



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 16th day of August, 2006

[signed]

Ian Gordon Campbell
Minister for the Environment
and Heritage

SCHEDULE

STATE

Local Government Area

Name:

Location / Boundary

Criteria / Values

WESTERN AUSTRALIA**Albany City, Cranbrook, Gnowangerup and Plantagenet Shires****Stirling Range National Park:**

About 115,920ha, Chester Pass Road, 11km east of Cranbrook, comprising National Park Reserve A14792, National Park and Water Reserve 1090, and that part of the national park surrounding Hamilla Hill being Location 7094.

Criterion**Values**

- (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.

The south-west of Western Australia is one of only 34 internationally significant hotspots for biodiversity (Myers et al. 2000), and the Stirling Range National Park is a very important remnant of the flora of the south-west, with exceptional richness and endemism of species, particularly for plant species (Comer et al. 2001, Hopper et al 1996). For example, the place is one of the richest areas in Australia for families such as Myrtaceae, including the eucalypts, and Proteaceae, including dryandras, banksias, and hakeas (Keighery 1993, ANHAT 2005). A minimum of 1,500 plant species have been recorded within the park of 115,000 hectares (Keighery 1993, CALM 1999, Paczkowska & Chapman 2000), and there are also 87 recorded endemics, or species that are found nowhere else (CALM 1999, Keighery 1993).

Deeply incised south-facing gullies provide refuge for Gondwanan relictual species such as ancient trapdoor spider species (mygalomorphs), and species of land snail, and other relict invertebrate species, including scorpions, pseudoscorpions, earthworms and primitive isopod crustaceans (Thomson et al. 1993; Comer et al. 01, ANHAT 2005). The Stirling Range is one of most important areas in Australia for endemic mygalomorph species, and is also important for land snail richness, particularly within the *Bothriembryon* genus (ANHAT 2005).

(d) the place has outstanding heritage value to the nation because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of:

- (i) a class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or
- (ii) a class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.

Stirling Range National Park is one of the top ranking places across Australia representing areas of richest biodiversity (ANHAT 2005, CALM 1999, Hopper et al. 1996, Keighery 1993, Paczkowska & Chapman 2000). The place represents one of the most important remnants of the rich flora of the south-west (Hopper et al 1996).

The Stirling Range National Park provides an example of the extraordinarily diverse flora of the south-west, and over 1500 species have been recorded in the Park, which represents almost one fifth of all the flora species found in the south-west. The Stirling Range also exemplifies the abundance of endemic species found in the south-west, with 87 species being found solely within the Park (CALM 1999, Keighery 1993).

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.