

Conservation Action Plan

Carrington Falls Pomaderris (*Pomaderris walshii*)

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-129
Site location	An area of 103 hectares in Budderoo National Park
NPWS contact	Assistant Project Officer, Threatened Species, South 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 Carrington Falls pomaderris	<p>Carrington Falls pomaderris is a critically endangered shrub or small tree growing up to three metres tall. The plant leaves are oval with a pointed tip and have clusters of 100-200 flowers in the flower heads. The flowers are cream to yellow in colour and are externally covered with soft hair. This population is found in open heath or eucalypt woodland, mainly growing in riparian habitats with very low numbers of individuals. Carrington Falls pomaderris has a highly restricted distribution confined to the upper catchment of the Kangaroo River within the Budderoo National Park.</p> <p>The population of Carrington Falls pomaderris within the Budderoo National Park is the only known population of this species.</p>

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 kills juvenile and mature plants, or limits recruitment and recovery after fires, may lead to a decline or extinction of the Carrington Falls pomaderris population at the site. This risk is exacerbated by the small population size and restricted distribution of the species at this site.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes to weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that increases the frequency and severity of floods or leads to changes in rainfall patterns may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of species name at the site. This risk is exacerbated by the small population size and restricted distribution of the species at this site.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (e.g., roadside vegetation management) that leads to degradation of habitat and damage to individuals by slashing and herbicide use.

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 Carrington Falls pomaderris 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 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.
Disturbance	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance is having an adverse impact on Carrington Falls pomaderris. If adverse impacts are observed, implement action to mitigate the impacts This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - upgrade/realignment of trails to avoid known plants - installation of signage or more discrete marking systems to delineate exclusion areas to prevent slashing or herbicide use near sites. • Implement guidance for staff, local council and contractors as required, about appropriate maintenance practices that minimise impacts to the Carrington Falls grevillea population and habitat.
All risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain ex-situ living collection and seedbank from a genetically representative sample of the population. • If required, augment existing population or establish a new wild population with 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 Carrington Falls pomaderris population	Population estimate	Design, and implement every two years, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of mature plants and seedlings 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)).

Date prepared	August 2022
Date approved	17 December 2022
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage
Due for review	August 2027

Environment and Heritage, Department of Planning and Environment,
Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124
Phone: 1300 361 967; email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au; www.environment.nsw.gov.au
ISBN 978-1-922975-18-8; EHG 2023/0024; August 2022.