



# National Parks & Wildlife Advisory Council

*The National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council provides the NSW Minister for the Environment and the NPWS executive with independent, informed advice on the priorities, design, implementation and evaluation of NPWS policies, strategies and programs to help achieve the objects of the National Parks and Wildlife Act.*

*Council also plays a key advocacy role through engagement with stakeholder organisations and networks.*

## Meeting summary – Sydney, 6 February 2024

Council were provided updates on:

- Kosciuszko National Park horse management program.
- Water safety.
- Great Koala and Georges River National Parks and Koala translocations.
- Reserve acquisitions and park establishment planning.
- Machinery of Government changes.
- Bushfire key statistics.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage and Joint Management consultation.

NPWS briefings were provided to Council for discussion and advice:

- The broader department's research and management programs aimed at addressing environmental and cultural heritage impacts of climate change.
- Dorrigo NP, Bindarri NP and Bindarri SCA draft Plan of Management.
- Recent achievements in visitor experience programs.
- NPWS education and Discovery programs.
- NPWS leases and licences.
- NPWS Audit and Compliance Committee.

More information: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NPWS/NPWSAdvisoryCouncil.html](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/NPWS/NPWSAdvisoryCouncil.html)

## Council members

**Cr Phyllis Miller OAM**  
(Chairperson): Local Government NSW

**Mr Ted Rowley:** Rural and regional development and planning issues

**Assoc Prof Rosemary Black:** Environmental education and community involvement in environmental education

**Ms Rhonda Ashby:** Aboriginal cultural heritage conservation

**Dr Grahame Douglas AM:** National Parks Association of NSW

**Cr Romola Hollywood:** Local Government NSW

**Assoc Prof Julie Old:** Scientific qualifications in an area associated with the conservation of nature

**Ms Cathy Parsons:** Ecotourism or the sustainable visitor or tourist use, enjoyment and appreciation of reserves

**Mrs Erica Smits:** Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee member

**Mr Edward Whyman:** Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee member

**Mr Craig Thomas:** Representing peak recreational bodies

**Mr Ross McDonnell:** NSW Nature Conservation Council

**Mrs Bronwyn Petrie:** NSW Farmers

**Dr Rebecca Spindler:** Scientific qualifications in areas associated with the conservation of nature

**Dr Allison O'Sullivan:** Qualifications in cultural heritage research

**Mr Gregory Mullins AO:** Bushfire management

**Mr Andrew Smith:** Hunter Central Coast Regional Advisory Committee

**Mr Bob Conroy:** Greater Sydney Regional Advisory Committee

**Mr Geoff Chapman:** West Regional Advisory Committee