

## Report for Wednesday Walk to Oallen Ford Crown Land Reserves, 12 June 2019.

A very mild winter's day for our walk in the South Crown Land Reserve at Oallen Ford. The plan was to follow an anti-clockwise circuit from the southern parking area to the river bank and back along the central track. These tracks are heavily used by 4 WDs and trail bikes, creating large eroded areas devoid of ground cover but away from these trails the bush is in remarkably good condition although some plants, notably *Hakea sericea*, have died from the severity of the current prolonged drought. There was a decided absence of anything in flower although this was made up for by some sizeable brittle gums seen along the walk and our discovery of a substantial clump of *Pomaderris pallida*, a threatened species classed as vulnerable in NSW, amidst some colonies of *P. angustifolia* and *P. betulina*. However the track petered out on the banks of the river, where we had lunch on a sandbank, and we had to return along part of the same route. The sandy river bank and cliff is dominated by dense thickets of *Grevillea arenaria*. This short walk is probably best combined with a visit to the Crown Land on the north side of the crossing.

Roger Farrow



Oallen Ford



*Pomaderris pallida*



*Pomaderris betulina*



*Hakea sericea* open capsule



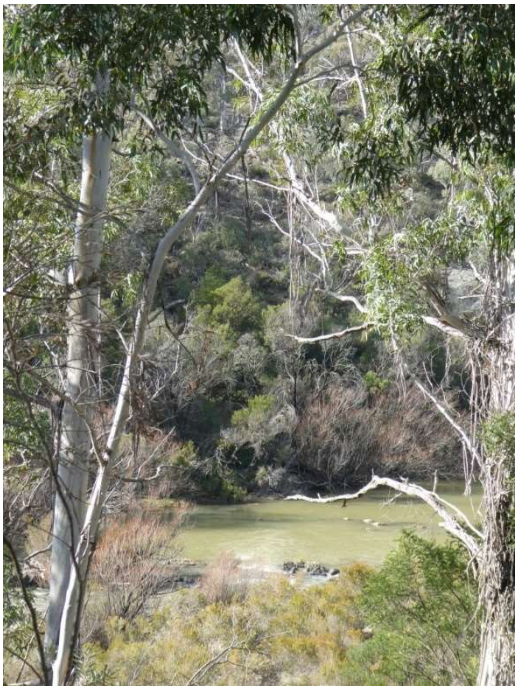
Typical dry forest Oallen Ford



Wednesday Walkers setting out at Oallen Ford



*Eucalyptus mannifera*



Shoalhaven River