

# BIG RUN CREEK FLORA RESERVE NO. 174

## SITE SPECIFIC WORKING PLAN



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This site-specific working describes the important values of an individual flora reserve and identifies site-specific priorities for management. The plan is to be read in conjunction with the Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management document, which identifies Forestry Corporation's broad objectives and strategies for managing flora reserves. These two documents together form the flora reserve working plan in line with the requirements of section 25 of the *Forestry Act 2012*.

# DETAILS OF THE RESERVE

## 1.1 LOCATION

Big Run Creek Flora Reserve is 22 kilometres northwest of the town Wingham, in Dingo State Forest. The reserve is in the headwaters of Big Run Creek, a tributary of Caparra Creek in the Manning catching. See Locality Map in Appendix 1.

#### 1.2 KEY ATTRIBUTES OF THE RESERVE

Under the Forestry Act 2012, flora reserves are set apart for the preservation of native flora.

The reserve possesses the following identified attributes that are to be protected:

- » rainforest stands along Big Run Creek and its tributaries
- » areas of mapped high conservation value old growth forest
- » representative examples of forest ecosystems in the area.

## 1.3 GENERAL DESCRIPTION

#### **Area**

Big Run Creek Flora Reserve comprises 118 hectares and is roughly square in shape. Ridge-top and creek line areas are present throughout the reserve.

#### **Topography**

The reserve ranges in altitude from 210 to 560 metres above sea level and mainly consists of three ridgelines and associated tributaries draining to the south in the upper Big Run Creek catchment. Slopes are moderate to steep, with some very steep falls into the creek lines. Aspect is generally southerly. Refer to Appendix 2 for topographic map.

#### Geology and soils

The soils of the reserve vary and are generally structured plastic clays from metasediments deriving from the Early Palaeozoic Period.

#### Climate

The reserve has an average rainfall of approximately 1600 millimetres.

#### Vegetation/flora and fauna

The reserve is typical of the natural vegetation found throughout an extensive area of State Forest and National Park in the vicinity.

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The most extensive forest type is a dry sclerophyll forest of Grey Gum -Grey Ironbark - White Mahogany (forest type 62). This dry open forest occurs on most ridgetop and upper slope areas, and the understorey varies from open and grassy to moderately dense and shrubby. There is a gradation from dry hardwood forests on the ridges through moister types to rainforest communities along creek lines.

Rainforest of Myrtle/Viney Scrub (forest type 23/26) are present in sheltered environments on the steep southerly aspect, following the two eastern drainage lines. See Appendix 2 for the various Forest Types and their locations within the reserve and Appendix 3 and 4 for a list of flora and fauna species known to occur within the reserve.

## 1.4 HISTORY

## **Aboriginal History and Cultural Values**

Big Run Creek Flora Reserve is situated within the traditional lands of the Birpai people and there are a number of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites located within the surrounding area. The area is part of a cultural landscape, used for everyday and ceremonial activities including seasonal food and resource gathering and as a travel route from the mountains to the coast. Tangible aspects of these activities are evident as walking tracks and scar trees, the remains of camp sites with stone tools (isolated stone artefact and artefact scatters) as well as sacred features and places created at the beginning of time.

#### **Post European Settlement**

#### Harvesting

Prior to dedication as a flora reserve, the area had a long history of timber production and silvicultural treatment. Harvesting commenced in the area that now forms the reserve in the 1930's. It was heavily logged and intensively treated between 1958 and 1981. Extensive areas were silviculturally treated, involving treatments such as the removal of defective trees (including clearfall harvesting), high intensity post logging burning, sowing with eucalypt seed, tractor clearing and hand planting seedlings. The 19-hectare eucalypt plantation was established in 1973 following full site clearing. The last harvesting operation in the area was in 1981.

#### Fire

Fire has been part of the Australian landscape for at least the last 60,000 years and most forests have experienced fire multiple times over many centuries. A wildfire burnt to the western boundary of the reserve in 2000 but did not cross Western Boundary Road into the reserve.

The reserve was impacted by wildfire during in the 2019/2020 summer season, with medium to high intensity recorded, resulting in the canopy being partially burnt in discrete areas.

#### **Establishment of Flora Reserve**

The area was first proposed as a conservation reserve by State Forests in the 1992 Wingham Management Area Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), to protect old growth forest and rainforest values in the area.

The 1998 Comprehensive Regional Assessment, undertaken as part of the Regional Forest Agreement, identified the area to be set aside as a Flora Reserve.

The area was formally gazetted as Big Run Creek Flora Reserve No. 174 on 1st January 1999.

## 1.5 CURRENT USAGE

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The reserve receives limited recreational usage, primarily by visitors driving along Dingo Tops Road and Potoroo Road on the reserve boundaries. No recreational facilities are provided at the reserve and there is no intention to develop any facilities.

## SYSTEM OF MANAGEMENT

## 2.10BJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

The objects of management will be to:

- » enhance the ecological quality of rainforest stands along Big Run Creek
- » protect areas of high conservation value old growth forest
- » preserve native flora and fauna species, including habitat for the Koala and Spotted-tailed Quoll
- » protect Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and cultural values
- » maintain reference stands and provide for limited scientific study consistent with the protection of the area.

# 2.2 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The broad management strategies and related actions to preserve native flora and improve the value and extent of habitat in State forest flora reserves are detailed in the Flora Reserve Management Plan: Background and General Management document, which is to be read in conjunction with this plan. Specific additional management strategies applied in this flora reserve may include:

- » Property maintenance, through:
  - establishment and maintenance of appropriate fences, gates and signs
  - removal of unnecessary fencing
  - maintenance of roads and trails
  - restricting visitor use to walking trails for educational activities.
- » Conservation and improvement of habitat, through:
  - maintenance of native vegetation, which may include manipulation by mechanical means for habitat improvement
  - regeneration of any cleared or degraded land, through plantings and natural recruitment
  - · removal of rubbish
  - weed control
  - management of human disturbance, including harvesting and other forest product operations
  - · retention of dead timber and other habitat resources
  - management of fire, including prescribed or hazard reduction burning.
- » Pest animal control.

#### **Cultural Values**

Explore opportunities for Aboriginal community involvement in managing the flora reserve.

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#### Weeds

The vegetation within the flora reserve is in very healthy state with no obvious weeds present. As far as reasonably practicable, exotic species will be controlled, as detailed in section 2.4

#### Trail maintenance

Maintenance of roads and trails is important to enable access to the forest for forest management, firefighting, tourism and recreation. Poorly maintained roads can also transport significant levels of sediment, increasing the turbidity of water within creeks. This consequently reduces habitat quality and aquatic biodiversity and can take significant periods of time to recover.

#### **Permitted activities**

Under the Forest Management Zoning (FMZ) system, Big Run Creek Flora Reserve No.174 is zoned FMZ 1 and therefore contributes to the dedicated reserve system in the Lower North East Region. Management will be consistent with the requirements of JANIS dedicated reserves.

The latest operational guide detailing information not permitted in FMZ1 is published on the Forestry Corporation website.

The following activities may be permitted subject to standard conditions approved by Forestry Corporation's Hardwood Forest Division Manager and consistent with the Coastal Integrated Forestry Operations Approval (CIFOA), codes of practice, forest practices/operational circulars, protocols, licenses and management/recovery plans:

- » scientific studies (e.g., fauna surveys including trapping)
- » maintenance of existing roads and fire trails
- » maintenance of existing recreation facilities and upgrading where necessary to keep pace with demand while protecting the attributes of the reserve
- » limited tree and or limb removal for safety, viewing or construction of facilities in areas used for recreation
- » pest animal and weed control
- » general access for activities such as bush walking, photography and nature study
- » beekeeping (existing set-down sites may be used)
- » Aboriginal use of forest products consistent with the maintenance of the conservation attributes to be protected in the reserve
- » fire management will be undertaken in a manner consistent with maintaining the health of forest ecosystems.

The following activities may only be permitted with special conditions:

- » Construction of new roads. Construction will only be permitted in exceptional instances and consistent with the following principles:
  - no practical alternative is available
  - the attributes of the reserve will not be significantly affected by the road or fire trail
  - opportunity is provided for public comment on the proposal, obtained through advertising in the local newspaper
  - Ministerial approval is given for the proposal.

## **Mining**

There are no gazetted exemptions from provisions of the *Mining Act* 1992 for this flora reserve.

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# 2.3 MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

The reserve will be administered by Forestry Corporation of NSW's Hardwood Forests Division, with the authority for decision making delegated to the Senior Manager Forest Stewardship or equivalent level manager.

## 2.4 MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW

Forestry Corporation will monitor changes to the key attributes of the reserve and will review the effectiveness of the management strategies designed to protect those attributes and to achieve the management objectives.

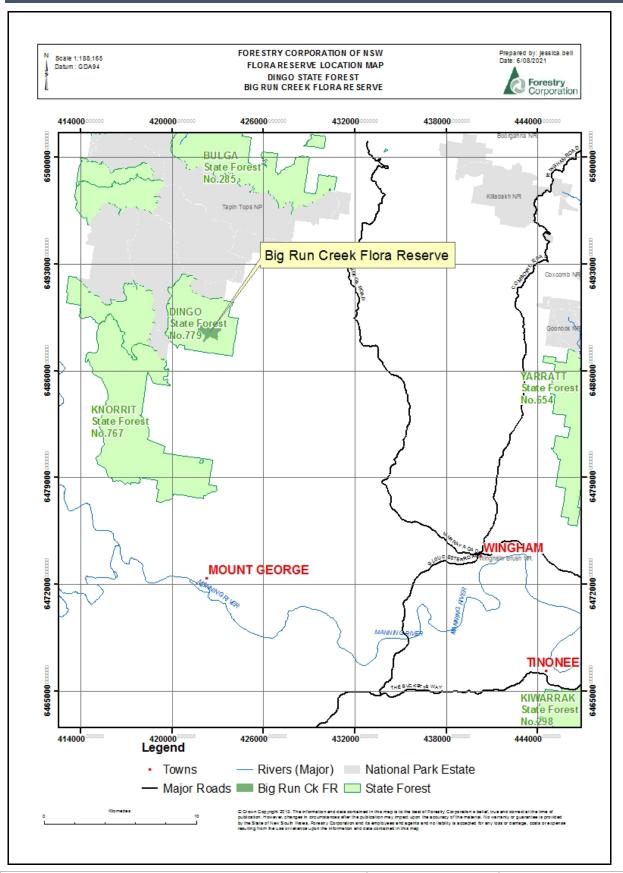
The results of this monitoring, review and management response will be included in annual reporting processes.

The provisions of this working plan will be amended, if necessary, in light of the results of the monitoring program and / or legislative change and with the approval of the Minister administering the *Forestry Act* 2012.

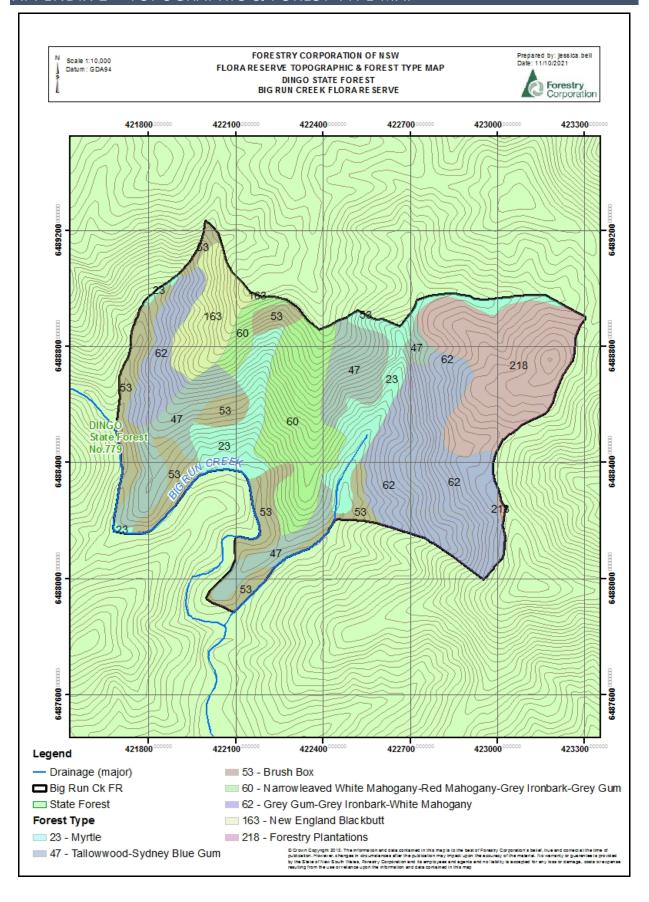
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# APPENDIX 1 – LOCALITY MAP



# APPENDIX 2 – TOPOGRAPHIC & FOREST TYPE MAP



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# APPENDIX 3 – FLORA SPECIES LIST

# Flora found within 5000m of Flora Reserve, desktop search undertaken July 2021

Scientific name	Scientific name	Scientific name
Abutilon oxycarpum	Blechnum neohollandicum	Cryptocarya meissneriana
Acacia binervata	Blechnum nudum	Cryptocarya microneura
Acacia longifolia subsp.	Blechnum patersonii	Cryptocarya rigida
longifolia	Blechnum spinulosum	Cyathea australis
Acacia longissima	Brachychiton acerifolius	Cyathea leichhardtiana
Acacia maidenii	Breynia oblongifolia	Cyclophyllum longipetalum
Acacia melanoxylon	Brunoniella australis	Cymbidium suave
Acacia ulicifolia	Calanthe triplicata	Cymbopogon refractus
Acmena smithii	Caldcluvia paniculosa	Cyperus disjunctus
Acradenia euodiiformis	Callicoma serratifolia	Cyperus gracilis
Acronychia oblongifolia	Callitris macleayana	Cyperus laevis
Adiantum aethiopicum	Calochlaena dubia	Cyperus spp.
Adiantum formosum	Capparis arborea	Cyperus tetraphyllus
Adiantum hispidulum	Carex appressa	Daphnandra micrantha
Adiantum silvaticum	Carex breviculmis	Davallia solida var. pyxidata
Ageratina adenophora	Carex inversa	Daviesia arborea
Ajuga australis	Cassinia leptocephala	Dendrobium aemulum
Alangium villosum subsp.	Cayratia clematidea	Dendrobium fairfaxii
polyosmoides	Celastrus australis	Dendrobium gracilicaule
Alectryon subcinereus	Celastrus subspicata	Dendrobium schoeninum
Allocasuarina littoralis	Cenchrus caliculatus	Dendrobium speciosum var.
Allocasuarina torulosa	Cephalaralia cephalobotrys	hillii
Alocasia brisbanensis	Ceratopetalum apetalum	Dendrocnide excelsa
Alphitonia excelsa	Chamaecrista nomame var.	Dendrocnide photinophylla
Alpinia caerulea	nomame	Denhamia silvestris
Alyxia ruscifolia	Cirsium vulgare	Derris involuta
Amylotheca dictyophleba	Cissus antarctica	Desmodium gunnii
Andropogon virginicus	Cissus hypoglauca	Desmodium nemorosum
Aneilema acuminatum	Claoxylon australe	Desmodium rhytidophyllum
Angophora floribunda	Cleistanthus cunninghamii	Desmodium varians
Aphanopetalum resinosum	Clematis aristata	Dianella caerulea
Arachniodes aristata	Clematis glycinoides	Dianella caerulea var.
Archirhodomyrtus beckleri	Clematis glycinoides var.	petasmatodes
Argyrodendron actinophyllum	glycinoides	Dianella longifolia
Arthropteris tenella	Clerodendrum tomentosum	Dichelachne parva
Asplenium australasicum	Commelina cyanea	Dichondra repens
Asplenium flabellifolium	Commersonia fraseri	Dictymia brownii
Austrostipa spp.	Conyza sumatrensis	Digitaria parviflora
Baloghia inophylla	Corymbia intermedia	Digitaria spp.
Bidens pilosa	Crassocephalum crepidioides	Dioscorea transversa
Billardiera scandens	Crotalaria brevis	Diospyros australis
Blechnum cartilagineum	Cryptocarya glaucescens	Diospyros pentamera

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Scientific name
Diplazium assimile
Diploglottis australis
Doryphora sassafras
Drypetes deplanchei
Dysoxylum fraserianum
Dysoxylum rufum
Echinopogon ovatus
Ehretia acuminata var.
acuminata
Elaeocarpus obovatus
Elaeocarpus reticulatus
Elaeodendron australe
Elatostema reticulatum
Elattostachys nervosa
Embelia australiana
Endiandra crassiflora
Endiandra muelleri
Endiandra sieberi
Entolasia marginata
Entolasia stricta
Eragrostis leptostachya
Eucalyptus acmenoides
Eucalyptus biturbinata
Eucalyptus campanulata
Eucalyptus carnea
Eucalyptus globoidea
Eucalyptus microcorys
Eucalyptus pilularis
Eucalyptus propinqua
Eucalyptus saligna
Eucalyptus tereticornis
Eupomatia laurina
Eustrephus latifolius
Exocarpos cupressiformis
Ficus coronata
Ficus rubiginosa
Gahnia melanocarpa
Galium australe
Galium propinquum
Geitonoplesium cymosum
Geranium homeanum
Geranium solanderi var.
solanderi
Glochidion ferdinandi
Glycine clandestina

Scientific name
Glycine microphylla
Glycine tabacina
Gmelina leichhardtii
Gomphocarpus fruticosus
Gonocarpus oreophilus
Goodenia fordiana
Goodenia spp.
Gymnostachys anceps
Gynochthodes jasminoides
Hardenbergia violacea
Hibbertia dentata
Hibbertia scandens
Hibiscus splendens
Hydrocotyle acutiloba
Hydrocotyle geraniifolia
Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides
Hydrocotyle tripartita
Hymenosporum flavum
Hypericum gramineum
Hypericum japonicum
Imperata cylindrica
Indigofera australis
Jacksonia scoparia
Juncus usitatus
Lagenifera stipitata
Lantana camara
Lastreopsis acuminata
Lastreopsis decomposita
Lastreopsis microsora subsp.
microsora
Lastreopsis munita
Lastreopsis spp.
Legnephora moorei
Lepidosperma latens
Lepidosperma laterale
Lepidozamia peroffskyana
Leucopogon spp.
Ligustrum sinense
Litsea reticulata
Lobelia purpurascens
Lomandra filiformis subsp.
filiformis
Lomandra longifolia
Lomandra multiflora subsp.
multiflora

Scientific name
Lomandra spicata
Lomatia arborescens
Lophostemon confertus
Maclura cochinchinensis
Macrozamia communis
Mallotus philippensis
Marsdenia lloydii
Melicope micrococca
Melodinus australis
Mentha satureioides
Microlaena stipoides
Microlaena stipoides var.
stipoides
Mischocarpus pyriformis
Myrsine howittiana
Myrsine variabilis
Neolitsea australiensis
Neolitsea dealbata
Notelaea longifolia f.
intermedia
Notelaea longifolia f.
longifolia
Notelaea venosa
Oplismenus aemulus
Oplismenus imbecillis
Oxalis chnoodes
Oxalis corniculata
Oxalis spp.
Oxytes brachypoda
Ozothamnus diosmifolius
Ozothamnus rufescens
Palmeria scandens
Pandorea pandorana
Panicum bisulcatum
Panicum simile
Papillilabium beckleri
Pararchidendron pruinosum
var. pruinosum
Parsonsia brownii
Parsonsia induplicata
Parsonsia straminea
Parsonsia velutina
Paspalidium distans
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Passiflora herbertiana
Passiflora subpeltata

Scientific name
Pellaea falcata
Pellaea paradoxa
Pennantia cunninghamii
Peperomia tetraphylla
Persoonia lanceolata
Persoonia linearis
Persoonia media
Phyllanthus gunnii
Pimelea ligustrina subsp.
ligustrina
Piper hederaceum var.
hederaceum
Pittosporum multiflorum
Pittosporum revolutum
Pittosporum undulatum
Planchonella australis
Plantago debilis
Platycerium bifurcatum
Platycerium superbum
Plectorrhiza tridentata
Plectranthus graveolens
Plectranthus parviflorus
Poa sieberiana
Poa sieberiana var. sieberiana
Pollia crispata
Polyosma cunninghamii
Polyscias elegans
Polyscias murrayi
Polyscias sambucifolia
Polystichum australiense
Pomaderris elliptica subsp.
elliptica
Pseuderanthemum variabile
Psychotria loniceroides

Pteridium esculentum

Pteris tremula

Scien	tific name
Pteris	umbrosa
Pyrros	sia confluens var.
conflu	iens
Pyrros	sia rupestris
Quint	inia verdonii
Rhodo	amnia rubescens
Ripog	onum discolor
Rubus	s moluccanus var.
trilob	us
Rubus	s nebulosus
Rubus	s parvifolius
Rubus	s rosifolius
Rume	x brownii
Salix l	babylonica
Salix >	x sepulcralis var.
chrys	осота
Sarco	chilus falcatus
	melicope simplicifolia
	. simplicifolia
Sarco	petalum harveyanum
Sarco	pteryx stipata
Schizo	omeria ovata
Scolo	pia braunii
Senec	io diaschides
Senec	io madagascariensis
Senno	septemtrionalis
Sigesl	beckia orientalis subsp.
orient	talis
Sloan	ea australis
Sloan	ea woollsii
Smila	x australis
Smila	x glyciphylla
Solan	um mauritianum
Solan	um prinophyllum
	um spp.
	um stelligerum

Scientific name
Sporobolus elongatus
Sporobolus fertilis
Stephania japonica
Stephania japonica var.
discolor
Streblus brunonianus
Syncarpia glomulifera
Syncarpia glomulifera subsp.
glabra
Synoum glandulosum subsp.
glandulosum
Syzygium australe
Tasmannia insipida
Tetrastigma nitens
Themeda triandra
Trema tomentosa var. aspera
Trimenia moorei
Tripladenia cunninghamii
Tristaniopsis collina
Trochocarpa laurina
Trophis scandens
Tylophora paniculata
Vernonia cinerea
Vernonia cinerea var. cinerea
Veronica plebeia
Viola betonicifolia
Viola hederacea
Wilkiea huegeliana
Xanthorrhoea johnsonii
Xanthorrhoea malacophylla
Youngia japonica
Zehneria cunninghamii
Zieria smithii
Zieria southwellii

# APPENDIX 4 – FAUNA SPECIES LIST

# Fauna found within 5000m of the reserve, desktop search undertaken July 2021

Amphibians and reptiles		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Litoria dentata	Bleating	
	Tree Frog	
Limnodynastes	Brown-	
peronii	striped	
	Frog	
Crinia signifera	Common	
	Eastern	
	Froglet	
Litoria daviesae	Davies'	
	Tree Frog	
Litoria fallax	Eastern	
	Dwarf Tree	
	Frog	
Mixophyes	Great	
fasciolatus	Barred	
	Frog	
Litoria	Leaf Green	
pearsoniana/	Tree Frog	

Amphibians and reptiles		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
phyllochroa	species	
	complex	
Litoria pearsoniana	Pearson's	
	Green Tree	
	Frog	
Litoria peronii	Peron's	
	Tree Frog	
Litoria chloris	Red-eyed	
	Tree Frog	
Mixophyes balbus	Stuttering	
	Frog	
Adelotus brevis	Tusked	
	Frog	
Pygopus	Common	
lepidopodus	Scaly-foot	
Varanus varius	Lace	
	Monitor	

Amphibians and reptiles		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Bellatorias major	Land	
	Mullet	
Tropidechis	Rough-	
carinatus	scaled	
	Snake	
Lophosaurus	Southern	
spinipes	Angle-	
	headed	
	Dragon	
Hoplocephalus	Stephens'	
stephensii	Banded	
	Snake	

Birds		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Accipiter	Grey	
novaehollandiae	Goshawk	
Centropus	Pheasant	
phasianinus	Coucal	
Ninox strenua	Powerful	
	Owl	
Sericulus	Regent	
chrysocephalus	Bowerbird	

Birds		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Tyto tenebricosa	Sooty Owl	
Menura	Superb	
novaehollandiae	Lyrebird	
Podargus	Tawny	
strigoides	Frogmouth	
Eurostopodus	White-	
mystacalis	throated	
	Nightjar	

Birds		
Scientific name Common		
	name	
Ptilinopus	Wompoo	
magnificus	Fruit-Dove	
Leucosarcia	Wonga	
melanoleuca	Pigeon	

Mammals		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Trichosurus sp.	Brushtail	
	possum	
Trichosurus	Common	
vulpecula	Brushtail	
	Possum	
Pseudocheirus	Common	
peregrinus	Ringtail	
	Possum	
Canis lupus	Dingo,	
	domestic	
	dog	

Mammals		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
Petauroides	Greater	
volans	Glider	
Phascolarctos	Koala	
cinereus		
Nyctophilus	Lesser Long-	
geoffroyi	eared Bat	
Pteropus	Little Red	
scapulatus	Flying-fox	
Macropus parma	Parma	
	Wallaby	
Ornithorhynchus	Platypus	

Mammals		
Scientific name	Common	
	name	
anatinus		
Oryctolagus	Rabbit	
cuniculus		
Thylogale thetis	Red-necked	
	Pademelon	
Notamacropus	Red-necked	
rufogriseus	Wallaby	
Trichosurus	Short-eared	
caninus	Possum	
Dasyurus	Spotted-	
maculatus	tailed Ouoll	

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Petaurus Yellowaustralis bellied Glider

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# APPENDIX 5 – APPROVAL AND AMENDMENTS FROM PREVIOUS VERSION

In line with section 25 of the *Forestry Act 2012*, flora reserve working plans and any amendments must be approved by the Minister. This plan forms part of the working plans for each of the individual flora reserves listed in section 6.

This plan was approved by The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Western New South Wales

Date of approval: 6/9/23

Version	Changes	Approval details
2.0 » »	Reference to the Flora Reserve Plan: Background and General Management Formatting updated Change	The Hon. Tara Moriarty MLC, Minister for Agriculture, Minister for Regional New South Wales and Minister for Western New South Wales, 6/9/23