



Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

INCLUSION OF A PLACE IN THE NATIONAL HERITAGE LIST

I, Ian Gordon Campbell, Minister for the Environment and Heritage, having considered, in relation to the place listed in the Schedule of this instrument -

- (a) the Australian Heritage Council's assessment whether the place meets any of the National Heritage criteria; and
- (b) the comments given to the Council under section 324G of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; and

being satisfied that the place specified in the Schedule has the National Heritage value or values specified in the Schedule include, pursuant to section 324J of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, the place listed in the Schedule in the National Heritage List.

Dated 12th day of July, 2006

[signed]

Ian Gordon Campbell
Minister for the Environment
and Heritage

SCHEDULE

STATE

Local Government Area

Name:

Location / Boundary

Criteria / Values

NEW SOUTH WALES**Sutherland Shire and Wollongong City****Royal National Park and Garawarra State Conservation Area:**

About 16000ha, Sir Bertram Stevens Drive, Audley, comprising the whole of Royal National Park and Garawarra State Conservation Area.

Criterion**Values**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>(a) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p> | <p>Royal National Park and Garawarra State Conservation Area constitute a major centre of plant species richness, having one of the richest concentrations of plant species in temperate Australia with more than 1000 species. The place is important for its richness in a wide array of species including heaths (Epacridaceae), peas and wattles (Mimosaceae and Fabaceae), orchids (Orchidaceae), grevilleas and banksias (Proteaceae) and members of the eucalypt family (Myrtaceae). The place is also extremely important as a centre of temperate animal species richness for a range of groups including perching birds (Passeriformes) especially honeyeaters (Meliphagidae), tree-frogs (Hylidae), reptiles (Reptilia) and butterflies (Lepidoptera). The place can be regarded as exemplifying the biodiverse Hawkesbury Sandstone environment (Braby 2000; DEH 2004; DEH 2006; NSW NPWS 2000).</p> |
|--|--|

Royal National Park was the first National Park to be established in Australia in 1879 and this event is seen as the beginning of the Australian conservation movement (Heathcote 1988). The permanent reservation of a large natural area for the purposes of public recreation marked the start of the development of Australia's National Park system of protected areas (Worboys et al 2005).

For a description of any references quoted above, and more information on each of the places please search the Australian Heritage Database at <http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl> using the name of the place.