

Minister to assess plateau heritage

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The Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service, will in due course, arrange for an assessment of the natural heritage values of Radiata Plateau, State MP for Blue Mountains Barry Morris said this week.

"Minister for the Environment, Tim Moore, has asked NPWS to determine the potential of Radiata Plateau for addition to the Blue Mountains National Park," said Mr Morris.

"However, since the purchase of privately owned land would be involved, and having regard to the service's limited resources and its statewide conservation priorities, it is unlikely that purchase and addition would be achieved in the foreseeable future."

Mr Morris said the Minister had not been shown any evidence of rare or endangered species under threat on the plateau which would justify his making an interim protection order over the plateau.

"I understand that there is strong support in some quarters for a proposal to return the entire plateau to original bushland," said Mr Morris.

"While this may not be feasible, the suggestion certainly has some merit and should be examined carefully," Mr Morris said.