



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 ecological 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:

Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions (as described in the final determination of the Scientific Committee to list the ecological community)

The final determination, set out in Annexure "B" to this Notice, to insert this ecological community in Part 3 of Schedule 1 has been made because the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that the community is likely to become extinct in nature in New South Wales unless the circumstances and factors threatening its survival 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 22nd day of November 1999.

Dr Chris Dickman

Chairperson
Scientific Committee

1999 No 715

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 No 101—Final Determination

Annexure "A"

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

Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions (as described in the final determination of the Scientific Committee to list the ecological community)

Annexure "B"

Final Determination of the Scientific Committee to list the Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions as an endangered ecological community.

Annexure "B"

NSW SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Final Determination

The Scientific Committee, established by the Threatened Species Conservation Act, has made a Final Determination to list the Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions as an ENDANGERED ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITY on Part 3 of Schedule 1 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act. Listing is provided for by Part 2 of the Act.

The Scientific Committee has found that:

1. The ecological community known as Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket is a form of dry rainforest which in New South Wales is found in the Brigalow Belt South and Nandewar Bioregions.
2. The Community is made up of vines, deciduous (and/or facultatively deciduous) tree species that have affinities with species from subtropical rainforest. Characteristic canopy dominants are *Cassine australis* var. *angustifolia*, *Geijera parvifolia* and *Notelaea microcarpa* var. *microcarpa*, but with emergents typical of the surrounding woodlands (*Eucalyptus albens*, *Eucalyptus melanophloia* and *Callitris glauophylla*).

Other characteristic species include:

<i>Alectryon subdentatus</i>	<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i> var. <i>angustifolia</i>
<i>Alstonia constricta</i>	<i>Indigofera brevidens</i>
<i>Aristida ramosa</i>	<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>
<i>Beyeria viscosa</i>	<i>Parsonia eucalyptophylia</i>
<i>Boerhavia dominii</i>	<i>Phyllanthus subcrenulatus</i>
<i>Canthium oleifolium</i>	<i>Pimelea neo-anglica</i>
<i>Carissa ovata</i>	<i>Spartothamnella juncea</i>
<i>Cheilanthes sieberi</i> ssp. <i>sieberi</i>	<i>Thellungiella advena</i>
<i>Dichondra repens</i>	

Rare species in New South Wales found in Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket include:

<i>Acacia harpophylla</i>	<i>Planchonella cotinifolia</i> var. <i>pubescens</i>
<i>Isotropis foliosa</i>	<i>Triodia scariosa</i> ssp. <i>scariosa</i>

A detailed account of the community is provided by Benson, J.S., Dick, R. and Zubovic, A. 1996 Semi-evergreen vine thicket vegetation at Derra Derra Ridge, Bingara, New South Wales Cuminghamia Vol. 4(3): 497–510.

3. Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket is found on sites on deep loamy, high nutrient soils derived from basalt or other volcanic rocks, which are relatively less fire prone than surrounding areas, with average annual rainfall of 750mm. The distribution of Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket is a reflection of fire history, soil nutrient status and climate. Before European settlement Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket would have had a relatively restricted distribution in New South Wales.
4. Since European settlement substantial areas of Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket have been cleared for grazing and cropping. Clearing has continued in recent years. Benson *et al* (1996) suggest that grazing in remaining stands may adversely affect regeneration of the community.
5. Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket in New South Wales is now very limited in total area and number of stands. One stand occurs at Planchonella Hill Nature Reserve.

1999 No 715

Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 No 101—Final Determination

6. In view of 3, 4, and 5 above the Scientific Committee is of the opinion that Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket 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.

Dr Chris Dickman
Chairperson
Scientific Committee

BY AUTHORITY