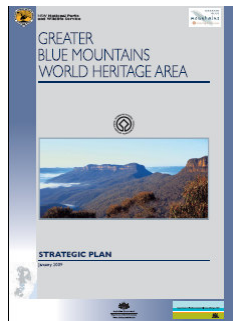


The Advisory Committee for the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area (GBMWA) met at Green Gully (Megalong Valley) in the Blue Mountains National Park on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 August with a focus on culture and heritage issues.

The Advisory Committee heard from a range of speakers on a number of projects regarding site surveys, co-management, culture and heritage management and resolved to support the recommendations from the Aboriginal Reference Group meeting, held Thursday 6 August.

The Advisory Committee participated in a workshop to identify additional reserves, values and information to assist with the National Heritage List assessment of the Greater Blue Mountains, currently underway by the Commonwealth Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.



The Advisory Committee were joined by Mrs Norma Carlon and Mrs Karen Carlon and members of a local bushcare group for morning tea and for conversations on local issues and the Committee's role.

The Advisory Committee was pleased to note that the Strategic Plan was officially launched by Ministers Garrett and Tebbutt at Wentworth Falls on Friday 6 June on World Environment Day.



Ministers Garrett and Tebbutt with NPWS staff at the launch of the Strategic Plan, Wentworth Falls. Pic by Michael Small

The November 2009 meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held at Wombeyan Caves with a focus on the geodiversity values of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The GBMWA Advisory Committee is made up of scientific, technical, Aboriginal and community members appointed by the State and Commonwealth Environment Ministers. The Strategic Plan for the Area is used by the Committee to guide its operations and in providing advice to those Ministers regarding issues relevant to the Area.

The Advisory Committee meets quarterly in different locations around the million hectares of spectacular national parks and reserves that comprise the GBMWA, recognised and protected for its outstanding universal values.

For more information contact the World Heritage Executive Officer
by telephone on (02) 4784 7326 or via email to gbm.worldheritage@environment.nsw.gov.au