

DOMESTIC POULTRY ABANDONED ON PUBLIC LAND

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1. PURPOSE

The aim of this policy is to provide guidelines to manage domestic poultry abandoned on public land and waterways.

2. STATEMENT

The abandonment of poultry in waterways and on other public land is an ongoing concern in many local government areas and requires appropriate management. Complaints about the poultry are received from the public for a variety of reasons including welfare concerns, aggressive behaviour, animals being a traffic hazard, droppings creating a mess and being a health concern, and concerns for the impact on the natural environment.

2.1. Background

Council acknowledges that domestic poultry is abandoned on public land despite signage to discourage this and advising the public to contact the Shoalhaven Animal Shelter for assistance.

2.2. Legislation

Section 125 of the Local Government Act states a Council may abate a public nuisance.

3. PROVISIONS

Common areas where poultry are abandoned includes Harry Sawkins Park, Nowra; Marriott Park, Nowra; Mark Radium Park, Berry; and Sussex Inlet Keys.

In the interest of animal welfare all abandoned poultry may be removed as soon as practicable including abandoned poultry dumped on public land other than locations specified above.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

This policy will be implemented by the Ranger Services Unit.

5. REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed within one year of the election of every new Council, or earlier if circumstances arise to warrant revision.

6. APPLICATION OF ESD PRINCIPLES

This policy supports Council's commitment to ESD principles through social integrity and animal welfare management.