

NSW & ACT Prospectors and Fossickers Association Inc.

Incorporation No: Inc 1200398 www.napfa.net secretary@napfa.net PO Box 4529 Dubbo NSW 2830

"Fights for fairer access to land in NSW and represents the interests of prospectors and fossickers"

Hill End Historic Site draft plan.

National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is seeking feedback on the draft plan of management for the Hill End Historic Site.

The review was last held in 2012, so it is critical for members who use the area to have input. NAPFA have submitted to the past plan and contributed a lot of lobbying since 2013 on a range of issues. Of particular concern in the draft plan is the following items:

1. Definitions in the glossary do not contain fossicking or fossickers, yet other tourist groups are now targeted as preferential.

2. Read last paragraph of Page 20 to end 3rd paragraph page 21:

- "*Fragmented ownership presents some challenges for effective management*." This is directed at the Tambaroora Common, where NPWS are buying land parcels around this area. The Common is the only area to use pans and sluices with easy access for the young and disabled. It is obvious that to solve the problem would be for NPWS to ultimately take control of this land.

- "fossicking has resulted in significant ground disturbance in places and the illegal collection of relics."

3. Page 33 – Again NPWS have a dig at Tambaroora (the common) which is not theirs. Fossicking is not listed as a recreational activity in the historic area. NPWS could allow gold panning in one restricted area of the creek after checking for archaeological significance. We may refute this view on risk policy and ask for justification.

Information about the plan, the plan itself, and how to make a submission can be can be found at: <u>About Hill End Draft Plan</u>

The draft plan itself can be found here: <u>Hill End Draft Plan</u> Submissions to the plan are due 1st February 2021.

NAPFA will be making a submission, however we encourage members to do the same and <u>non-members are also welcome</u> to register.

If you would like specific information and a draft letter to use, then please send an email to <u>member</u> <u>enquiries</u> and title the email Hill End Draft Plan.