

Murrah Flora Reserves Draft Working Plan – Comments by Harriett Swift

General

1. It is very good to see an acknowledgement in this plan that a cessation of logging will benefit wildlife. While this is glaringly obvious to most people, it is not something that the Forestry Corporation and logging industry readily admits.
2. I would like to see some provision for identifying and dealing with abandoned mine shafts to make them safe for humans and wildlife.
3. While not an integral part of the Working Plan, the \$2.503 million grant from the Environment Trust to the Forestry Corporation was a mistake. It was unnecessary - Southern Region log royalties are a small fraction of the Eden log royalties and contractors and customers would have not been out of pocket sourcing replacement logs from the Southern Region, had that been necessary. Two years after the event, it has become clear that the \$2.503 million was to benefit the bottom line of the Forestry Corporation, not the industry and certainly not the environment.

Moreover, there was no obligation under the Eden Regional Forest Agreement to guarantee timber supplies from elsewhere when the Flora Reserve was created. The highly contentious clause in the other NSW RFAs: "Enhancements to the CAR Reserve System will not impede State Forest land management or delivery of wood supply"¹ does not apply in the Eden RFA Region, so cannot be used to justify the grant. **This type of funding should not be renewed when the current grant expires at the end of 2018.**

4. It would make sense to incorporate the Flora Reserves into Biamanga National Park.

Flora and Fauna

As a neighbour of the former Tanja State Forest, I have a particular interest in the flora and fauna of that section of the Reserve. I have noticed that there are many species missing from the flora and fauna lists in the Draft Plan.

Some of those species are just so common (e.g.; bushrats, roos, and wallabies) that maybe nobody ever bothered to report them. Those listed below are species I see all the time. I would see Glossy Cockatoos at least once a week; Yellow Tailed Blacks, monitor lizards every day during their active season.

There are some species the report has listed in other areas of the Flora Reserve, but not Tanja, such as Brown Cuckoo Dove and wood ducks (I see them every day). There are others such as white headed pigeon, diamond python and red bellied black snake that are not listed at all.

When I first moved there (late 1990s), we never saw White Headed Pigeons. Now we see lots of them every day. Climate change?

¹ NSW Regional Forest Agreements Implementation Report 2004–2014, page 202

**Species listed for other areas of Murrumbidgee Flora Reserves, but omitted for Tanja
Flora**

<i>Thysanotus tuberosus</i>	Common fringe-lily
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i>	Bird's nest fern (?)
<i>Ehretia acuminata</i> var. <i>acuminata</i>	Koda
<i>Dicksonia antarctica</i>	Soft tree fern
<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	Crimson bottlebrush
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted gum
<i>Dipodium punctatum</i>	Hyacinth orchid
<i>Sarcochilus australis</i>	Butterfly orchid
<i>Sarcochilus falcatus</i>	Orange blossom orchid
<i>Dendrocnide excelsa</i>	Giant stinging tree
<i>Cissus antarctica</i>	Water vine
<i>Macrozamia communis</i>	Burrawang

Fauna

<i>Crinia signifera</i>	Common eastern froglet
<i>Limnodynastes peronii</i>	Brown-striped frog
<i>Litoria ewingii</i>	Brown tree frog
<i>Litoria peronii</i>	Peron's tree frog

<i>Litoria verreauxii</i>	Verreaux's frog
<i>Accipiter cirrocephalus</i>	Collared sparrowhawk
<i>Artamus cyanopterus</i> *Vulnerable	Dusky woodswallow
<i>Calyptorhynchus funereus</i>	Yellow-tailed black-cockatoo
<i>Calyptorhynchus lathami</i> *Vulnerable	Glossy black-cockatoo
<i>Chalcites basalus</i>	Horsfield's bronze-cuckoo
<i>Climacteris erythroptera</i>	Red-browed treecreeper
<i>Climacteris picumnus victoriae</i> *Vulnerable	Brown treecreeper (eastern subspecies)
<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	Grey butcherbird
<i>Falcunculus frontatus frontatus</i>	Eastern shrike-tit
<i>Macropygia amboinensis</i>	Brown cuckoo-dove
<i>Manorina melanophrys</i>	Bell miner
<i>Meliphaga lewinii</i>	Lewin's honeyeater
<i>Phaps elegans</i>	Brush bronzewing
<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	New Holland honeyeater
<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	Tawny frogmouth
<i>Psophodes olivaceus</i>	Eastern whipbird
<i>Ptilonorhynchus violaceus</i>	Satin bowerbird
<i>Pycnoptilus floccosus</i>	Pilotbird

<i>Rhipidura rufifrons</i>	Rufous fantail
<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>	Rainbow lorikeet
<i>Zoothera lunulata</i>	Bassian thrush
<i>Acrobates pygmaeus</i>	Feathertail glider
<i>Antechinus stuartii</i>	Brown antechinus
<i>Antechinus swainsonii</i>	Dusky antechinus
<i>Macropus giganteus</i>	Eastern grey kangaroo
<i>Macropus rufogriseus</i>	Red-necked wallaby
<i>Rattus fuscipes</i>	Bush rat
<i>Vombatus ursinus</i>	Common wombat
<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	Swamp wallaby
<i>Notechis scutatus</i>	Tiger snake
<i>Varanus varius</i>	Lace monitor

Missing altogether

Diamond Pythons
 Red bellied black snake
 White headed pigeon
 Top knot pigeon