

Conservation Action Plan

Coveny's zieria (*Zieria covenyi*)

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-E0-054, AIS-E0-093
Site location	An area of 320 hectares in Blue Mountains National Park
NPWS contact	Project Officer, Threatened Species, 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 Coveny's zieria	The endangered Coveny's zieria is a strongly aromatic erect branching shrub that grows up to two metres high and produces white to pink coloured flowers with four petals. The plant reproduces vegetatively by root suckering and rarely produces seeds or fruits. The species occurs on gentle east and south-facing slopes and on ridges in shallow sandy soil in open sclerophyll forests dominated by <i>Eucalyptus sieberi</i> .

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 destroys plants or limits recruitment and recovery after fire, may lead to a decline or extinction of the Coveny's zieria at the sites. This risk is exacerbated by the restricted distribution and small population size.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	Infection by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> resulting in mortality of individual plants.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (e.g., road and trail maintenance, bulldozing during fire events) and visitor use that leads to degradation of habitat and damage to individuals from slashing and herbicide use at the sites and trampling of individual plants.
Interactions with native species	Degradation of habitat and damage to individual plants by macropods e.g., swamp wallabies, through trampling and browsing may lead to a reduction in suitable habitat and affect persistence of Coveny's Zieria at the sites.

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 Coveny's zieria within 12 months of the adoption of this plan and update as required. This guidance must provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - maintenance of the 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.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	AIS-E0-093	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement hygiene protocols as outlined in the DPE Hygiene Guidelines (as published in April 2020) or as varied by any written advice from the Secretary for the purposes of this declared area. • Develop a hygiene management plan, including emergency response procedures in the event of an outbreak or evidence of serious impact of <i>phytophthora cinnamomi</i>, within 12 months of the adoption of this plan and update as required.

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Key risk(s)	Impacted site(s)	Conservation activities
Interactions with native species	AIS-E0-054	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As required, install and maintain protective barriers around plants to prevent grazing and trampling from macropods.
Disturbance	AIS-E0-054	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance or visitor use is having an adverse impact on the Coveny's zieria. If adverse impacts are observed implement actions to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> upgrade/realignment of trails to avoid known plants/habitat installation of signage or more discrete marking systems to delineate exclusion areas to prevent slashing or herbicide use near sites. If required, develop and implement guidance for staff, utility managers, council and contractors about appropriate maintenance practices that minimise impacts to the Coveny's zieria population and habitat.
All risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain ex-situ living collection from a genetically representative sample of the population in partnership with an appropriate facility. If required, augment the existing population from ex-situ material.

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 Coveny's zieria population	Population count	Design, and implement every 3 years, monitoring to count the number of Coveny's zieria in the population.
	Area of occupancy	Design, and implement every 3 years, an assessment to calculate the area of occupancy of the Coveny's zieria.

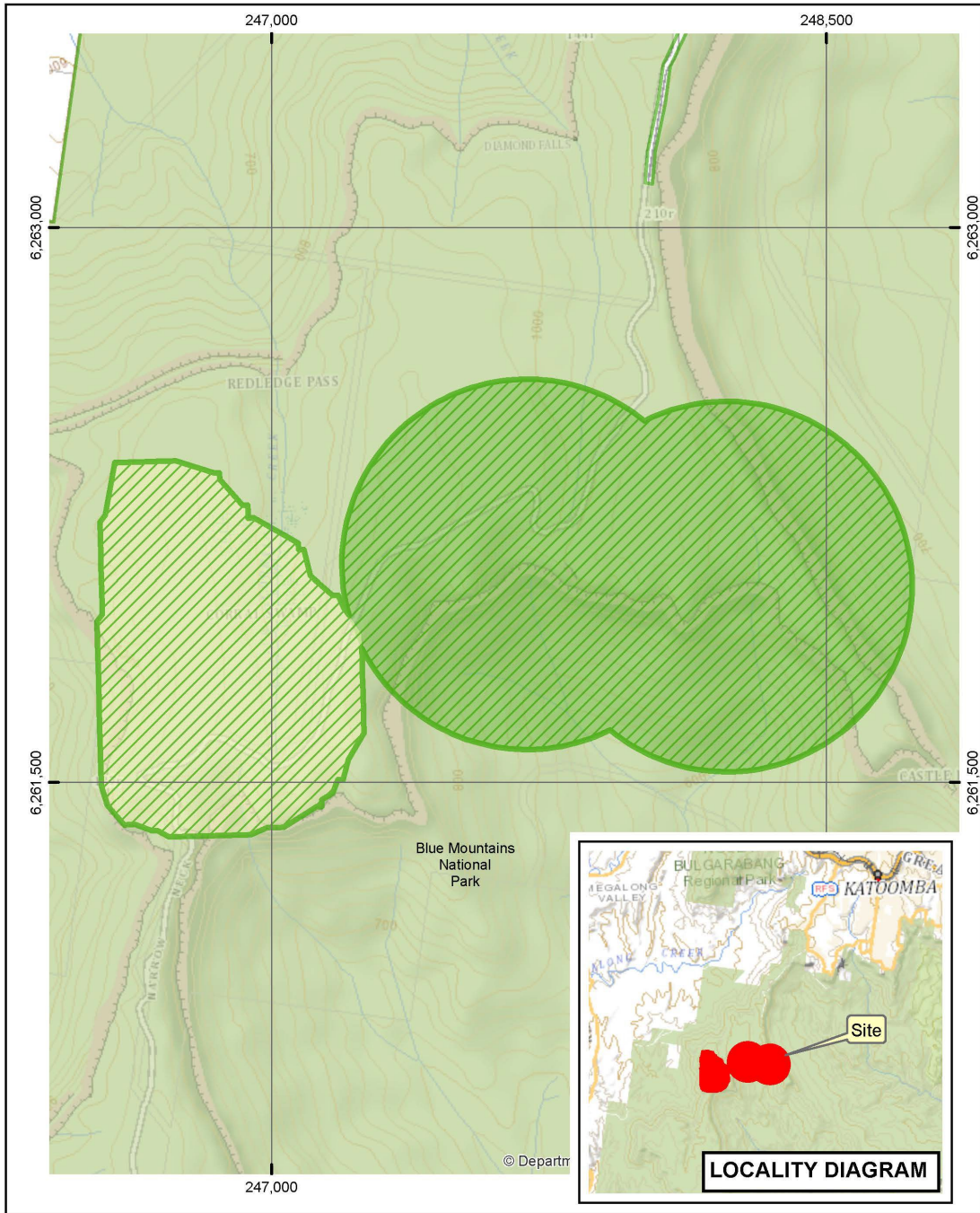
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land 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 assets (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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Legend	
	Declared Land
	Coveny's zieria (<i>Zieria covenyi</i>)
	Dwarf mountain pine (<i>Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii</i>)
	NPWS Estate

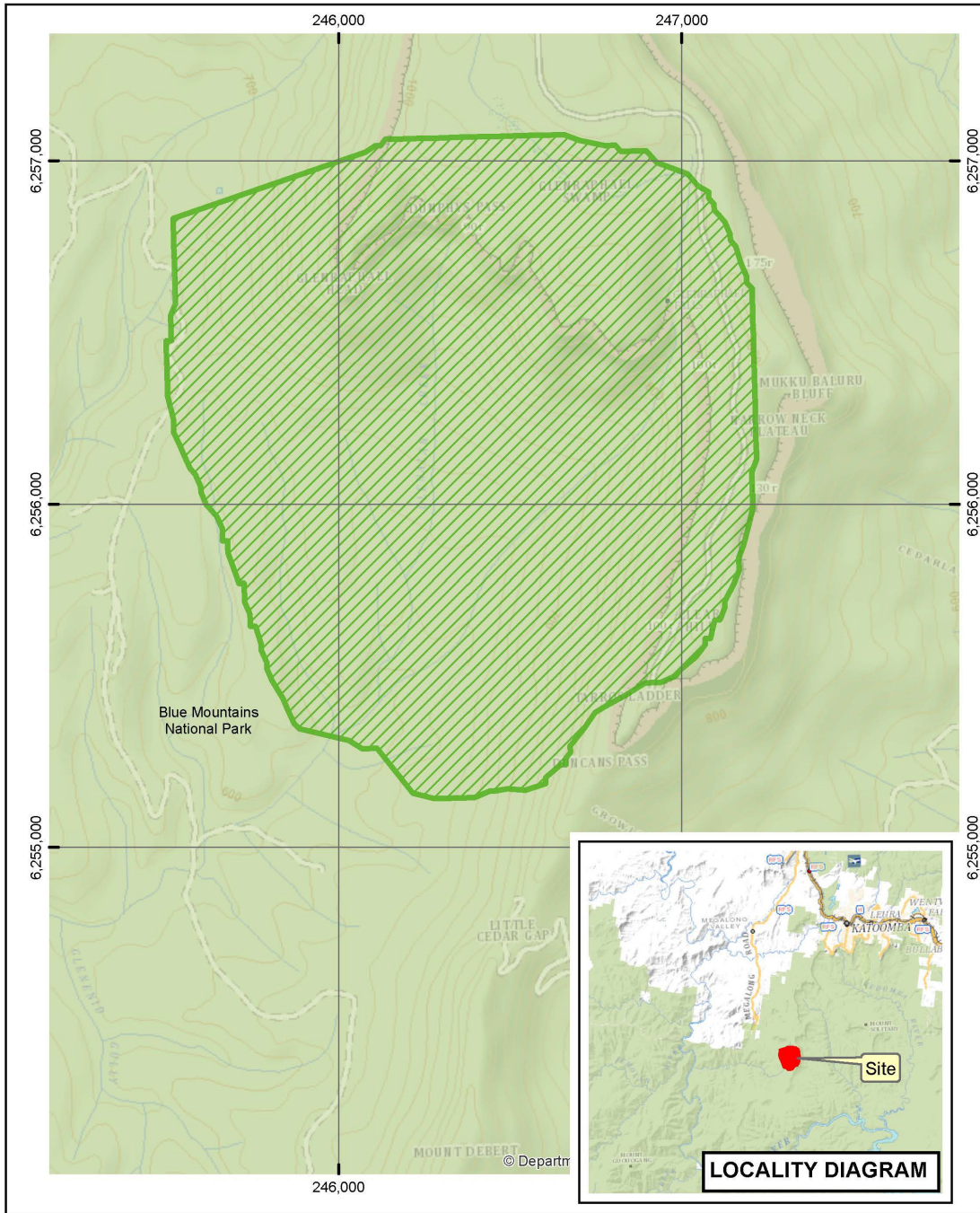
AIS-E0-054
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Coveny's zieria (*Zieria covenyi*) and
Dwarf mountain pine
(*Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*)
Blue Mountains National Park

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Legend

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

AIS-E0-093
Asset of
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Date prepared	March 2023
Date approved	June 2023
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage Group
Due for review	June 2028

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