

Conservation Action Plan

Mittagong geebung (*Persoonia glaucescens*)

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-E0-052, AIS-E0-053
Site location	An area of 926 hectares in Bargo State Conservation Area An area of 519 hectares in Nattai National Park An area of 294 hectares in Upper Nepean State Conservation Area
NPWS contact	Manager, Hawkesbury-Nattai 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 Mittagong geebung	Mittagong geebung is an endangered plant with habitat on national park estate supporting the most important population for this species. The Mittagong geebung is an erect shrub that reaches up to three metres tall. It has a mottled stem and brownish-red branches with erect, greyish-green leaves. Yellow flowers normally appear from late summer to autumn and the fruit resembles a small plum. The Mittagong geebung grows in woodland to dry sclerophyll forest on clayey and gravely laterite. The preferred topography is ridge-tops, plateau and upper slopes.

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 recruitment and depletes the soil-stored seedbank may lead to a decline or extinction of Mittagong geebung population at the sites. This risk is exacerbated by the very low seed viability of the Mittagong geebung.
Weeds	Habitat degradation and competition through invasion, establishment, intensification and spread of weeds (e.g. African lovegrass and whiskey grass) to the extent that recruitment or establishment of plants is impaired.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	Infection by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> resulting in mortality of individual plants.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (e.g. roadside vegetation and powerline easement maintenance) and visitor use may lead to damage to individual plants and degradation of Mittagong geebung habitat 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)).

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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 Mittagong geebung 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.
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 Mittagong geebung, by targeted application of physical and chemical weed control.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement hygiene protocols as outlined in the DPE Hygiene Guidelines (as published April 2020), or as varied by any written advice from the Secretary from time to time 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 pathogenic phytophthora, within 12 months of the adoption of this plan. Implement the hygiene management plan.
Disturbance	AIS-EO-052	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance or visitor use is having an adverse impact on Mittagong geebung. If adverse impacts are observed, implement action to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rehabilitation of areas affected by unauthorised tracks 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 installation of protective barriers or other suitable structures around plants to minimise impacts from infrastructure maintenance and visitor use installation of barriers (e.g., cable fencing and gates) to prevent unauthorised visitor access. Liaise with utility providers to ensure that maintenance activities do not have an adverse impact on Mittagong geebung populations.

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 taken 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 Mittagong geebung population	Population estimate	Design, and implement annually, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of Mittagong geebung plants in the population.
	Area of occupancy	Design and implement an annual assessment to calculate the area of occupancy of Mittagong geebung.

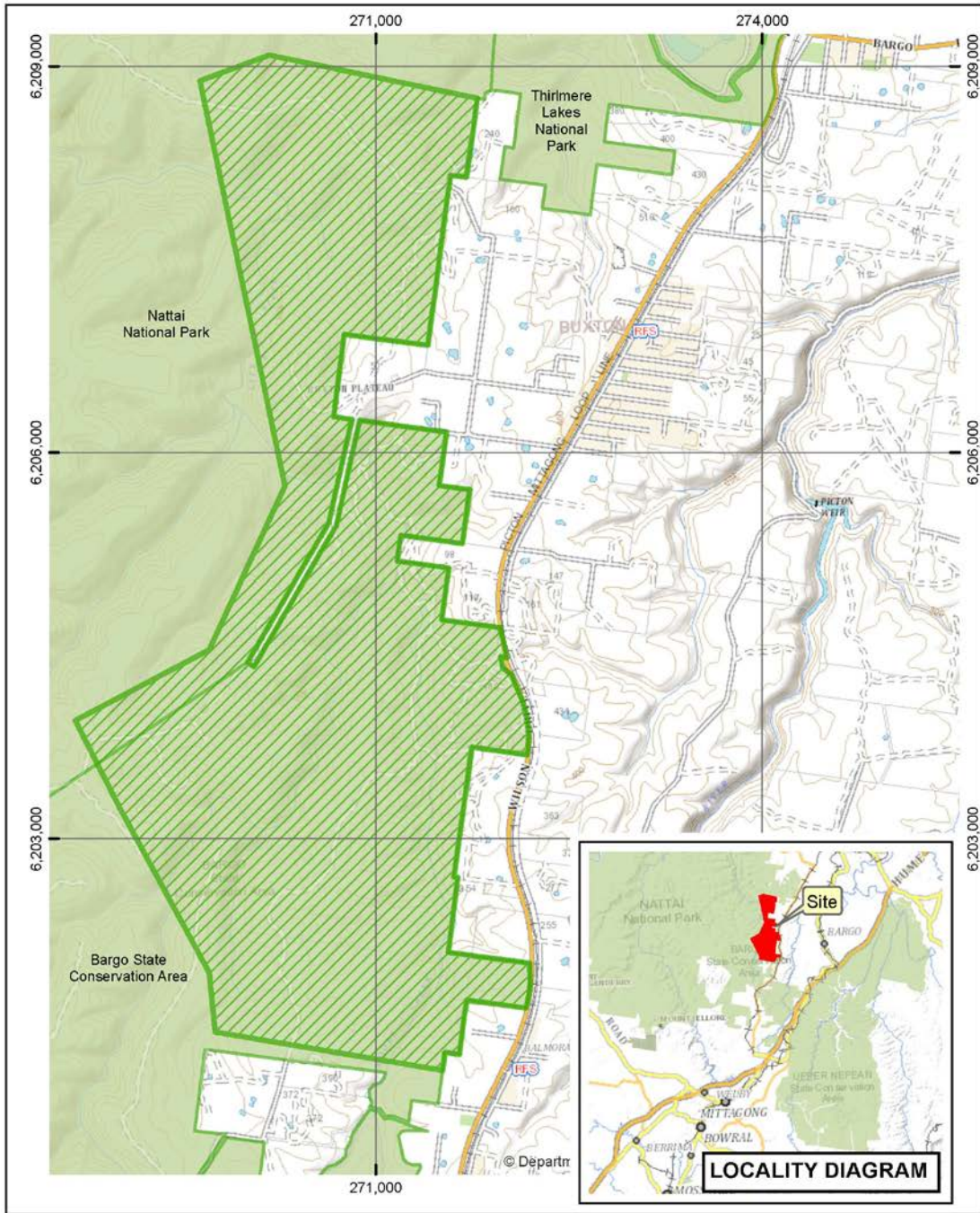
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land 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
-  NPWS Estate

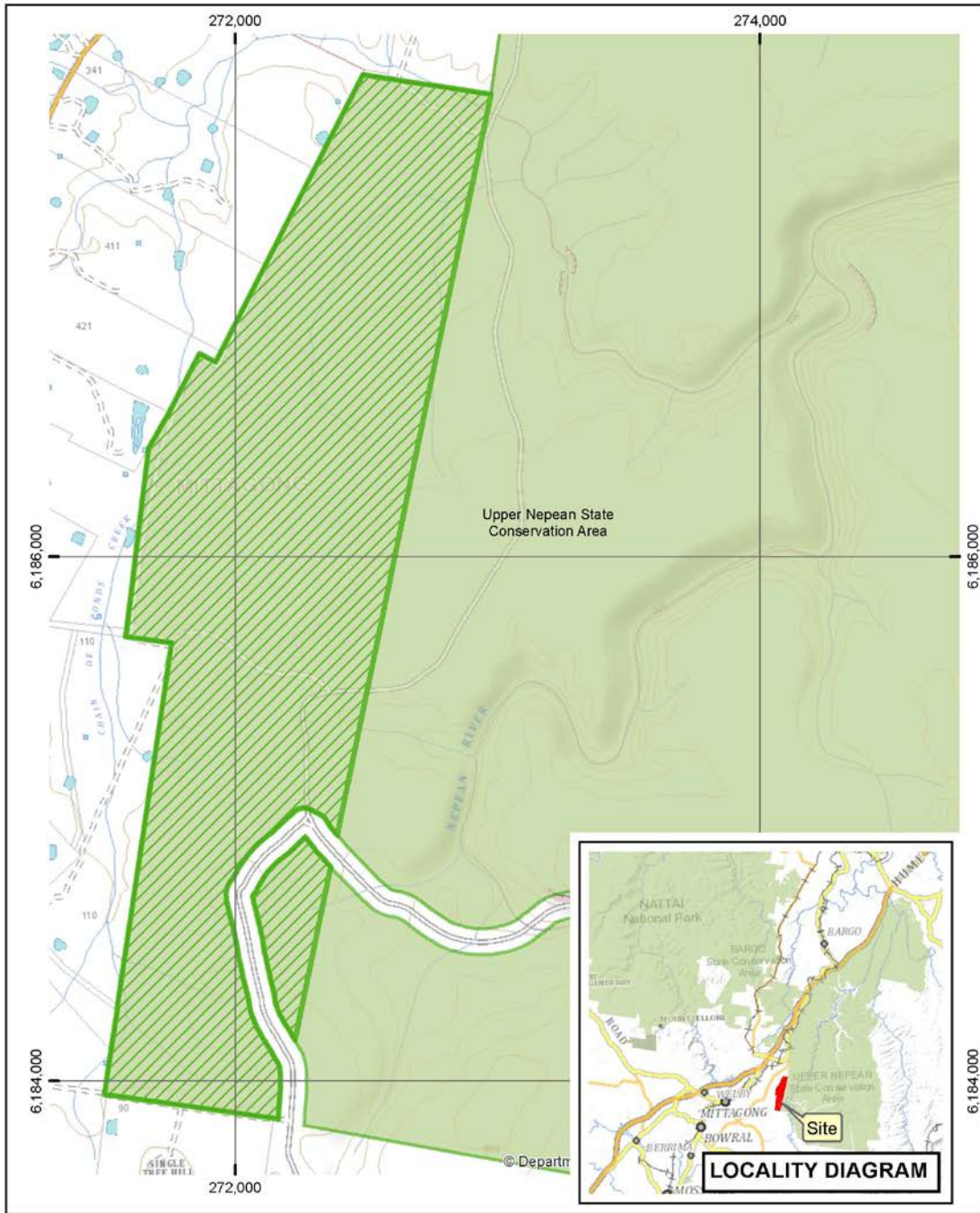
AIS-E0-052
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Mittagong geebung
(Persoonia glaucescens)
Bargo State Conservation Area and
Nattai National Park

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
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Legend

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AIS-E0-053
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Mittagong geebung
(Persoonia glaucescens)
Upper Nepean State Conservation Area

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Date prepared	July 2022
Date approved	25 July 2022
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage
Due for review	July 2027

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