EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

Instrument under section 517(1)

(Issued under the Authority of the Minister for Environment Protection, Heritage and the Arts)

The Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (the Act) places certain obligations on the Commonwealth to protect and conserve threatened species.

The purpose of this instrument is to determine that the following population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of the Act:

- *Tyto novaehollandiae castanops* (Tasmanian population)

Based on advice from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee the Minister for Environment Protection, Heritage and the Arts determined that, being geographically separate from the introduced population on Lord Howe Island, the biological entity *Tyto novaehollandiae castanops* (Tasmanian population) should be recognized as a separate biological entity and be declared to be a species for the purposes of the Act.

This instrument is a legislative instrument for the purposes of the Legislative Instruments Act 2003.

The instrument commenced on the day after it was registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments.