

Conservation Action Plan

Mountain trachymene (*Trachymene scapigera*)

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-ES-108
Site location	An area of 18 hectares in Kanangra-Boyd National Park
NPWS contact	Area Manager, Kanangra Area, Blue Mountains 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 mountain trachymene	The endangered mountain trachymene is a robust herb that grows up to 50 centimetres tall. It produces clusters of white flowers during summer and fruits in autumn. Seed viability steadily declines after dispersal with little to no viable seed remaining after 12 months. This species occurs in riparian environments and can reproduce via rhizomes forming dense mats or patches.

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 and intensity that limits recovery or regeneration may lead to a decline or extinction of the mountain trachymene population at the site.
Weeds	Habitat degradation and competition through invasion of weeds (e.g., blackberry) to the extent that recruitment or establishment of plants is impaired.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (e.g., road and trail maintenance) and visitor use may lead to degradation of habitat and damage to individuals through erosion and sedimentation along creeks and damage to substrate.

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 regimes	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance on the appropriate fire management for the habitat of the mountain trachymene within 12 months of adoption of this plan and update as required. This guidance must provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintenance of an appropriate fire regime by developing and implementing a site-specific burn plan for the declared areas - implementation of any required fire protection and response measures in the declared areas - integration of site-specific requirements into NPWS and NSW Government bushfire planning, risk management and operational response arrangements. • Implement fire management consistent with the guidance.
Weeds	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove weed species to the extent required to ensure weeds do not have a negative impact on the mountain trachymene, by targeted application of physical and chemical weed control.
Disturbance	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance or visitor use is having an adverse impact on the mountain trachymene. If adverse impacts are observed, implement action to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - relocation of mitre drains, or redirecting run-off to avoid known plants - implementing sediment control measures to protect known habitat - upgrade/realignment of trails to avoid known plants or habitat - installation of signage or more discrete marking systems to delineate exclusion areas to prevent slashing and herbicide use near sites.

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 mountain trachymene population	Population estimate	Design, and implement annually, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of mature (viable) plants 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: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. 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 Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage Group

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