



New South Wales

THREATENED SPECIES CONSERVATION ACT 1995 No 101

Notice of Final Determination and Amendment of Schedule 1 to Act

The Scientific Committee established under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* has, in pursuance of Division 3 of Part 2 of that Act, made a final determination to insert the following community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to that Act (Endangered ecological communities) and, accordingly, that Schedule is amended as set out in Annexure "A" to this Notice:

Part 3 Endangered ecological communities

Duffys Forest vegetation community (as described in the final determination of the Scientific Committee to list the ecological community)

The final determination to insert this community in Schedule 1 has been made because the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that this community is likely to become extinct in nature in New South Wales unless the circumstances and factors threatening its survival or evolutionary development cease to operate.

Copies of the final determination may be inspected at:

The Information Centre (Level 1)
National Parks & Wildlife Service
43 Bridge Street
HURSTVILLE NSW 2220

and at all District Offices of the National Parks and Wildlife Service during business hours.

Signed at Sydney this 9th day of July 1998.

Associate Professor Paul Adam

Deputy Chairperson
Scientific Committee

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Annexure “A”

Schedule 1 to the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* is amended by inserting in Part 3 in alphabetical order the matter:

Duffys Forest vegetation community (as described in the final determination of the Scientific Committee to list the ecological community)

NSW SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
Final Determination

The Scientific Committee, established by the Threatened Species Conservation Act, has made a final determination to list the Duffys Forest vegetation community as an ENDANGERED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY on Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Act. The listing of Endangered Ecological Communities is provided for by Part 2 of the Act.

The Ecological Community proposed for listing is:

1. The Duffys Forest vegetation community is the accepted name for the plant community that occurs on lateritic (ironstone) and deeply weathered shale derived soils on the nidgetops in the Duffys Forest / Terrey Hills / Ingleside / Belrose area within Warringah, Pittwater and Ku-ring-gai Council areas.
2. It has the structural form predominantly of open-forest to low open-forest or rarely open woodland.
3. The Duffys Forest vegetation community is characterised by the following assemblage of vascular plant species:

<i>Acacia myrtifolia</i>	<i>Dodonaea triquetra</i>	<i>Lindsaea microphylla</i>
<i>Acacia suaveolens</i>	<i>Entolasia stricta</i>	<i>Lomandra glauca</i>
<i>Actinotus minor</i>	<i>Epacris pulchella</i>	<i>Lomandra obliqua</i>
<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	<i>Eucalyptus capitellata</i>	<i>Lomatia silaifolia</i>
<i>Angophora costata</i>	<i>Eucalyptus gummifera</i>	<i>Micranthemum ericoides</i>
<i>Anisopogon avenaceus</i>	<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i>	<i>Patersonia spp.</i>
<i>Banksia ericifolia</i>	<i>Eucalyptus oblonga</i>	<i>Persoonia levigata</i>
<i>Banksia serrata</i>	<i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i>	<i>Persoonia pinifolia</i>
<i>Banksia spinulosa</i>	<i>Gompholobium grandiflorum</i>	<i>Petrophile pulchella</i>
<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	<i>Grevillea buxifolia</i>	<i>Phyllanthus hirtellus</i>
<i>Boronia ledifolia</i>	<i>Grevillea caleyi</i>	<i>Phyllota phylloides</i>
<i>Boronia pinnata</i>	<i>Hakea dactyloides</i>	<i>Pimelea linifolia</i>
<i>Bossiaea heterophylla</i>	<i>Hakea sericea</i>	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>
<i>Bossiaea obcordata</i>	<i>Hakea teretifolia</i>	<i>Platysace linearifolia</i>

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<i>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</i>	<i>Hovea linearis</i>	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>
<i>Conospermum longifolium</i>	<i>Kunzea ambigua</i>	<i>Pultenaea elliptica</i>
<i>Cyathochaeta diandra</i>	<i>Lambertia formosa</i>	<i>Telopea speciosissima</i>
<i>Dampiera stricta</i>	<i>Lasiopetalum ferrugineum</i>	<i>Xanthorrhoea media</i>
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	<i>Leptospermum trinervium</i>	<i>Xylomelum pyriforme</i>
<i>Dillwynia retorta</i>	<i>Lindsaea linearis</i>	

4. The total species list of the community is considerably larger then that given in 3 (above), with many species present in only one or two sites or in very small quantity. In any particular site not all of the assemblage listed in 3 may be present. At any one time, seeds of some species may only be present in the soil seedbank with no above ground individuals present. The species composition of the site will be influenced by the size of the site and by its recent disturbance history. The number of species and the above ground composition of species will change with time since fire, and may also change in response to changes in fire frequency.
5. The Duffys Forest vegetation community occurs on lateritic soils on the ridgetops including part of the Somersby and Blacktown Soil Landscapes in the Duffys Forest / Terrey Hills / Ingleside / Belrose areas. The soil can be distinguished from the surrounding sandstone soils by colour and the usual presence of ironstone nodules.
6. The endangered shrub *Grevillea caleyi* is restricted to the Duffys Forest vegetation community though it is not necessarily present at all locations of the community.
7. The Scientific Committee noted that general information on the Duffys Forest vegetation community is contained in:
Benson. D. & Howell. J. (1994) The natural vegetation of the Sydney 1:100000 map sheet. *Cunninghamia* 3(4) pg. 677-787.
Thomas. J. & Benson. D.H. (1985) Vegetation survey of Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park. National Herbarium of New South Wales. Royal Botanic Gardens. Sydney.
Sheringham. P.R. & Sanders. J.M. (1993) Vegetation survey of Garigal National Park and surrounding Crown Lands. A report for the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Scott, J. Marshall, A. & Auld, T.D. (1995) Conservation research statement and recovery plan for *Grevillea caleyi*. ANCA Endangered Species Project No. 456.

These surveys and accompanying maps are by no means inclusive in their representation of the Duffys Forest vegetation community. The scale of the Sydney map is too coarse to map the smaller remnants of this community. The community is highly fragmented by urban developments and not all the small fragments appear on the maps. The Duffys Forest community is represented on the southern edge of the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park vegetation map (Thomas & Benson 1985) and the northerly edge of the Garigal National Park vegetation map (Sheringham & Sanders 1993). These two maps do not directly abut as there is a gap in the middle comprising cleared land within which small remnant patches of the Duffys Forest community exist.

The Scientific Committee has found that:

8. The Community, as defined by the proposal, satisfies the definition of an ecological community under the Act; an assemblage of species occupying a particular area.
9. It is estimated that only 15% of the original area of the community currently exists in the form of a number of remnants.
10. Threats to the survival of the community include land clearing, habitat degradation by rubbish dumping and access by people, trail bikes, and other vehicles; weed invasion facilitated by urban runoff, an inappropriate fire regime, and unauthorised horse riding activities in the area.