and four-year land management priorities.

ID	Four Year Land Management Priorities
1. Priority Pollutants (targeting pathogens, nutrients and sediment)	
1.1	Identify and assess the risk of pollution sources with priority given to: • Soil erosion • Derelict mines and infrastructure • Recreation areas • Contaminated sites • Sewage and stormwater from neighbouring urbanisation
1.2	Implement remediation measures to address the sources of highest risk to water quality, human health and ecological integrity
1.3	Respond to pollution events consistent with agency responsibilities and roles
2. Hydrological Integrity	
2.1	Conduct research to better understand the surface and groundwater impacts of mining and coal seam gas activities and their effect on catchment yield and ecology
3. Biosecurity	
3.1	Implement approved agency biosecurity management strategic and operational plans
3.2	Continue to support a coordinated approach to biosecurity management through participation in Regional biosecurity Committees
3.3	Continue to focus upon biosecurity mitigation strategies which support ecological integrity and water quality outcomes.
3.4	Maintain an appropriate state of readiness for suppression of biosecurity risks which may arise
3.5	Continue early detection and rapid suppression of biosecurity threats

4. Assets	
4.1	Maintain access routes to ensure activities can be undertaken with a priority to fire, land and water management
4.2	Maintain strategic river and creek crossings to a trafficable standard with an emphasis on the: • Wollondilly River Crossings • Causeways of the upper and lower Kedumba River
4.3	Progressively replace deteriorating priority assets such as bridges and culverts as identified in corporate asset management planning processes
4.4	Maintain fire towers to a standard that allows their safe and effective operation
4.5	Influence third parties to appropriately manage their assets within the Special Areas
4.6	Manage recreation facilities for amenity, visitor safety and catchment water quality
5. Access	
5.1	Access controls are continually implemented and enhanced to provide an effective barrier
5.2	Undertake surveillance activities in accordance with planned priorities
5.3	Undertake surveillance activities in conjunction with regulatory partners
5.4	Monitor compliance with access consents and the activities of other authorised users
5.5	Implement appropriate regulatory action where activities impact on the values of Special Areas
5.6	Manage the impacts of authorised recreation in the Special Areas
6. Fire Management	
6.1	Implement approved agency fire management strategic and operations plans
6.2	Continue to support a coordinated approach to fire management through participation in District Bushfire Management Committees
6.3	Maintain an appropriate state of readiness for fire suppression
6.4	Continue early detection and rapid suppression of wildfire
6.5	Continue to focus upon fire mitigation strategies which support ecological integrity and water quality outcomes.
7. Ecological Integrity	
7.1	Manage flora pathogens in accordance with agreed protocols including: • Phytophthora • Myrtle Rust
7.2	Continue to map, monitor and record the presence, distribution and size of significant native species, populations and communities
7.3	Seek to address threats to values as identified in Threat Abatement Plans and Saving Our Species Plans

8. Cultural Heritage	
8.1	Identify priority sites and manage Aboriginal and historic heritage sites in consultation with identified stakeholders and communities with cultural values and connections
8.2	Engage with Aboriginal communities to implement statutory agreements and Minister approved arrangements such as Indigenous Land Use Agreements
8.3	Progressively implement actions from approved Conservation Management Plans
9. Policy, Planning and Evaluation	
9.1	Ensure currency and adequacy of existing plans, policies and procedures relevant to operating within the Special Areas
9.2	Provide evidence-based representations to government regarding activities that threaten Special Area values
9.3	Promote the values of the Special Areas in the assessment of planning proposals