

Conservation Action Plan

Southern corroboree frog (*Pseudophryne corroboree*)

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-134, AIS-ES-196, AIS-ES-197, AIS-ES-198, AIS-ES-199, AIS-ES-200, AIS-ES-201, AIS-ES-202, AIS-ES-203, AIS-ES-204, AIS-ES-205
Site location	An area of 858 hectares in Kosciuszko National Park
NPWS contact	Team Leader - Conservation, Southern Ranges 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 Southern corroboree frog	The Southern corroboree frog has bright yellow longitudinal stripes alternating with black stripes on its back, and black, yellow and white blotches underneath. The species is limited to wetland habitats of the northern Snowy Mountains, in a strip from the Maragle Range in the north-west, through Mount Jagungal to Smiggin Holes in the south. The southern corroboree frog is critically endangered, and its range is entirely within Kosciuszko National Park.

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
Feral herbivores	Competition and habitat degradation of Southern corroboree frog habitat by introduced herbivores, such as horses and deer, through grazing, trampling and fouling of waterways and ponds.
Feral pigs	Direct predation, competition, habitat degradation and/or disease transmission by feral pigs may lead to a decline of southern corroboree at the sites.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	Infection by amphibian chytrid fungus causing the disease chytridiomycosis leading to mortality of individuals. This risk is exacerbated by the restricted distribution and small population size at the sites.

Key risk(s)	Description
Anthropogenic climate change	<p>Changes in weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that alters habitat structure, composition and resource availability may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of Southern corroboree frog at the sites.</p> <p>This risk is exacerbated by the restricted distribution and small population size at the sites.</p>

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
Feral herbivores	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral horses to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the Southern corroboree frog, by trapping, mustering and removal, and ground shooting in accordance with a wild horse plan of management approved by the Secretary. • To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral deer to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the Southern corroboree frog, and maintain the density at or below that level, by shooting and other approved integrated control measures. • Install and maintain protective barriers around Southern corroboree frog habitat to prevent impacts from trampling and browsing by feral herbivores.
Feral pigs	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral pig to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the Southern corroboree frog, and maintain the density at or below that level, by trapping, baiting and shooting.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	All sites	<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 for the purposes of this declared area.
All Risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If required, supplement the captive bred population for reintroduction or translocation into suitable habitat at the sites. • If required, augment the existing population at the sites and/or establish a new wild population at the sites with animals from the captive bred population.

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 southern corroboree frog population	Population estimate	Design and implement annual monitoring to generate an estimate 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: 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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Approved by Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage Group

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