# Radiata Plateau Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage Values

## Compiled by Margaret Baker for a NPWS and BMCS meeting

## 1st March 2019


**Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc**

**ABN 38 686 119 087**

**PO Box 29 Wentworth Falls NSW 2782**

**Phone: (02) 4757 1872**

**E-Mail: bmcs@bluemountains.org.au Web Site: www.bluemountains.org.au**


**Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow**

# Radiata Plateau Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage Values

***© Margaret Baker – Blue Mountains Conservation Society***
***1st March 2019 as discussed at a meeting with BMCS and Blue Mountains NPWS***

For more detail please refer to the document *The Biodiversity of Radiata Plateau* (Margaret Baker Nov 2017)

## 1. Overview of Environmental and Cultural Significance

Sitting on the southern escarpment, Radiata Plateau is the last remaining undeveloped peninsula-plateau outside of the Blue Mountains National Park in the upper Blue Mountains. It is a place of considerable topographic diversity from the plateau surface to the escarpment edges that command spectacular views, to deep ravines and fringing foothills of ancient geologies. Such topographic variation provides for a complexity of micro-environments that each sustain different ecological communities with an abundance of life forms. Radiata stands as an unprotected **island of biodiversity** against encroaching development.

While ***Eucalyptus sieberi – E.piperita*** **Open Forest** with **a collection of shrub and herb species unique to the property** dominates the plateau surface, at least nine different vegetation communities have been recognised. All but one is considered by the Blue Mountains City Council to be regionally significant and so each is classified as a Scheduled vegetation community. These include the Vulnerable Blue Mountain Swamps that support endemic life forms and control the hydrology of streams that become part of Sydney's water supply, towering Eucalyptus oreades Open Forest unburnt since 1926, and Blue Mountains Heath that plays an important role in the internationally recognised annual migration of honeyeating bird species.

A significant number of Blue Mountains endemic plants and both plant and animal **species classified as rare or threatened** are encountered on the Plateau (Tables 1 and 2) and that six of these species (and one community) are covered by **Saving our Species management strategies** (Table 3). This property is one of only ten places where both the Dwarf Mountain Pine *(Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii)* and the heath shrub *Leionema lachnaeoides* grow. It is also home to the endangered Flame Robin, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Gang-Gang Cockatoo and Varied Sittella as well as the Spotted Tail Quoll that is frequently seen by locals. It could be considered to be a **biodiversity hot spot** of non-national park land in the upper Mountains.

The **Aboriginal significance** of Radiata Plateau awaits comprehensive investigation but the importance of the escarpment as an access route for Gundungurra people between the main plateau and the Megalong Valley is well known. Black's Ladder is one of three recognised Aboriginal passes now listed together on the NSW State Heritage Register. It is considered to be a rare example of a traditional pathway that was then used by early white settlers and today by rock climbers and bushwalkers. As a pathway does not exist in isolation generations of Aboriginal occupation of Radiata Plateau await recognition.

Radiata Plateau should be part of the National Estate but it is not. **It is a major and crucial omission from the publicly owned escarpment protection system and as such faces an uncertain future**. It is one of the few sections of the southern escarpment where there are no visible houses or other buildings and it is completely surrounded by National Park, Crown land, BMCC reserves and zoning-protected private lands that are all relatively undisturbed and forested. **It is part of an environmental and cultural corridor from the plateau to the Megalong and linked to the ancient Coxs River system through its headwater streams and significantly by the pathways of its traditional owners.** Despite all of its considerable natural and cultural heritage values it is currently under threat from various development proposals by the owners. Radiata Plateau must become part of the publicly owned reservation system and be protected into the future.

## 2. Compliance with NPWS Establishment Plan (2008)

***2.1 connectivity conservation*** *– maintenance or re-establishment of vegetated corridors between reserves or other core areas of native vegetation. Features that contribute to landscape connectivity include* ***contiguous habitat****, 'stepping stones' of intermediate habitat and buffer zones around existing habitat areas.*

2.1.1 Radiata Plateau (28 Pulpit Hill Road) is the missing piece in an otherwise almost continuous zone of reserved natural lands from Medlow Bath to Katoomba. As shown on Map 1 the forested Crown Reserve 74325 with E2 Environmental Conservation zonings adjoins the north-western and western sides of Lots 208, 207 and 137 (28 Pulpit Hill Rd). Megalong Reserve managed by the BMCC for public recreation but which is mostly forested then lies to the west of Crown Reserve 74325.

The Six Foot Track Crown Reserve 1001056 borders Lots 41, 206 and 207 and is in turn contiguous with the Blue Mountains National Park around Nellies Glen and further Crown Reserves along the escarpment and at Cahills Lookout (BMCC managed Reserve) and on to the National Park at Narrow Neck. To the north-east of NPWS land at Nellies Glen sits Bonnie Doon Reserve (BMCC Community land) and a short distance across the highway and railway line, the Blue Mountains National Park.

All neighbouring Crown Reserves and BMCC Reserves are forested with little disturbance and are all zoned E2 Environmental Conservation. The only break along the escarpment outside of no. 28 is 2 Pulpit Hill Road and that land is marked for acquisition by the BMCC for Open Space Recreation to allow for the continued use of the Historic Six Foot Track. The proximity of 2 Pulpit Hill Rd to the adjacent National Park would also make it a likely contender for purchase to conserve a currently unmanaged piece of the Six Foot Track.

Three large private bushland acreages also border the Radiata property and these are included in Map 1. In each case substantial E2 zones with forested (or other vegetated) land provide **a considerable buffer against development impacts**.

There is thus **contiguous habitat providing uninterrupted wildlife corridors and movement of plant propagules** across the lots of 28 Pulpit Hill Road and into the Megalong Valley, and via the escarpment edges, ravines and foot slopes to the Blue Mountains National Park at Katoomba and northward to undeveloped and protected lands through to Mt Victoria.

2.1.2 Radiata Plateau is a 'stepping stone' to the National Park in the Grose and Jamison Valleys particularly for birds, who carry seed and pollen, and who depend on the food resources provided regularly along their flight paths. This is particularly evident in autumn (April to May) when **migrating honeyeaters** ascend the escarpment from southern valleys on their way north. So **significant is this migration that The Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area was declared an IBA (Important Bird and Biodiversity Area) by the prestigious BirdLife International in 2017.** One of triggering criteria for this listing was the autumn passage through the Mountains of the Yellow-faced Honeyeater and particularly their congregation during this event in higher altitudes where they sweep up in numbers exceeding 200 000, together with other honeyeating species, from the southern valleys to the ridges from Shipley Plateau, Radiata Plateau and across the Jamison Valley escarpments to continue their flight north across the Grose and beyond (Probets 2006). Critical to their survival are undisturbed habitats of heath, woodland and forests especially with banksias (particularly *B. ericifolia)* as is provided in abundance on Radiata.

### *2.2 lands improving reserve design to support the effective and efficient management of the existing reserve system*

As outlined in detail in 2.1.1 the land of Radiata Plateau is contiguous with Crown Land Reserves, BMCC managed Reserves and the Blue Mountains National Park. The purchase of 28 Pulpit Hill Rd Blackheath would provide an excellent opportunity to begin the consolidation of all of the biodiverse and culturally significant forested and otherwise vegetated National Park and Crown Lands in this area under the effective and efficient management by one authority (similar to the proposal in the Blue Mountains Public Lands Rationalisation project of 2005) instead of three managing bodies (plus private owners) as it now is.

### *2.3 culturally important landscapes and places*

2.3.1 Radiata Plateau is a significant part of the **Aboriginal landscape** of the Upper Blue Mountains and the Megalong Valley. Black's Ladder on the north-west escarpment in Lot 208 (Map 1) is one of three known passes that allowed Gundungurra People to move between the Plateau and the Valley. Together with Nellies Glen and the Devils Hole, Black's Ladder on the Radiata escarpment, is listed on the **NSW State Heritage Register as the *Megalong Valley Aboriginal Routes*** (SHI 3900320).

It is considered that because all three Aboriginal passes into the Megalong Valley are located in relatively close proximity to each other that this section of the escarpment was well used by considerable numbers of people over many generations and that therefore there should be other indicators of at least seasonal occupation of the nearby plateau surface. Abundant food resources and fresh water were certainly available here. While there has been no systematic survey of the Aboriginal heritage of Radiata Plateau, Aboriginal descendants today expect that tool scatters, shelters, marked trees, stone arrangements and other heritage items should be found. Megalong Head in Lot 136 is known to be of significance to the local people.

2.3.2 The Megalong Valley Passes were also used by **non-indigenous travellers** for many years after white settlement and more recently by bushwalkers and rock climbers. As such they are considered by the State Heritage Council to have State-level significance because they:

> … provide rare surviving examples of a pattern of NSW's cultural history. They demonstrate that early travellers in NSW sometimes used Aboriginal pathways during the State's period of settlement and in the development of the tourism industry. Pathways such as Katoomba's "Black's Ladders" which have remained in continuous use from prehistoric times to the present in a relatively unaltered environmental setting, are very rare in NSW (Smith, Beaver and Betteridge 2004)

The original Black's Ladder consisted of leaning tree trunks placed against sections of the cliff face. As these deteriorated and could no longer be maintained by the Gundungurra people, early white settlers replaced them with spikes and steps cut to maintain the routes. There are a number of documented uses of the pass including early settlers in the Megalong, as well as Aboriginal people, scaling the cliffs to access the 'Shepherd and his Flock' inn near Pulpit Hill. In the 1860s P. McAviney used the pass to supply produce from his Megalong farm to the railway workers camped near the inn (Smith, Beaver and Betteridge 2004).

Further historical details and mangement considerations for the Megalong Valley Aboriginal Routes are available in *Smith, Beaver and Betteridge 2004*.

2.3.3 **Recreational uses of Black's Ladder** on Radiata Plateau have continued to the present day. It is well known by rock climbers and more intrepid bushwalkers seeking both short and long walks who now use a set of spikes installed by famed Blue Mountains walker and climber, Ben Esgate in the 1930s, and a number of cut stone steps.

2.3.4 Radiata Plateau today provides a range of **opportunities for recreational pursuits** in addition to those noted in 2.3.4. It is a popular destination for local and regional bushwalkers, seekers of fabulous views from the escarpment edges, swimmers in the dam, bird watchers and students of things botanical.

The escarpment offers **climbing opportunites** of different grades. It is noteworthy that 3 of the 4 Grade 35 climbs, the hardest climbs in Australia, are reportedly on the

Radiata escarpment (needs to be checked) and offer a particular challenge for local climbers as well as national and international visitors. The first grade 35 here was only recently conquered in 2016 (The Crag 2019).

### *2.4 poorly reserved ecosystems and critical habitats*

2.4.1 **Poorly preserved ecosystems (Map 2)** include:

2.4.1.1 ***Eucalyptus gullickii* Alluvial Woodland** (4A on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Community): *Eucalyptus mannifera* subsp. *gullickii* (Mountain Spotted Gum) dominates a small but distinctive vegetation community in the main tributary of Back Creek that drains the northern part of Radiata Plateau (from the dam). *E. mannifera* grows in association with *E. radiata* (Narrow-leaved Peppermint) and forms a very open canopy above a swampy understorey of shrub and fern species. **This community only grows on creek-side alluvium and is quite rare on the western edge of the Blue Mountains so its presence here is significant.**

2.4.1.2 ***Eucalyptus cypellocarpa-Eucalyptus piperita* Open/Tall Open Forest** (2F on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Vegetation Community): has **a very limited distribution** mostly in the Megalong and Kanimbla Valleys outside of the National Park with just scattered outliers towards Woodford so any existing stand is significant. On 28 Pulpit Hill Road it is found on moist, south-east facing talus slopes that cover the coal measures beneath the main escarpment of Radiata Plateau.

It is a **rich habitat for fauna**. Nesting hollows of taller trees are sought out by a number of species including Greater Gliders as well as birds that are listed as Vulnerable in the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016. These include the **obligate hollow-nesters** the Powerful Owl, Sooty Owl and Glossy Black-Cockatoo (Smith & Smith 1995).

2.4.2 **Critical habitats**

2.4.2.1 Overall the ecological communities of Radiata Plateau provide critical habitat for a range of **Threatened plants and animals**. These are listed in **Tables 1 and 2** with specific habitats detailed from 2.4.2.2 to 2.4.2.5 below the tables.

It is significant that **Saving Our Species Management programs** exist for six of the Threatened plants and animals listed in Tables 1 and 2. For the three plants *Leionema lachnaeoides, Persoonia acerosa* and *Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii,* Radiata Plateau is a Key Management Site to ensure the survival of the species in the wild (SoS **details are** summarised in **Table 3**)**.**

2.4.2.2 **Specific critical habitats** include **waterfalls** of two ravines of the southern escarpment that support the most northerly occurrence of the **Endangered *Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*** (Microstrobos; Dwarf Mountain Pine) (occurs only

to Wentworth Falls). Significantly these waterfalls provide arguably the cleanest water to *P. fitzgeraldii* in the Mountains.

The ravines also provide critical habitat for ancient plant species of ***Ceratopetalum apetalum – Doryphora sassafras*** **Rainforest** (1A on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Community).

**Table 1: A Selection of the Rare or Threatened Plants and Communities of Radiata Plateau**

Further research may indicate additional species

| Species or Community | Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 | EPBC Act 1999 | ROTAP Rare or Threatened Australian Plants |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***Acacia asparagoides*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Adenochilus nortonii*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Alania endlicheri*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Almaleea incurvata*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Carex klaphakei**** | Endangered | | |
| ***Epacris apiculata*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Epacris muelleri*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Leionema lachnaeoides*** | Endangered | Endangered | ✓ |
| ***Persoonia acerosa*** | Vulnerable | Vulnerable | ✓ |
| ***Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*** | Endangered | Endangered | ✓ |
| ***Philotheca obovalis*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Pseudanthus divaricatissimus*** | | | ✓ |
| ***Sprengelia monticola*** | | | ✓ |
| **Blue Mountains Swamps** | Vulnerable<br>Blue Mountains Swamps in the Sydney Basin Bioregion | Endangered<br>Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone | |

* Likely habitat with species to be confirmed

## Table 2: A Selection of the Threatened Fauna of Radiata Plateau

Further research may indicate additional species

| Species | Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 | Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 |
|---|---|---|
| ***Birds*** | | |
| **Dusky Woodswallow** | Vulnerable | |
| **Flame Robin** | Vulnerable | |
| **Gang-gang Cockatoo** | Vulnerable | |
| **Glossy Black-Cockatoo** | Vulnerable | |
| **Little Eagle** | Vulnerable | |
| **Little Lorikeet** | Vulnerable | |
| **Powerful Owl** | Vulnerable | |
| **Scarlet Robin** | Vulnerable | |
| **Square-tailed Kite** | Vulnerable | |
| **Sooty Owl** | Vulnerable | |
| **Varied Sittella** | Vulnerable | |
| ***Mammals*** | | |
| **Greater Glider** | | Vulnerable |
| **Spotted-tailed Quoll** | Vulnerable | Endangered |
| **Yellow-bellied Glider *** | Vulnerable | |
| ***Reptiles*** | | |
| **Blue Mountains Water Skink *** | Endangered | Endangered |
| **Broad-headed Snake *** | Endangered | Vulnerable |
| ***Insects*** | | |
| **Giant Dragonfly *** | Endangered | |

* Likely habitat with species to be confirmed

**Table 3: Saving Our Species Management Programs for Threatened Species on Radiata Plateau**
Further information is available at OEH *Saving our Species* website as listed in the references

| Species or Community | Common Names | Saving Our Species Management Strategy |
|---|---|---|
| **Blue Mountains Swamps in the Sydney Basin Bio-region** | Blue Mountains Swamps | SoS Priority Management Site (Proposed); Key Management Site includes Radiata |
| ***Leionema lachnaeoides*** | No common name | Three Key Management Sites identified; Radiata population is included in Bonnie Doon site |
| ***Persoonia acerosa*** | Needle Geebung | Radiata is a Key Management Site for this species (include as 'Great Western Highway') |
| ***Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*** | Dwarf Mountain Pine | Radiata (aka Elphinstone) is a Priority Management Site for this species. |
| ***Eulamprus leuraensis*** | Blue Mountains Water Skink | Presence TBC; landscape-wide SoS application includes Radiata |
| ***Dasyurus maculatus*** | Spotted-tailed Quoll | A landscape-wide SoS includes Radiata habitat; Key Management site applies to Jenolan/Kanangra – from Megalong Valley |
| ***Petalura gigantea*** | Giant Dragonfly | Presence TBC; landscape-wide SoS with the Key Management Site including Radiata |

***Critical habitats*** continued:

2.4.2.3 **Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub** (5A on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Vegetation Community): it is in heath communities where the interconnectedness and interdependence of plants, insects and birds can clearly be seen. The diverse assemblage of plant species provides habitat and food sources for many insects as well as providing **critical habitat** for birds that include the **insectivorous honeyeaters on their well-known autumn migration from south to north across the Blue Mountains. The nectar-abundant and insect-filled *Banksia ericifolia*** as well as other heathland plants that flower progressively from autumn to spring support an astounding diversity of birds that include the **Brown-headed Honeyeater, Crescent Honeyeater, Fuscous Honeyeater (an unusual visitor to the Blue Mountains), New Holland Honeyeater, White-eared Honeyeater, White-naped Honeyeater, Yellow-faced Honeyeater, Eastern Spinebill, Red Wattlebird, Noisy Friarbird and Silvereyes.** Other small birds include Variegated Fairy-wrens, Beautiful Firetails, and Rockwarblers (a Sydney Region endemic); and Glossy Black-Cockatoos (Vulnerable) that depend on the *Allocasuarina distyla* of the heaths and scrubs.

Heath above the southern escarpment of Radiata provides critical habitat for ***Leionema lachnaeoides.*** This is a tall **Endangered** shrub of barren, rocky

situations and is endemic to the Upper Blue Mountains where it is currently only recorded on 10 sites on the southern escarpment between Katoomba and Blackheath (BC Act 2016, EPBC Act 1999). It was identified in exposed sandstone heathland on the southern edge of Radiata Plateau in 1989 by Dr Wyn Jones. (Alan Cunningham collected the only previous specimen in 1822 in the Wollondilly.)

Heathland also supports ***Pseudanthus divaricatissimus***, a rare plant of rocky sites. ***Persoonia acerosa,*** listed as **Vulnerable** in both the BC Act 2016 and the EPBC Act 1999, prefers scrubby locations on Radiata.

**The Broad-headed Snake** that is endemic to sandstone country within a 200km radius of Sydney could find suitable rocky crevices within the Heath and Scrub community of Radiata. Listed as Endangered in NSW (BC Act) and Vulnerable nationally (EPBC Act 1999) it has a declining distribution but it is found in the Upper Mountains. The Plateau would provide ideal habitat for this species as it particularly prefers rocky outcrops with west to north-westerly aspects.

2.4.2.4 **Blue Mountains Swamps** (5B on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Community): **a Threatened Ecological Community**, Blue Mountains Swamps in the Sydney Basin Bioregion are listed as **Vulnerable** under the Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016, and Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 as part of the **Endangered Ecological Community of Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone**

Blue Mountains Swamps are **critical for the survival of a unique assemblage of moisture-loving plants** that include the **Blue Mountains endemics** *Grevillea acanthifolia* subsp. *acanthifolia* and *Almaleea incurvata* (ROTAP), ***Acacia ptychoclada*** and ***Pultenaea glabra*** (Vulnerable EPBC Act) as well as a range of ferns and sedges including thickets of *Gahnia sieberiana* and great tufts of Button Grass *Gymnoschoenus sphaerocephalus.* It is possible that the **newly discovered and classified sedge, *Carex klaphakei,* (Endangered listing BC Act 2016)** might also be found in these swamps but its presence is yet to be investigated.

The swamp environment is the unique habitat of a number of **specialised birds** that could include the secretive Rail species and Southern Emu-wrens. Of special significance is the considered presence of Biodiversity Conservation Act listed **Endangered fauna species** including the **Giant Dragonfly** *(Petalura gigantea)* and the **Blue Mountains Water Skink** (*Eulamprus leuraensis; also listed under the EPBC Act 1999).*

2.4.2.5 **Megalong Footslopes Forest** (2P on Map 2; BMCC Scheduled Vegetation Community): This is a variable community that grows downslope from the *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa* Open-forest to the banks of Megalong Creek on the

south-eastern flanks of Radiata Plateau, and directly beneath the plateau's western and north-western escarpments. Geology varies from the shales and fine sandstones of the Permian Illawarra Coal Measures to lower altitude clays of Berry Siltstone of the Shoalhaven Group resulting in soils of different textures and drainage capacities that in turn contribute to a variety of vegetation associations.

The faunal inhabitants of this complex community will vary according to the structure and species of the plant assemblage. **Two very significant birds,** the **Regent Honeyeater and the Swift Parrot** have been seen here. Listed as **Critically Endangered** at both a State and Commonwealth level, the **Regent Honeyeater** has been lost from most of its former range. It is a generalist forager that is particularly attracted by large volume nectar-producing Eucalypts as found on this property as well as the nectar and fruit of mistletoe. **Swift Parrots** are listed as **Endangered** at a State level and **Critically Endangered** by Commonwealth legislation. The species was observed during their northward autumn migration above the neighbouring Narrow Neck Peninsula in 2017; other sightings have previously been made along Megalong Creek (Probets 2017 pers. com.). Also attracted by nectar-producing Eucalypts, as well as by lerp infestations, Swift Parrots may find a critical habitat refuge in the Megalong Footslopes Forest during seasonal migrations.

### *2.5 wetlands, floodplains, lakes and rivers*

North-flowing headwater tributaries of **Back Creek**, a major tributary of **Megalong Creek** arise on the plateau where they are sustained by **Blue Mountains Swamps** (in the Sydney Basin Bioregion) that are listed as **Vulnerable** under the Biodiversity Conservation Act (2016) and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999). South flowing streams also sustained by the swamps directly enter into Megalong Creek via very steep and shaded ravines that are the critical habitat for *Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii* and for ancient Warm Temperate Rainforest. Megalong Creek is then a major tributary of the Cox's River that flows into Lake Burragorang behind Warragamba Dam.

### *2.6 lands within important water catchments*

As outlined in point 2.5 the swamps of Radiata Plateau sustain upland tributaries of Megalong Creek that itself is a major tributary of the Coxs River that flows directly into Lake Burragorang behind Warragamba Dam, Sydney's main drinking water supply. The entire plateau of Radiata is thus part of the Warragamba catchment.

### *2.7 places containing significant geodiversity*

2.7.1 Radiata Plateau exhibits the full suite of **western Sydney Basin geological strata** from Narrabeen Sandstones (including Burralow Formation and Wentworth Falls Claystone) with Banks Wall Sandstone, Mt York Claystone, Burra Moko Head

Claystone and Caley Formation, to the underlying Permian Coal Measures and Shoalhaven Group below the escarpment.

2.7.2 Landforms range from the undulating plateau surface to sheer escarpments with deep ravines and foot-slopes of talus, each with a range of aspects and exhibiting different microclimates from the drier, hotter north-west areas to the sheltered, shaded and moist southern slopes each of which supports a different vegetation community

2.7.3 Soils vary markedly depending on geology, landforms and micro-climate and contribute greatly to the marked **diversity of ecological communities** that makes Radiata Plateau, Katoomba such a special and unique place.

******

**References:**


*Atlas of Living Australia,* https://www.ala.org.au/ accessed February 2019

Baker, M. 2017, *The Biodiversity of Radiata Plateau,* unpublished paper, Blue Mountains Conservation Society

Baker, M. and Corringham, R. 2004, *Native Plants of the Blue Mountains,* Bower Bird Books, Winmalee

Blue Mountains City Council 2017, On-line Interactive Maps, http://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/sustainableliving/interactivemapping

Blue Mountains City Council [n.d.] *Native Vegetation Mapping in the Blue Mountains 1999 – 2002,* https://www.bmcc.nsw.gov.au/documents/native-vegetation-mapping-blue-mountains-0

NSW State Heritage Register, *Megalong Valley Aboriginal Routes* (SHI 3900320), https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5014091

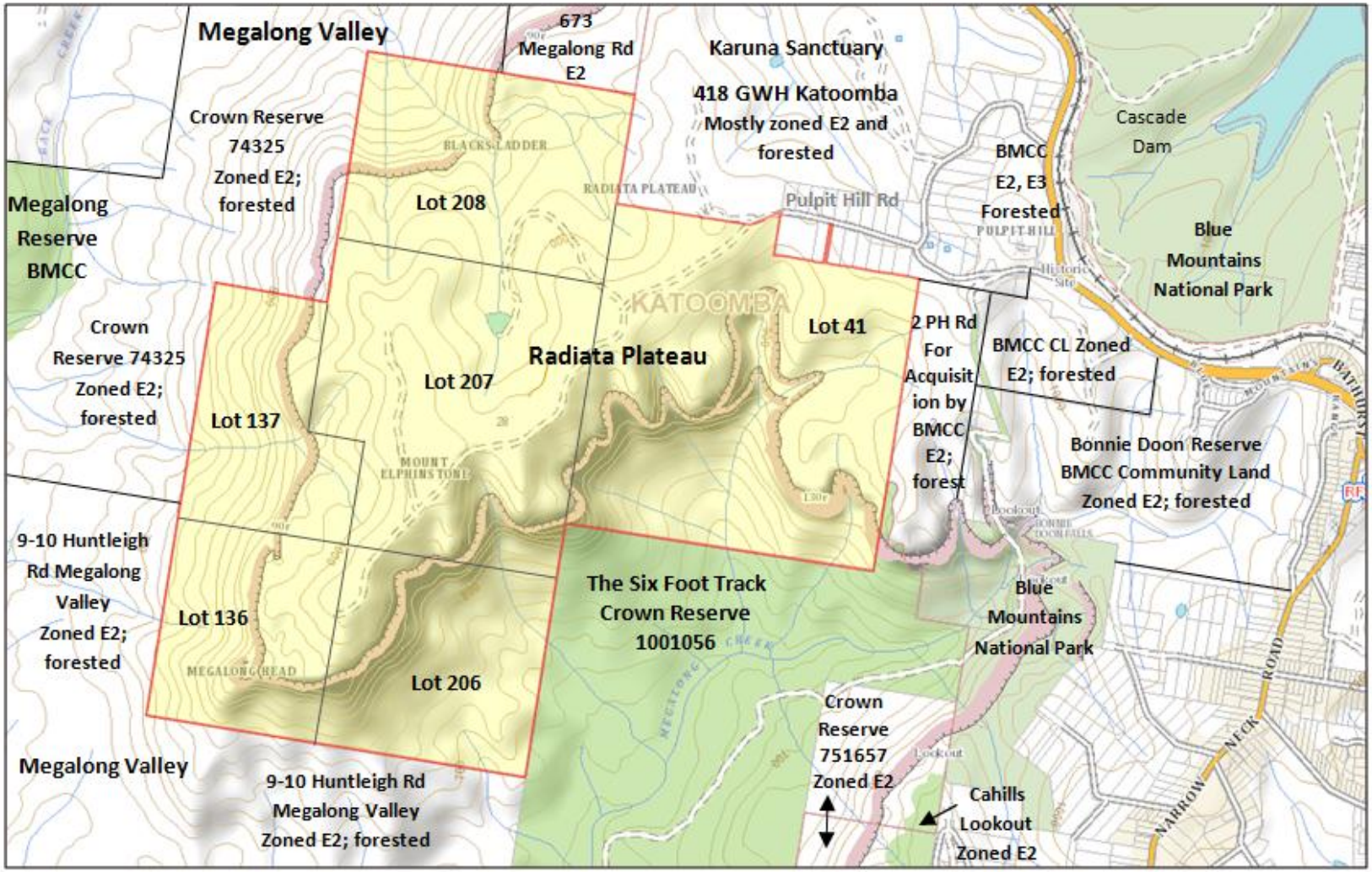
Office of Environment and Heritage, https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/savingourspeciesapp/, accessed 27th Feb 2019

Probets, C. 2006, *Birds and Birding in the Blue Mountains and Capertee Valley, NSW,* http://www.bmbirding.com.au/hemig.html

Smith, J., Beaver, D. & Betteridge, C. 2004, *Tracks into History Conservation Management Plan for Walking Tracks of State Heritage Significance in the Blue Mountains,* NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

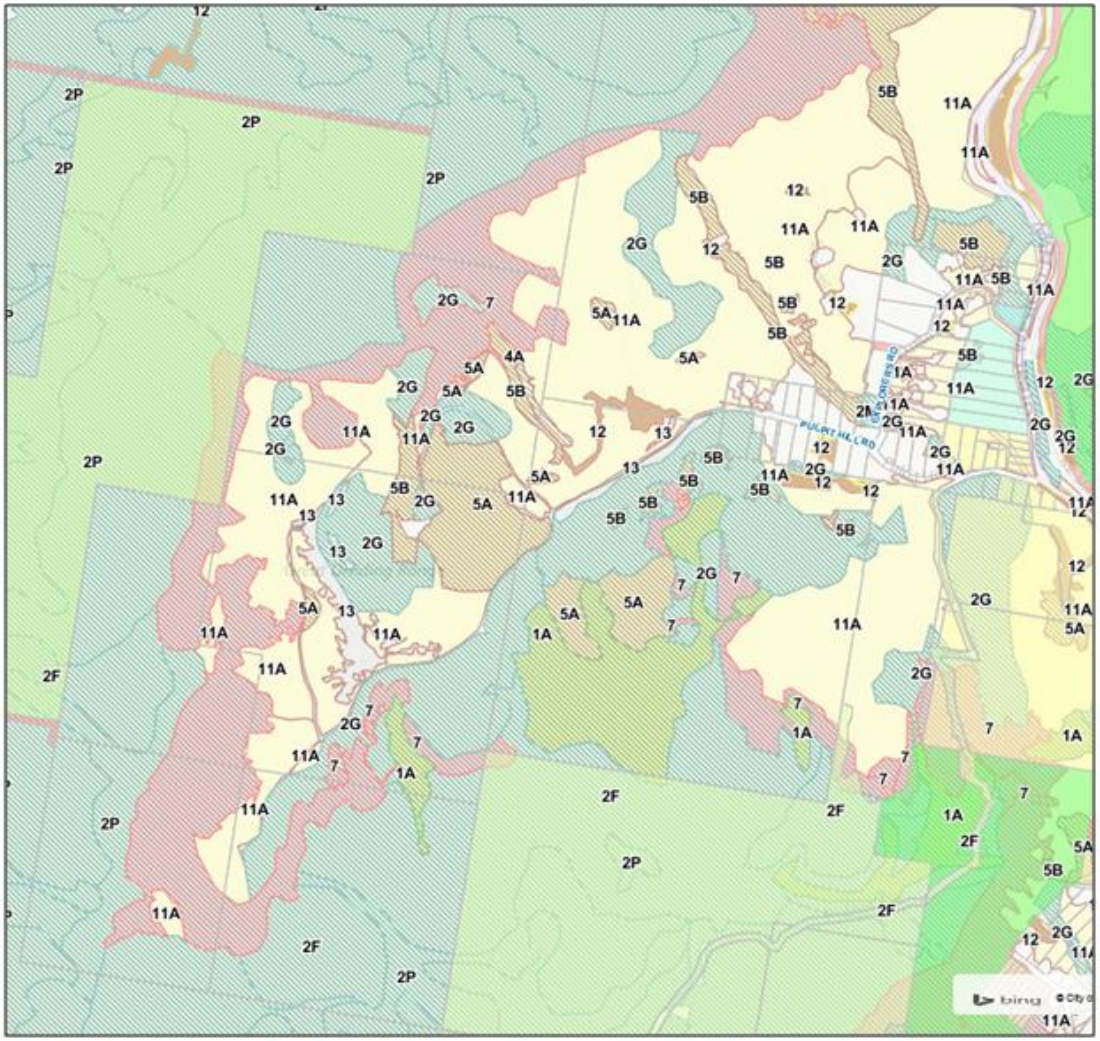
Smith, P. and Smith, J. 1995, *Flora and Fauna Study for Blue Mountains Environmental Management Plan Study Area 1: Bell to Medlow Bath,* P. and J. Smith Ecological Consultants, Blaxland

The Crag https://www.thecrag.com/climbing/australia/blue-mountains/katoomba-area/route/634756269 Accessed 27th Feb 2019




**Map 1: Radiata Plateau – 28 Pulpit Hill Road Katoomba and surrounding Reserves**

(Base map: SIX Maps http://maps.six.nsw.gov.au)



**Vegetation Communities**

**Scheduled:**

1A *Ceratopetalum apetalum - Doryphora sassafras* Rainforest

2F *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa – E. piperita* Open/Tall Open Forest

2G *Eucalyptus oreades* Open Forest/Tall Open Forest

2P Megalong Footslopes Forest

4A *Eucalyptus gullickii* Alluvial Woodland

5A Blue Mountains Heath and Scrub

5B Blue Mountains Swamps

7 Blue Mountains Escarpment Complex

**Non-scheduled:**

11A *Eucalyptus sieberi – E. piperita* Open-forest

**Map 2: Vegetation Communities of Radiata Plateau and Environs**

Source: Blue Mountains City Council On-line Interactive Maps
(© City of Blue Mountains 2017; © Spatial Services 2017)