

Small scurf-pea

Cullen parvum
Endangered

Target: survey for new sites and supplement the smallest population through seed collection and propagation

This *Saving our Species* (SoS) project focuses on collecting small scurf-pea (*Cullen parvum*) seeds and propagating plants to supplement the smallest population found on a private property. Around 50% of the supplemented plants were successfully translocated despite the drought in 2019. Watering equipment and fencing was installed the following year with additional plantings to further improve their survivorship.

This small pea, found along the edges of creeks and gullies in good quality box-gum woodland and river red gum communities, faces many threats, including land clearing and competition with weeds. Its distribution was previously known only from three sites in New South Wales: two on travelling stock reserves (TSRs) and one on private land. But through this project, a new population was discovered in 2020. This species is also found in South Australia and Victoria, where it is listed as vulnerable and endangered, respectively.

The small scurf-pea project is led by the SoS program in partnership with the Australian National Botanic Gardens and Royal Botanic Gardens, who assisted with seed collection and orchard establishment. Local Land Services (LLS), Bush Heritage Australia and private landowners have helped with plant surveys and monitoring and provided safe havens for translocated plants. Next steps will be to conduct more surveys and plantings of 20–40 individuals in spring 2021–22 and promote more engagement from LLS to control weeds on TSRs.

Trajectory: unknown

A new population was discovered in 2020 at Comer Travelling Stock Reserve, confirming four known populations of the small scurf-pea within New South Wales.

Population numbers have fluctuated across the sites with seasonal conditions. However, it is still too early to tell whether management has slowed the rate of decline.

