

# **Conservation Action Plan**

### Coast euodia (Melicope vitiflora)

This plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of s.78C of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 (Reg.) in relation to an Asset of Intergenerational Significance (AIS) as declared under s.153G of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

### **Site details**

AIS site	AIS-E0-027
Site location	An area of 367 hectares in Nightcap National Park An area of 167 hectares in Whian Whian State Conservation Areas An area of 35 hectares in Snows Gully Nature Reserve
NPWS contact	Team Leader Conservation, North Coast Branch

### **Environmental values**

This table sets out the environmental values for which the land was listed as an AIS (Reg. 78C(3)(a)).

Identified value(s)	Value description
Important habitat for coast euodia	Coast euodia is an endangered tree that grows up to 14 metres high and produces clumps of white flowers at the end of its branches. The species grows in subtropical and littoral rainforest.

## Key risks to environmental values

This table sets out the key risks to the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(b)).

Key risk(s)	Description
Inappropriate fire regimes	Inappropriate fire frequency or intensity that kills adult plants may lead to a decline of coast euodia population at the site.
Weeds	Habitat degradation and competition through invasion, establishment, intensification and/or spread of weeds (e.g., lantana, privet, and vines and scramblers) to the extent that recruitment or establishment of plants is impaired.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes in weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that increases the frequency and severity drought conditions and fire, may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of coast euodia at the site.  This risk is exacerbated by the species small population size.

#### **Conservation activities**

This table sets out the conservation activities required to:

- 1. Control, abate or mitigate the key risks and
- 2. maintain, restore and remediate the environmental values of the land (Reg. 78C(3)(c)).

Key risk(s)	Impacted site(s)	Conservation activities
Inappropriate fire regime	All sites	<ul> <li>Develop guidance on the appropriate fire management for the habitat of the coast euodia within 12 months of the adoption of this plan and update as required. This guidance must provide for:         <ul> <li>maintenance of an appropriate fire regime by developing and implementing a site-specific burn plan for the declared areas</li> <li>implementation of any required fire protection and response measures in the declared areas</li> <li>integration of site-specific requirements into NPWS and NSW Government bushfire planning, risk management and operational response arrangements.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Implement fire management consistent with the guidance.</li> </ul>
Weeds	All sites	<ul> <li>Remove weed species the extent required to ensure weeds do not have a negative impact on coast euodia, by targeted application of physical, biological and/or chemical weed control.</li> </ul>
All risks	All sites	<ul> <li>Establish ex-situ seedbank from a genetically representative sample of the population.</li> <li>If required, augment the existing population and/or establish a new population with ex-situ material.</li> </ul>

## Other land management activities

Within the declared land there are existing assets and infrastructure of NPWS and other external service providers, including public utilities.

Maintenance operations (including inspection, emergency works and routine and standard maintenance) that are exempt development in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, and which are performed on and around existing assets and infrastructure, are authorised under this conservation action plan (CAP) provided such operations are undertaken in a manner that aims to minimise the risk to the declared environmental values of the land and with any other required consents or approvals.

All maintenance operations on the declared land are to be undertaken in accordance with this CAP.

## Measuring and reporting

This table sets out the requirements for measuring and reporting on health and condition (Reg. 78C(3)(d)).

Attribute	Metric	Method
Health and condition of the coast euodia population	Population estimate	Design, and implement annually monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of individuals in the population.

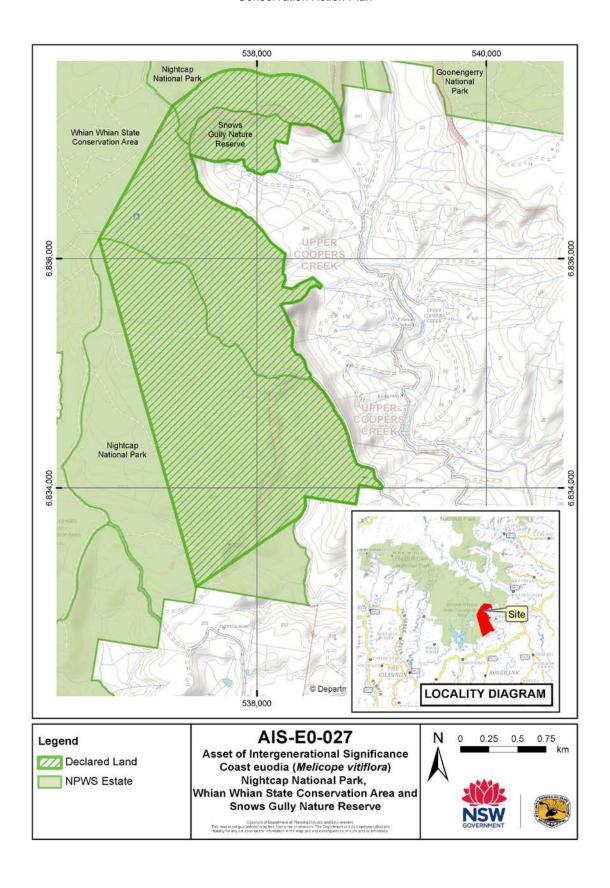
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: <a href="https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au">www.environment.nsw.gov.au</a>. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land and its overall trajectory.

## **Evaluation of conservation action plans**

This CAP will be amended or replaced as new information becomes available that helps improve our management of the identified asset (Reg. 78H).

The Secretary must appoint a scientist, or a panel of scientists, to conduct a review, as soon as possible after the period of five years from the first approval of a CAP, to examine whether CAPs have been effectively implemented (Reg. 78J (1)).

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Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Co-ordinator General, Environment and Heritage
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