

# NSW SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

## Determination to make a minor amendment to Schedule 2 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act

The Scientific Committee, established by the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (the Act), has made a determination to amend the list of VULNERABLE SPECIES by inserting *Prostanthera sejuncta* M.L. Williams, Drinnan & N.G. Walsh in Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Act and, as a consequence, omitting reference to *Prostanthera spinosa* F. Muell. This amendment is the result of a change in the name of the species following taxonomic revision. This determination is made pursuant to Division 5 of Part 2 of the Act.

The Scientific Committee has found that:

1. *Prostanthera spinosa* F. Muell. (family Lamiaceae) was originally listed as a Vulnerable species under the Act in 2005. Individuals in New South Wales were recently recognised by Williams *et al.* (2006) as a separate species *P. sejuncta* M.L. Williams, Drinnan & N.G. Walsh. *Prostanthera spinosa* is restricted to South Australia and Victoria. This taxonomy is followed by APC (2016) and PlantNET (2016). Williams *et al.* (2006) also described two subspecies of *P. sejuncta* but these are not considered to be distinct by the APC (2016) or in PlantNET (2016).
2. *Prostanthera sejuncta* is described as “Scrambling, ± prostrate shrub, to 0.5 m high, aromatic; branches glabrous or hairy, at least at nodes, sparsely glandular, with regular decussate spines to 16 mm long. Leaves with lamina narrow-ovate, 1.5–6 mm long, 1–4 mm wide; apex obtuse; base acute to ± obtuse; margins entire and slightly recurved; surfaces light to dark green, lower surface paler, glabrous or with a few stiff spreading hairs below, moderately covered with ± sessile glands on lower surface; petiole 0.4–1 mm long. Flowers axillary; bracteoles persistent, 0.9–2.5 mm long. Calyx 3.5–6.5 mm long; tube 2–3 mm long; upper lobe 1.5–3 mm long, not enlarged in fruit. Corolla 8–14 mm long, pale mauve, very pale lilac to almost white. Anthers with appendage 0.7–2.1 mm long.” (PlantNET 2016).
3. *Prostanthera sejuncta* is known from a few populations within Fortis Creek National Park, Banyabba Nature Reserve and nearby private property in the North Coast bioregion (Williams *et al.* 2006).
4. The Scientific Committee is of the opinion that an amendment to the Schedule is necessary or desirable to reflect a change in the name of a species in Schedule 2 as a result of taxonomic revision.

Dr Mark Eldridge  
Chairperson  
Scientific Committee

Exhibition period: 05/08/16 – 30/09/16

Proposed Gazettal date: 05/08/16

### References:

APC (Australian Plant Census) National Species List APNI/APC. Council of Heads of Australasian Herbaria (CHAH). <https://biodiversity.org.au/nsl/services/apc> (accessed 27 May 2016).

PlantNET (The NSW Plant Information Network System) Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust, Sydney. <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au> (accessed 26 May 2016)

Williams DL, Drinnan AN, Walsh NG (2006) Variation within *Prostanthera spinosa* (Lamiaceae): evidence from morphological and molecular studies. *Australian Systematic Botany* **19**, 467–477.