Department of Planning and Environment



In partnership with SAVING OUR SPECIES NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

Mouse-ear hawkweed season snapshot 2022–23

NSW hawkweed eradication program



Eradication is on target



Volunteers contributed **3,300 hours** over **12 weeks**.



86 volunteers assisted with mouse-ear hawkweed surveys.



- Only 0.16 m² of mouse-ear hawkweed was found and treated this season.
- 304 ha was surveyed across all areas.
- A volunteer found one new site with 13 plants adjacent to known grids.



Volunteers and partners searched **over 150 ha** for mouse-ear hawkweed



Over **65** social media posts were shared by NSW Hawkweed Volunteers and program partners.



Staff and volunteers undertook **7 days** of helicopter-assisted remote area surveys.

Tools used to help meet eradication goals



Weed eradication detection dogs surveyed **416 km** and found newly emerging seedlings at known sites.



Pest animal detection dogs surveyed **60 km** near Blue Lake and surrounds and found evidence of pest animals, as well as threatened species like the broad-toothed rat.



A newly developed mouse-ear hawkweed delimitation plan was used to target surveillance efforts based on dispersal and habitat suitability; with no new sites found outside of the known extent, we are still on track for eradication.



To develop remote detection algorithms, drone imagery of mouse-ear hawkweed was captured in New Zealand, where it is a damaging, widespread weed.

Supported by:

NSW Department of Primary Industries South-East Local Land Services Murray Local Land Services Riverina Local Land Services Snowy Monaro Regional Council Snowy Valleys Council
NSW Environmental Trust

Photos: Mouse-ear hawkweed flower (Mark Hamilton), Connor, Weed eradication detector dog (Hillary Cherry/DPE), Broad-toothed rat (Dave Watts/DPE). Environment and Heritage, Department of Planning and Environment, Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124. Phone: 1300 361 967 (environment and national parks enquiries); Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au; Website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au; ISBN 978-1-923076-56-3 | EHG 2023/0271 September 2023