



NSW NATIONAL PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Kosciuszko National Park Amendment to Plan of Management

Visitor Experience Improvements



© 2019 State of NSW and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

With the exception of photographs, the State of NSW and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are pleased to allow this material to be reproduced in whole or in part for educational and non-commercial use, provided the meaning is unchanged and its source, publisher and authorship are acknowledged. Specific permission is required for the reproduction of photographs.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has compiled this report in good faith, exercising all due care and attention. No representation is made about the accuracy, completeness or suitability of the information in this publication for any particular purpose. DPIE shall not be liable for any damage which may occur to any person or organisation taking action or not on the basis of this publication. Readers should seek appropriate advice when applying the information to their specific needs.

All content in this publication is owned by DPIE and is protected by Crown Copyright, unless credited otherwise. It is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International \(CC BY 4.0\)](#), subject to the exemptions contained in the licence. The legal code for the licence is available at [Creative Commons](#).

DPIE asserts the right to be attributed as author of the original material in the following manner: © State of New South Wales and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2019.

This amendment was adopted by the Minister for the Environment on the 4 October 2019.

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) acknowledges that Kosciuszko National Park is in the traditional Country of the Monaro, Ngarigo, Wiradjuri, Wolgalu and Ngunnawal peoples

NPWS would like to thank those people who took the time to make a submission on the draft version of this amendment that was exhibited in 2019.

Cover photo: Kosciuszko National Park, Blue Lake, Main Range walk. E Sheargold/DPIE

Published by:

Environment, Energy and Science
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
59 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232
Phone: +61 2 9995 5000 (switchboard)
Phone: 1300 361 967 (Environment, Energy and Science enquiries)
TTY users: phone 133 677, then ask for 1300 361 967
Speak and listen users: phone 1300 555 727, then ask for 1300 361 967
Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au
Website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Report pollution and environmental incidents
Environment Line: 131 555 (NSW only) or info@environment.nsw.gov.au
See also www.environment.nsw.gov.au

ISBN 978-1-922317-47-6

EES 2019/0592

December 2019

Find out more about your environment at:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Contents

Why amend the plan?	1
How to read the amendment	1
Amendments	1
Amendment 1 Snowies Iconic Walk and the walking track strategy	1
Amendment 2 Thredbo Valley Track	3
Amendment 3 Adaptive re-use of Thredbo Ranger Station	4
Amendment 4 Minor management and visitor improvements	8

List of figures

Figure 1 Locations of the proposed visitor experience improvements in Kosciuszko National Park enabled by the amendment	1
Figure 2 Proposed new Visitor Services Zone at Thredbo Ranger Station.	5

Why amend the plan?

In 2018 the NSW Government announced funding to significantly enhance visitor facilities and create iconic experiences, including new walking tracks, accommodation and tourism partnerships, in a number of national parks across the state. These projects are part of the National Parks Visitor Infrastructure program and aim to increase nature-based tourism in NSW, boost regional economies and improve community wellbeing.

Funded projects include iconic walks in Ben Boyd, Murramarang and Kosciuszko national parks. Ben Boyd National Park and Murramarang National Park both have statements enabling such developments. However, the *Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management* required an amendment to enable development of new walking tracks within the Main Range Management Unit of the park's Back Country Zone.

The draft Kosciuszko Summit Precinct Walking Tracks Strategy identifies new walking tracks in this part of the park. The strategy includes a proposal for the development of the Snowies Iconic Walk (see Figure 1 below).

Prior to this amendment other actions or policies in the plan of management had been fulfilled or were misaligned with contemporary park use and social expectations. The plan of management:

- Encouraged adaptive re-use of the park's historic buildings and precincts yet also had policies that inhibited this re-use in many locations such as at the former Thredbo Ranger Station.
- Did not yet enable the final leg of the Thredbo Valley Track (see Figure 1 below), an acclaimed new shared-use walking and cycling track running the length of the valley from Dead Horse Gap to the Thredbo River Picnic Area on Kosciuszko Road.
- Was 12 years old and required adjustment to optimise visitor enjoyment, management and safety requirements. Most these included a line of snow poles along the Kosciuszko Walk on the Main Range as requested by NSW Police, camping at the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct and the resting of several tracks over winter to improve environmental conditions and visitor safety.

This plan of management amendment enables construction of the Snowies Iconic Walk on the Main Range, construction of the final stages of the shared-use Thredbo Valley Track, adaptive re-use of the Thredbo Ranger Station, and several further minor management and visitor improvements.

Further amendment to the Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management will be required to recognise the development and operation of the new Snowy Hydro 2.0 hydroelectricity scheme in the park. The legislation enabling Snowy Hydro 2.0 provides NSW Government agencies three years from the time of the scheme's planning approval to incorporate it into the plan of management. This plan amendment will be used by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to propose other updates in response to any environmental, social or statutory changes that may have occurred since the plan's adoption in 2006.

How to read the amendment

The amendment should be read in conjunction with the adopted [Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management](#). Plans of management are available at: [Plans of management on the Office of Environment and Heritage website](#).

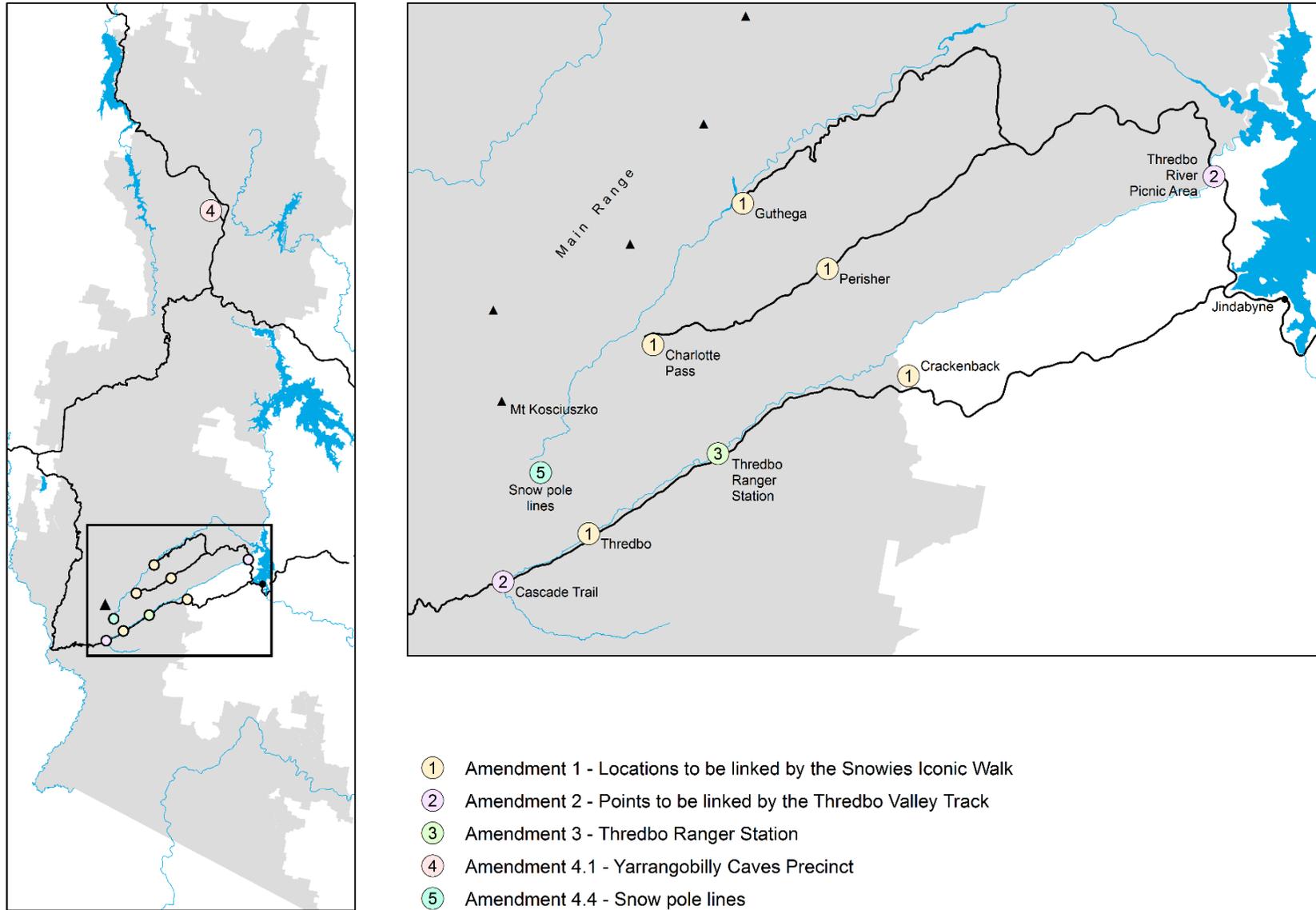


Figure 1 Locations of the proposed visitor experience improvements in Kosciuszko National Park enabled by the amendment

Amendments

The following amendments apply to the Kosciuszko National Park Plan of Management (2006, as amended in 2010 and 2014).

Amendment 1 Snowies Iconic Walk and the walking track strategy

Construction of new walking tracks in Kosciuszko National Park requires a plan of management amendment. The purpose of this amendment is to enable construction of new walking tracks within the Main Range Management Unit, part of the park's Back Country Zone. These new walking tracks will link with existing tracks to form the Snowies Iconic Walk, a multi-day walk in Australia's alpine region.

The Snowies Iconic Walk will link Thredbo Village with Charlotte Pass, Perisher and Crackenback (Bullocks Flat) on the Thredbo River. Depending upon the outcomes of further planning and environmental assessments, the walk is also proposed to link to Guthega Village. This infrastructure then would form the basis for providing a visitor experience that meets the warrants of the Tourism Australia Great Walks program. The proposed route would enable walkers to stay overnight in existing resort accommodation.

The Snowies Iconic Walk will provide a spread of opportunities for visitors to enjoy vistas on the edge of the Main Range and thereby help to reduce congestion at key locations within the Main Range Management Unit, including the Mount Kosciuszko summit.

The Snowies Iconic Walk will also provide an improved and more scenic option for walkers using the long-distance Australian Alps Walking Track. Prior to this amendment the plan required the existing route of the Australian Alps Walking Track to be retained including an 8.5 kilometres section along Kosciuszko Road, from Charlotte Pass to Perisher. Under this amendment, the Australian Alps Walking Track may be re-routed to follow the Snowies Iconic Walk.

The 2006 plan of management required NPWS to prepare a walking track management strategy for the entire park. Under this amendment walking track management strategies are able to be prepared for individual precincts within the park. The amendment also allows the construction of new walking tracks in the park, provided their construction is consistent with a publicly exhibited walking track strategy for the precincts they are in.

Amendments

Table 1 Summary of zoning scheme

Plan reference: page 35, in the row of Recreational Facilities and footnote to table

Revise the list of new recreational facilities permitted in the Back Country Zone to include walking tracks, consistent with an exhibited walking track strategy (new text is underlined):

'New facilities restricted to toilets, interpretive and directional signs, walking tracks² and purpose-built cycling tracks.'

² – Consistent with Schedule 5.2 and the walking track management strategy.

Section 8.6 Walking

Plan reference: page 117, in the subsection headed 'Background'

Add the following text before the last sentence of the second paragraph:

The multi-day Snowies Iconic Walk connecting Thredbo with Crackenback (Bullocks Flat) via Charlotte Pass and Perisher will be one of Australia's premier walks.

Plan reference: pages 119-120, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.6.1

Reword **8.6.1.5** to clearly identify that walking track strategies must be available for public comment before they are finalised and implemented:

'Prepare a walking track strategy for the entire park, or a series of strategies for precincts within the park, that is/are made available for public comment before finalisation...'

Reword **8.6.1.9** to enable re-routing of the Australian Alps Walking Track as follows:

~~'Retain the existing route of the Australian Alps Walking Track. Continue to promote and manage this track~~ the Australian Alps Walking Track consistent with the policies of the Australian Alps Program. The Australian Alps Walking Track may be re-routed to follow the Snowies Iconic Walk.'

Section 9.2 Main Range Management Unit

Plan reference: pages 154-157, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 9.2.1

Reword the second dot point of **9.2.1.14** to also provide for formal walking tracks of multiple day duration (as well as day or part-day) on the Main Range as follows:

'Manage recreation within the unit based upon the following four tiers of recreational sites and opportunities:...

- A select number of formal walking tracks on the Main Range of multi-day, day or part-day duration commencing from these two nodes;'

Add the Snowies Iconic Walk to the list of walks described in **9.2.1.28** and define as Class 3, inserting a new dot point as follows:

'Manage the formal walking track network in this unit according to the following track standards (Schedule 6):

- The Snowgums Boardwalk (at Charlotte Pass Trailhead), Kosciuszko Walk (from the Thredbo Chairlift), Summit Walk (the old summit road from Charlotte Pass to Rawson Pass), Charlotte Pass to Foremans Crossing (Snowy River) - Class 2.
- Snowies Iconic Walk (Thredbo - Charlotte Pass - Guthega Village - Perisher - Crackenback) - Class 3.
- Main Range Walk (Foremans Crossing - Blue Lake - Rawson Pass) - Class 3.
- Dead Horse Gap Track and Mount Stillwell Track - Class 4.'

Reword **9.2.33** to enable re-routing of the Australian Alps Walking Track as follows:

~~'Retain the route of the Australian Alps Walking Track (AAWT) along the Dead Horse Gap Track, Kosciuszko Walk and Summit Walk from Rawson Pass to Charlotte Pass. In order to protect the outstanding values of the area and retain the current range of alpine walking experiences, the AAWT will not be re-routed to traverse any other part of the Main Range (Section 8.6).'~~ The Australian Alps Walking Track may be re-routed to follow the Snowies Iconic Walk.'

Schedule 5 Existing Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: pages 265–266 in Table S5.2 Walking tracks

To provide for the new walking tracks required for the Snowies Iconic Walk, add the following sections of track to this table, clearly identifying that they are proposed tracks via a new footnote (3) in the table’s legend on page 266:

Charlotte Pass to Guthega Village – Class 3, Back Country Zone

Guthega Village to Porcupine Rocks and surrounds – Class 3, Back Country Zone

Charlotte Pass to Porcupine Rocks via Rams Head Range –Class 3, Back Country Zone

Perisher Valley to Bullocks Flat – Class 3, Back Country Zone

Schedule 6 Standard of Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: pages 265–266 in *Table S6.4 Walking track classification*

Revise the Back Country column in the row of Graded path (Class 2) to identify that Graded path (Class 2) tracks are permissible within the Back Country Zone.

Schedule 11 Plan Implementation Priorities

Plan reference: page 293

Revise the wording for **8.6.1.5** as follows:

Prepare a walking track strategy for the entire park, or a series of strategies for precincts within the park, that is/are made available for public comment before finalisation.

Amendment 2 Thredbo Valley Track

The purpose of this amendment is to enable completion of the Thredbo Valley Track, providing for mountain bike riding and walking for some 40 kilometres from Cascade Trail at Dead Horse Gap to the Thredbo River Picnic Area on Kosciuszko Road. This track is an important feature of the Kosciuszko National Park Cycling Plan, which was publicly exhibited in 2016.

It is proposed to extend the Thredbo Valley Track from Gaden Trout Hatchery to the Thredbo River Picnic Area to provide an additional track-head for this shared-use (cycling and walking) track at a main road location and provide a link option to a future Snowy Monaro Regional Council cycling trail proposal. This extension will follow the alignment of the existing Pallaibo Track (listed in Table S5.2 Walking tracks as ‘Pallaibo Track’) for approximately 1.5 kilometres. This section of the Pallaibo Track will then be fully incorporated into the Thredbo Valley Track. This upgrade of the existing track will avoid the environmental and construction costs of a duplicate track.

This amendment also anticipates the completion of the Thredbo Valley Track and adds it to the schedule of recreational facilities in the plan of management.

Amendments

Section 8.11 Cycling

Plan reference: page 131, in the subsection headed 'Background'

Revise the opening part of the Background's second paragraph as follows to identify Thredbo Valley Track and its popularity with mountain bike riders, and Thredbo Village as a hub for mountain bike riding:

'Mountain bike riding is the most popular form of cycling in the park. In the south, Thredbo Village is a hub for mountain bike riding and the shared-use Thredbo Valley Track is very popular. Day trips along the management trail from Dead Horse Gap to Cascade Hut and along the old Kosciuszko Road from Charlotte Pass to Rawson Pass are also popular, as are trips along trails in the Long Plain – Cooleman Plain areas to the north. ...'

Schedule 5 Existing Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: pages 265–266 in Table S5.2 Walking tracks

Add Thredbo Valley Track (Cascade Trail to Thredbo River Picnic Area)⁴ to Table S5.2.

Add '4. Shared-use track' to the Legend for Table S5.2

Correct spelling of Pallaibo Track.

Amendment 3 Adaptive re-use of Thredbo Ranger Station

Prior to this amendment the plan recommended that a cultural heritage assessment be prepared to determine whether the Thredbo Ranger Station should be removed, and the site rehabilitated as part of a program to limit the extent of ribbon development along road corridors.

The cultural heritage assessment was completed in 2016. It concluded that the Thredbo Ranger Station does have cultural heritage significance and recommends against its removal. The assessment identifies that, instead, it may be suitable for adaptive re-use.

Given its location on the Thredbo Valley Track, the Alpine Way and Thredbo River, the site is considered suitable for commercial use and short stay visitor accommodation. This would require re-development of the ranger station building, and development of other hard-roofed accommodation and ancillary buildings and camping areas.

Prior to this amendment the site was within the Back Country Zone of the park. This amendment rezones an area surrounding the Thredbo Ranger Station from Back Country to Visitor Services Zone to enable development for commercial use and short stay accommodation at the site.

The area rezoned is shown in Figure 2. It is bounded by the Thredbo River, No. 2 Creek, the Alpine Way and a line, extending from and parallel to the nearby cycling/pedestrian bridge over the Thredbo River, to the Alpine Way. Any future development in this part of the park would be confined to this new Visitor Services Zone.



Figure 2 New Visitor Services Zone at Thredbo Ranger Station.

Amendments

Section 5.6 Visitor Services Zone

Plan reference: page 33

Amend the text in paragraph 6 to identify that the area of the former Thredbo Ranger Station is included in the Visitor Services Zone as follows:

‘In addition to the alpine resorts, another ~~eight~~ nine areas are included in this zone. ~~Five~~ Six of these sites are located in the southern end of the park along or near the major road corridors of the Alpine Way and Kosciuszko Road.

These are:

- Murray 1 visitor centre precinct (Snowy Hydro Limited - lease area).
- Former Thredbo Ranger Station (visitor accommodation, campground and commercial services) # [footnote: the area of which is defined by the Thredbo River, No 2 Creek, the Alpine Way and a line parallel to the nearby cycling/pedestrian bridge over the river.].
- Wilsons Valley (Ski Rider Motel – lease area).
- Diggers Creek (Sponars Chalet – lease area and associated facilities).
- Sawpit Creek precinct (campground, education centre and offices, landfill, car parks and former service station).
- Waste Point precinct (staff and visitor accommodation and workshop).’

Section 8.3 Driving

Plan reference: page 110, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.3.1

Modify **8.3.1.6**, by deleting the last dot point and thereby removing the former Thredbo Ranger Station and compound from the list of sites subject to this action, as follows:

‘Subject to cultural heritage assessments, reduce the extent of past ‘ribbon development’ along the major road corridors and improve the visual amenity by the removal and rehabilitation of:

- The former Sawpit Creek service station and environs (Sawpit Creek, Kosciuszko Road).
- The former winter transport interchange building (not including the RTA depot) (Wilson's Valley, Kosciuszko Road).
- The former Thredbo Ranger Station and compound (Alpine Way).’

Section 8.5 Camping

Plan reference: page 114, in the subsection headed ‘Background’

Amend the second paragraph of the background text to identify that camping will be allowed at the former Thredbo Ranger Station (and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct – see Amendment 4.1, below) as follows:

~~‘The Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat) camping ground is the only such site in the park and the only Three camping areas are located in the Visitor Services Zone. These are at Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat), Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct. All other vehicle-accessible camping areas in the park are significantly less-developed. Visitor facilities at these lesser-developed sites are typically limited to picnic tables, fireplaces and non-flushing toilets. All are situated within the Minor and Major Road Corridors.’~~

Plan reference: pages 115-117, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.5.1

In **8.5.1.1**, add Thredbo Ranger Station (and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct – see Amendment 4.1, below) as a site within the Visitor Services Zone where vehicle-based camping in designated camping areas is permitted as follows:

‘Permit vehicle-based camping in designated camping areas only in the Minor and Major Road Corridors and at Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat), Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves in the Visitor Services Zone.’

In **8.5.1.4**, add Thredbo Ranger Station (and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct – see Amendment 4.1 below) to the dot point relevant to the Visitor Services Zone as follows:

‘Manage existing and new camping areas according to the following zoning requirements, utilising the Camping Area Classification System provided at Schedule 6: ...

- Visitor Services Zone – Camping only permitted at Sawpit Creek camping area, Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct ~~which will continue to be managed as a Camping Ground (all C4).~~

In **8.5.1.16**, add Thredbo Ranger Station (and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct – see Amendment 4.1 below) to the list of camping sites where a booking system can be implemented.

Section 8.19 Visitor Accommodation

Plan reference: page 144, in the subsection headed 'Background'

Add Thredbo Ranger Station to the list of sites in the park, outside of the alpine resorts, where accommodation is available.

Plan reference: pages 144-145, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.19.1

In **8.19.1.1**, add Thredbo Ranger Station to the list of sites, within the Visitor Services Zone, where visitor accommodation is permitted.

Add a new Policy/Action **8.19.1.9** as follows:

'Consider other options for the adaptive re-use and development of the Thredbo Ranger Station for commercial opportunities to optimise visitor use, education and conservation of the site.'

Add a new Policy/Action **8.19.1.10** as follows:

'Prepare and have approved a precinct plan and environmental impact assessment, made available for public comment before finalisation, prior to undertaking any accommodation development'

Section 12.2 Service Operations

Plan reference: page 211, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 12.2.1

Delete the last sentence from **12.2.1.9** which requires the closure and rehabilitation of the existing compound at Thredbo Ranger Station.

'Maintain field depots at Blowering, Waste Point, Bombala, Yarrangobilly and Khancoban. ~~Close and rehabilitate the existing compound at Thredbo Ranger Station.'~~

Schedule 4 Appropriate Recreational Activities

Plan reference: page 259, in Table S4.1 Non-commercial recreational activities

Revise the row for vehicle-based camping (within designated camping areas) in the Visitor Services Zone column of Table S4.1 to include Thredbo Ranger Station (and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct – see Amendment 4.1 below).

Plan reference: page 260, in Table S4.2 Commercial or large group (>20 people) activities

Revise the row for Camping in the Visitor Services Zone column of Table S4.2 to include Thredbo Ranger Station.

Schedule 5 Existing Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: pages 262-264, in Table S5.1 NPWS camping and day use areas

Add Thredbo Ranger Station to this list of Existing NPWS camping and day use areas.

Identify via a footnote that it is a proposed camping and day use area.

Describe as C4 standard and add any likely proposed facilities such as fireplace(s), barbecue(s), picnic tables, toilet(s).

Plan reference: page 268, Table S5.4 Camping facilities operated under concession

Include the new Thredbo Ranger Station camping facility in the list of facilities operated under concession and able to provide the following list of associated facilities:

- camping area: levelled powered and unpowered camping sites with fireplaces, seating, garbage bins, shelters, camp kitchen, toilets and shower facilities
- caravan area: powered caravan sites with fireplaces and garbage bins
- small and large group camping areas: group sites with fireplaces and garbage bins
- hard-roofed accommodation
- picnic facilities: picnic tables, fireplaces, gas/electric barbecues
- sewage treatment system
- water supply tanks
- internal roads and parking.

Schedule 6 Standard of Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: page 269, Table S6.1 Camping area classification

In the facility row for 'Built accommodation (cabins and on-site tents)', add Thredbo Ranger Station in the column for Camping ground (C4).

Schedule 11 Plan implementation priorities

Revise text in 8.3.1.6 and 12.2.1.9 as per descriptions above.

Amendment 4 Minor management and visitor improvements

Amendment 4.1 Yarrangobilly camping

Prior to this amendment, the plan of management did not permit camping in the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct part of the park's Visitor Services Zone. It did enable vehicle-based camping near Cotterills Cottage at Yarrangobilly Village, but with a future intention for managing the area near Cotterills Cottage as a day use area following the development of a new camping area near Yarrangobilly Village. The plan also actioned the investigation of camping on the Yarrangobilly Caves exit road.

This amendment enables:

- camping to be allowed within the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct
- the area near Cotterills Cottage to continue to be available for camping

This amendment also removes consideration of provision of camping opportunities on Yarrangobilly Caves exit road.

Section 8.5 Camping

Plan reference: page 114, in the subsection headed 'Background'

Amend the second paragraph of the background text as indicated below to identify that camping will be allowed in the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct Visitor Services Zone. This

proposed change compounds a change proposed in Section 3 above to enable camping at the former Thredbo Ranger Station – both changes are outlined in the section following:

~~‘The Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat) camping ground is the only such site in the park and the only Three camping areas are located in the Visitor Services Zone. These are at Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat), Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct. All other vehicle-accessible camping areas in the park are significantly less-developed. Visitor facilities at these lesser-developed sites are typically limited to picnic tables, fireplaces and non-flushing toilets. All are situated within the Minor and Major Road Corridors.’~~

Plan reference: pages 115-117, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.5.1

In **8.5.1.1**, add Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct (and Thredbo Ranger Station – see Amendment 3 above) as a site within the Visitor Services Zone where vehicle-based camping in designated camping areas is permitted as follows:

‘Permit vehicle-based camping in designated camping areas only in the Minor and Major Road Corridors and at Sawpit Creek (Kosciuszko Mountain Retreat), Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves in the Visitor Services Zone.’

In **8.5.1.4**, add Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct (and Thredbo Ranger Station – see Amendment 3 above) to the dot point relevant to the Visitor Services Zone as follows:

‘Manage existing and new camping areas according to the following zoning requirements, utilising the Camping Area Classification System provided at Schedule 6: ...

- Visitor Services Zone – Camping only permitted at Sawpit Creek camping area, Thredbo Ranger Station and Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct ~~which will continue to be managed as a Camping Ground (all C4)~~.

In **8.5.1.7**, remove the option to develop camping on the Yarrangobilly Caves exit road by revising the existing relevant dot point as follows:

‘In keeping with the requirements listed above, develop or improve camping areas at the following locations in the Major and Minor Road Corridors: ...

Yarrangobilly (on the Caves exit road near the Snowy Mountains Highway or near Cotterills Cottage and on the northern side of the Snowy Mountains Highway near Yarrangobilly Village); and ‘

In **8.5.1.16**, add Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct (and Thredbo Ranger Station – see Amendment 3 above) to the list of camping sites where a booking system can be implemented.

Section 8.19 Visitor Accommodation

Plan reference: page 144, in the subsection headed ‘Background’

Add *Caves House (Yarrangobilly)* to the list of sites in the park, outside of the alpine resorts, where accommodation is available.

Delete the second last paragraph noting that Caves House is being renovated.

Section 9.3 Yarrangobilly Management Unit

Plan reference: pages 160–162, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 9.3.1

In **9.3.16**, remove the option to develop camping on the Yarrangobilly Caves exit road and remove the requirement to eventually manage the area near Cotterills Cottage as a day use area as follows:

'Permit vehicle-based camping near Cotterills Cottage at Yarrangobilly Village. Investigate options for a new vehicle-based camping area on the Yarrangobilly Caves exit road and on the northern side of the Snowy Mountains Highway near Yarrangobilly Village and develop the preferred site following detailed site design, environmental impact assessment, exhibition and the finalisation of a Yarrangobilly Caves precinct plan. Upon development of a new camping area near Yarrangobilly Village, manage the area near Cotterills Cottage as a day use area.'

Allow camping within the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct by revising **9.3.1.17** as follows:

'Investigate opportunities then develop a preferred option for camping in the Yarrangobilly Caves area, following detailed site design, environmental impact assessment and finalisation of the Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct Plan. Prohibit vehicle-based camping elsewhere in the management unit.'

Schedule 4 Appropriate Recreational Activities

Plan reference: page 259, in Table S4.1 Non-commercial recreational activities

Revise the row for vehicle-based camping (within designated camping areas) in the Visitor Services Zone column of Table S4.1 to include Yarrangobilly Caves Precinct (and Thredbo Ranger Station – see Amendment 3 above).

Schedule 5 Existing Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: pages 262–264, in Table S5.1 NPWS camping and day use areas

Amend the listing for Yarrangobilly Caves in Table S5.1 to include a C4 camping area.

Identify via a footnote that this is a proposed (i.e. not yet developed) camping area.

Schedule 11 Plan Implementation Priorities

Revise text in 9.3.1.16 as per description above.

Amendment 4.2 Resort use of fireworks

Prior to this amendment, fireworks were only allowed, subject to consent, at Thredbo Village and Perisher village areas; that is, only at two of the four resort areas within the park.

This amendment allows fireworks, subject to consent, to also be used at Mount Selwyn and Charlottes Pass, that is at all four resort areas.

Section 8.20 Special events

Plan reference: pages 146–147, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.20.1

Revise the first sentence of **8.20.1.7** as follows:

‘Prohibit the use of fireworks in the park with the exception of the Thredbo Village, Charlotte Pass village, Perisher village and Mount Selwyn resort areas.’

Amendment 4.3 Trail resting

The plan provides for a number of specified roads and trails, or sections of them, to be closed on a seasonal basis to limit damage to the road and trail surfaces that occurs with continuing public vehicle access during the winter months.

This amendment extends this provision so that similar seasonal closures can be applied to Yellow Bog Road and Geehi Walls, Greg Greg, and Major Clews trails.

Section 5.4 Minor Road Corridors

Plan reference: page 30

Add a superscript 1 next to the names of the following roads and trails listed (to indicate they are closed to the public during the winter season):

- Yellow Bog Road
- Geehi Walls Trail
- Greg Greg Trail
- Major Clews Trail.

Section 8.3 Driving

Plan reference: pages 110-111, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.3.1

In **8.3.1.16**, add Yellow Bog Road and Geehi Walls, Greg Greg, and Major Clews trails to the roads and trails already identified for closure on a seasonal basis.

Amendment 4.4 Snow poles

A small number of snow pole lines are provided in the park, predominantly for cross-country skiers. At the request of NSW Police, an additional snow pole line is proposed for the route from Thredbo Top Station to Rawson Pass, on the Kosciuszko Walking Track, to increase the safety of cross-country skiers and walkers using this popular route.

The route between Kosciuszko Lookout and Snowy Bridge, known as the Thredbo Link, crosses a fragile landscape and the 2006 plan notes that this route should be managed and promoted as a ski trail only. Walking is discouraged due to the sensitive vegetation along the route. Whilst snow-cover protects the landscape and the route is suitable for cross-country skiing, it is not well used. The existing snow pole line marking the cross-country ski route between Kosciuszko Lookout and Snowy Bridge will be removed and the route closed.

Table 1 Summary of zoning scheme

Plan reference: page 35, in the row of Recreational Facilities

Revise the ‘Back Country’ column as follows to enable removal of Thredbo Link poles and installation of new snow poles to Rawson Pass:

‘Retain existing trail markers or snowpoles where required. but no new poles or markers. Restrict new poles and markers to routes where public safety is an issue.’

Section 8.9 Cross-country Skiing

Plan reference: pages 128-130, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 8.9.1

Revise **8.9.1.3** to read:

'Retain existing snow pole lines in the Back Country Zone, Minor and Major Road Corridors, and the Visitor Services Zone where they continue to be required. In the Back Country Zone additional snow pole lines will not only be provided in the Back Country Zone (with the exception of at the Perisher and Smiggin Holes Cross-country Skiing Area and where public safety has become an issue, for example along the Kosciuszko Walk between Thredbo Top Station and Rawson Pass. Additional snow pole lines) but may be constructed in the Minor and Major Road Corridors and the Visitor Services Zone.'

Replace the text in **8.9.1.4** with '[repealed]' alongside the number 4.

Section 9.2 Main Range Management Unit

Plan reference: pages 153-159, in the list of policies and actions under Objective 9.2.1

Replace the text in **9.2.1.35** with '[repealed]' alongside the number 35.

Revise **9.2.1.36** to read:

'Retain existing trail markers and snow pole lines where they continue to be required. and Prohibit the provision of additional markers or pole lines in the management unit except at the Perisher and Smiggin Holes Cross-country Skiing Area and where public safety has become an issue, for example along the Kosciuszko Walk between Thredbo Top Station and Rawson Pass (Section 8.9).'

Schedule 5 Existing Visitor Facilities

Plan reference: page 267 in Table S5.3 Cross-country skiing facilities

In the section of the table headed 'Other', add new listing for 'Kosciuszko Walk (Thredbo Top Station to Rawson Pass)' showing Function as 'Advanced touring' and Facilities as 'Marked trail'.

Delete listing in table for Thredbo Link (between Crackenback chairlift and Snowy Bridge).

Schedule 11 Plan Implementation Priorities

Delete text for **8.9.1.4** but leave number with new text saying '[repealed]'.