

MU 1 SANDSTONE WARM TEMPERATE RAINFOREST

❑ CORRESPONDING CLASSIFICATIONS

Regional: RF114 Sandstone Scarp Warm Temperate Rainforest

State: Northern Warm Temperate Rainforest

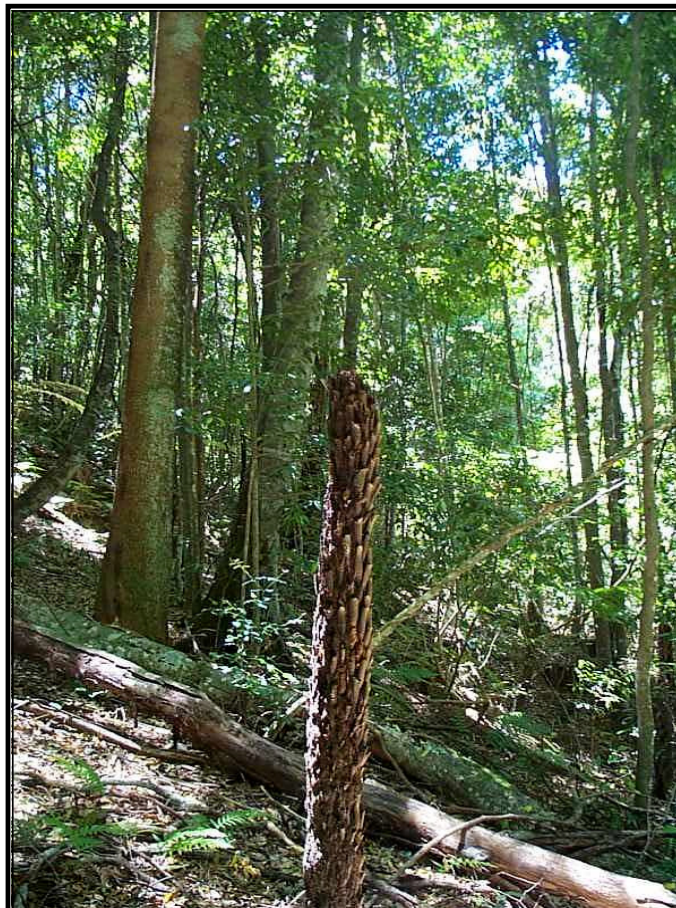
Number of Sites: 7

Average number of identified native species per plot: 28

❑ DESCRIPTION

Sandstone Warm Temperate Rainforest occurs on protected lower slopes and gullies within deeply dissected sandstone valleys, gorges and sheltered escarpment slopes. *Acmena smithii*, *Ceratopetalum apetalum* and *Doryphora sassafras* form a dense canopy. *Backhousia myrtifolia* may also be included in the canopy, particularly on the edges where fire has penetrated the rainforest. The understorey is relatively open due to shade cast by the canopy. However, scattered small trees such as *Callicoma serratifolia*, *Acacia elata* and *Notelaea longifolia* are often found. The lowest stratum is fern dominated and is comprised of *Blechnum cartilagineum*, *Asplenium flabellifolium*, *Pellaea nana* and *Adiantum hispidulum*. Creeklines are marked by the prevalence of ferns such as *Blechnum nudum*, *Todea barbara* and *Cyathea australis*. Vines such as *Morinda jasminoides*, *Cissus hypoglauca* and *Smilax australis* are also a feature of this assemblage with the latter becoming very dominant in areas affected by disturbance. In some locations, emergent Eucalypts such as *Eucalyptus deanei*, and *E. cypellocarpa* tower above the rainforest canopy.

Within the study area Sandstone Warm Temperate Rainforest is found only in small areas in the deeper gorges and canyons of the Newnes Plateau. Outside the study area, this community is widespread though confined to narrow gorges in the broader Blue Mountains region.



❑ STRUCTURAL SUMMARY

Stratum	Count	AvLowHt	AvHt	maxHt	AvCover	SDcover	minCover	maxCover
E	1	25	40	40	10		10	10
T	1	10	25	25	75		75	75
M1	1	1	2.50	5	25		25	25
L1	1		0.10	1	20		20	20

❑ FLORISTIC SUMMARY

Emergents

Eucalyptus cypellocarpa, *Eucalyptus deanei*, *Eucalyptus oreades*

Trees

Ceratopetalum apetalum, *Acmena smithii*, *Doryphora sassafras*, *Backhousia myrtifolia*, *Acacia elata*

Low Trees/Ferns

Cyathea australis, *Todea barbara*, *Callicoma serratifolia*, *Notelaea longifolia*, *Pittosporum revolutum*

Ground Covers

Blechnum cartilagineum, *Asplenium flabellifolium*, *Cissus hypoglauca*, *Pellaea nana*, *Adiantum hispidulum*, *Blechnum nudum*, *Calochlaena dubia*, *Pseuderanthemum variable*

Vines & Climbers

Morinda jasminoides, *Smilax australis*, *Smilax glycyphylla*, *Cissus hypoglauca*, *Clematis aristata*, *Eustrephus latifolius*

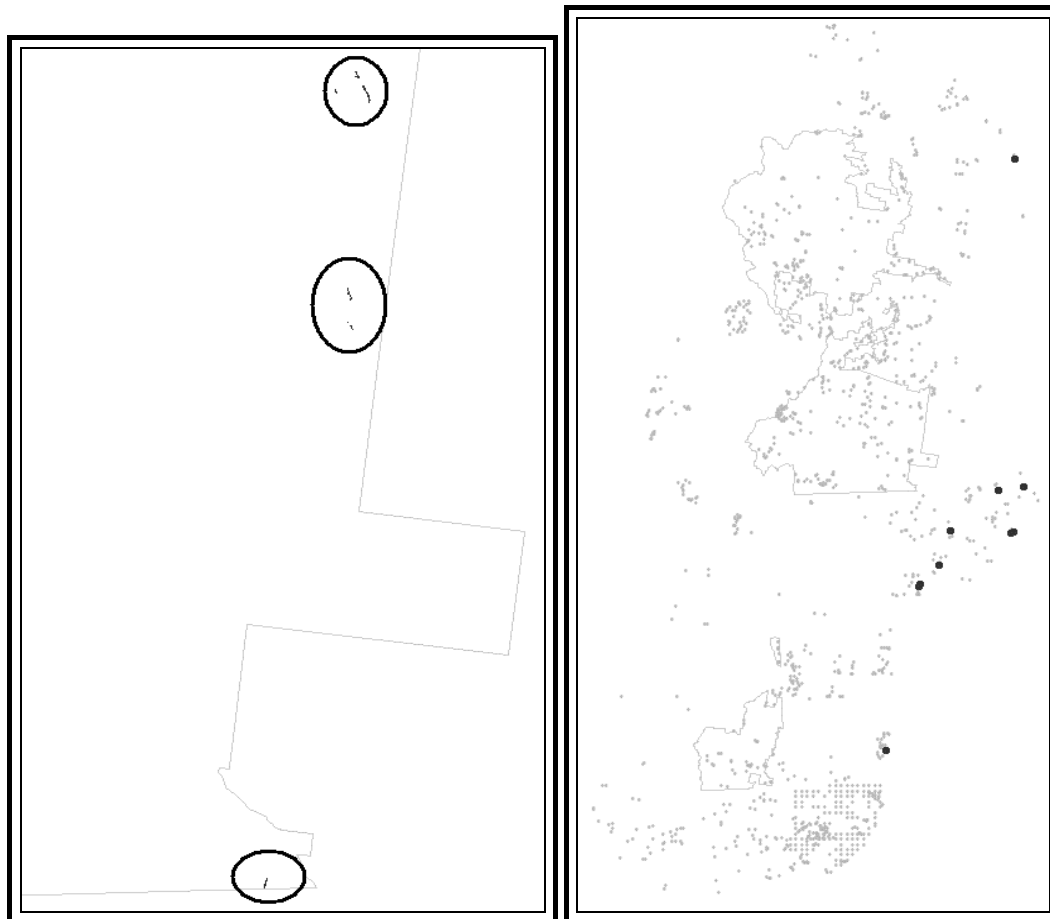
□ KEY IDENTIFYING FEATURES

Easily recognisable features to assist in identifying this map unit are:

- Dense closed warm temperate rainforest canopy dominated by lilly pilly (*Acmena smithii*), coachwood (*Ceratopetalum apetalum*), sassafras (*Doryphora sassafras*) and grey myrtle (*Backhousia myrtifolia*).
- Found in deeply incised sandstone gorges, valleys and protected escarpment slopes.
- Diversity and abundance of fern species such as gristle fern (*Blechnum cartilagineum*), rough tree fern (*Cyathea australis*) and necklace fern (*Asplenium flabellifolium*).
- Occasional emergent canopy species such as mountain grey gum (*Eucalyptus cypellocarpa*), turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera* subsp. *glomulifera*) and mountain blue gum (*E. deanei*).

□ EXAMPLE LOCATIONS

Headwaters of Bungleboori Creek, Newnes State Forest; Monkey Creek near Bell.



□ CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Disturbance Class	Area (ha)	Proportion Extant (%)
A Low	3.67	100
B Medium		
C High		
Total		

□ THREATENED PLANT SPECIES

Possible: *Grammitis stenophylla*, *Haloragodendron lucasii*, *Lastreopsis hispida*

❑ **DIAGNOSTIC SPECIES**

Species Name	Group Score	Group Freq (%)	Non Group Score	Non Group Freq (%)	Fidelity Class
<i>Abrophyllum ornans</i>	1	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Acacia elata</i>	2	50.00	1	1.52	positive
<i>Acmena smithii</i>	2	70.00	1	0.56	positive
<i>Asplenium australasicum</i> forma <i>australasicum</i>	3	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Asplenium bulbiferum</i> subsp. <i>gracillimum</i>	1	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Asplenium flabellifolium</i>	2	50.00	2	14.35	positive
<i>Blechnum cartilagineum</i>	2	100.00	2	4.41	positive
<i>Blechnum patersonii</i>	2	40.00	2	0.24	positive
<i>Blechnum wattsii</i>	2	30.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Bulbophyllum exiguum</i>	4	20.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Canthium coprosmoides</i>	2	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Celastrus subspicata</i>	2	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Cephalalaria cephalobotrys</i>	1	20.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>	5	100.00	3	0.72	positive
<i>Doodia aspera</i>	2	40.00	2	4.17	positive
<i>Doryphora sassafras</i>	4	90.00	3	2.48	positive
<i>Grammitis billardierei</i>	2	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Lomandra montana</i>	3	40.00	2	0.16	positive
<i>Microsorium scandens</i>	3	40.00	3	0.24	positive
<i>Morinda jasminoides</i>	2	60.00	2	1.20	positive
<i>Pandorea pandorana</i> subsp. <i>pandorana</i>	2	80.00	2	8.18	positive
<i>Parsonsia brownii</i>	3	20.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Pellaea nana</i>	2	50.00	2	1.12	positive
<i>Pellaea paradoxa</i>	1	10.00	0	0.00	positive
<i>Pittosporum revolutum</i>	2	40.00	2	1.52	positive
<i>Pyrrosia rupestris</i>	2	60.00	2	3.60	positive
<i>Smilax australis</i>	2	60.00	3	2.40	positive
<i>Tasmania insipida</i>	3	60.00	1	0.08	positive
<i>Viola hederacea</i>	2	40.00	2	16.76	positive
<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	0	0.00	2	36.49	negative
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	3	20.00	2	39.70	negative
<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	0	0.00	2	40.26	negative