



**NSW
NATIONAL
PARKS AND
WILDLIFE
SERVICE**

ABN 30 841 387 271

Mr G Brown
ADI Residents Action Group
PO Box 4134
WERRINGTON NSW 2747

Our ref: 01/00851-11

Dear Mr Brown

Re: Outcomes of visit to ADI site

The Department of Environment and Conservation wishes to extend its thanks to you for your assistance in the site inspection of the ADI site on 30 July 2004.

The DEC considers that it is useful to formally report on the information shared during the inspection. In summary, seven threatened species locations, that were previously known (reported in planning documents for the site or in the Atlas of NSW Wildlife), were confirmed and their locations were more accurately defined. Six of these locations were within the proposed regional park. Additionally, while no new species were identified, a previously unrecorded small population of *Micromyrtus minutiflora* was identified.

Regarding the alleged unlawful slashing of threatened species, two sites were visited which had been slashed. In both cases the landholder had received the appropriate approval and there will be no further investigation. A third site had been slashed over four years previously (according to the land managers) without the land managers' knowledge that the species was present. The time elapsed since this action means that it is beyond the statute of limitations and will not be investigated further.

Conservation of the threatened plant species that are located within the proposed park will be included in the plan of management currently being prepared. Opportunities to conserve the threatened plant species that occur outside the regional park will be addressed, where necessary, through the precinct planning process that is required under the Regional Environmental Plan for the site. The currently available information indicates that individual species and plant communities are well represented within the proposed regional park or may otherwise be accommodated during the precinct planning process.

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In relation to the scats found on site, expert advice has been sought and they are most likely koala scats, although they are too old for this to be determined conclusively. The scats were found within the boundary of the regional park. Koalas are highly visible iconic species that tend to be reported if they are present. The data available suggests that there are less than 10 records of koalas recorded over many years in the vicinity of the ADI site. The expert advice is that, in all probability, the scats are from a passing koala, an escapee, or one that has been released in the area.

On this basis there is insufficient evidence to warrant a full scale survey of the ADI site or, as you have suggested, of western Sydney. Some targeted Koala survey will be required for those development applications that trigger the preparation of a species impact statement.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding this issue, please contact Ray Giddins, Threatened Species Officer, on (02) 9585 6911 or e-mail ray.giddins@npws.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Lou Ewins
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