

# Conservation Action Plan

## Archer's carex (*Carex archeri*)

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-E0-022, AIS-E0-023
Site location	An area of 146 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 Archer's carex	Archer's carex is an endangered plant found exclusively on national park estate. It is a loosely tufted herb that grows from long, slender underground stems which flower in summer. Its flower-stems are slender, smooth, and up to 25 centimetres long. This species occurs in damp alpine herbfields.

### 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	Damage to individual plants and/or degradation of Archer's carex habitat by introduced herbivores, such as deer and horses through grazing and trampling.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes to weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that increases the frequency and severity of drought conditions may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of Archer's carex at the sites. This risk is exacerbated by the small population size of Archer's carex.

## 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"> <li>• To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral deer to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the Archer's carex and maintain the density at or below that level by shooting and other approved integrated control measures.</li> <li>• To the extent practicable, reduce the density of feral horses to a level that is not having an ecologically significant impact on the Archer's carex by trapping, mustering and removal, and ground shooting, in accordance with a wild horse plan of management approved by the Secretary.</li> </ul>
All risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain ex-situ seedbank from a genetically representative sample of the population in partnership with a suitable seedbank facility.</li> <li>• If required, augment the existing population or establish a new population with ex-situ material.</li> </ul>

## 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 Archer's carex population	Population estimate	Design and implement monitoring every 3 years to generate an estimate of the number of individuals in the population.

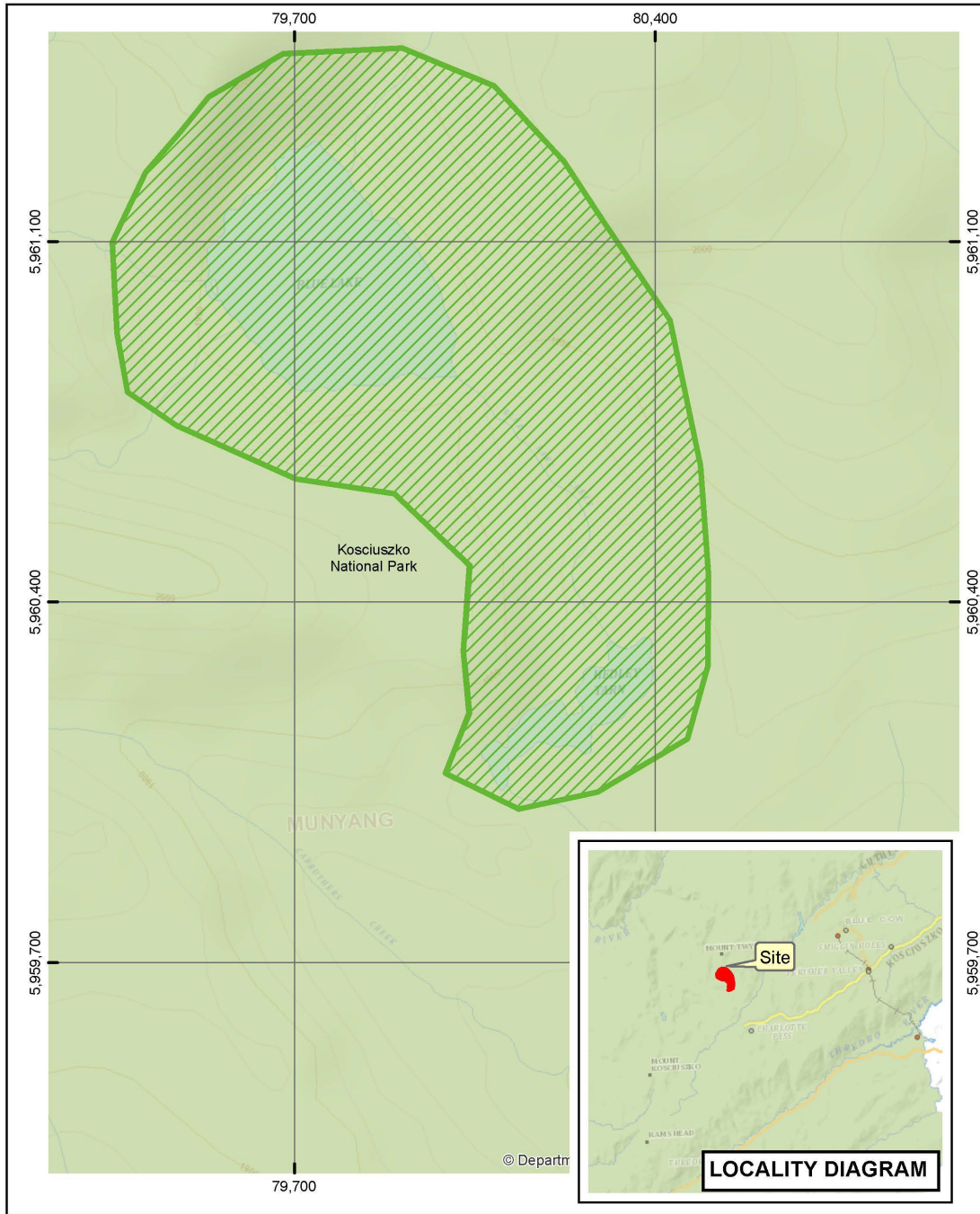
A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Planning and Environment website: [www.environment.nsw.gov.au](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au). The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition 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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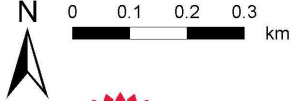
**Legend**



-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

**AIS-E0-022**  
**Asset of**  
**Intergenerational Significance**  
**Archer's carex (*Carex archeri*)**  
**Kosciuszko National Park**

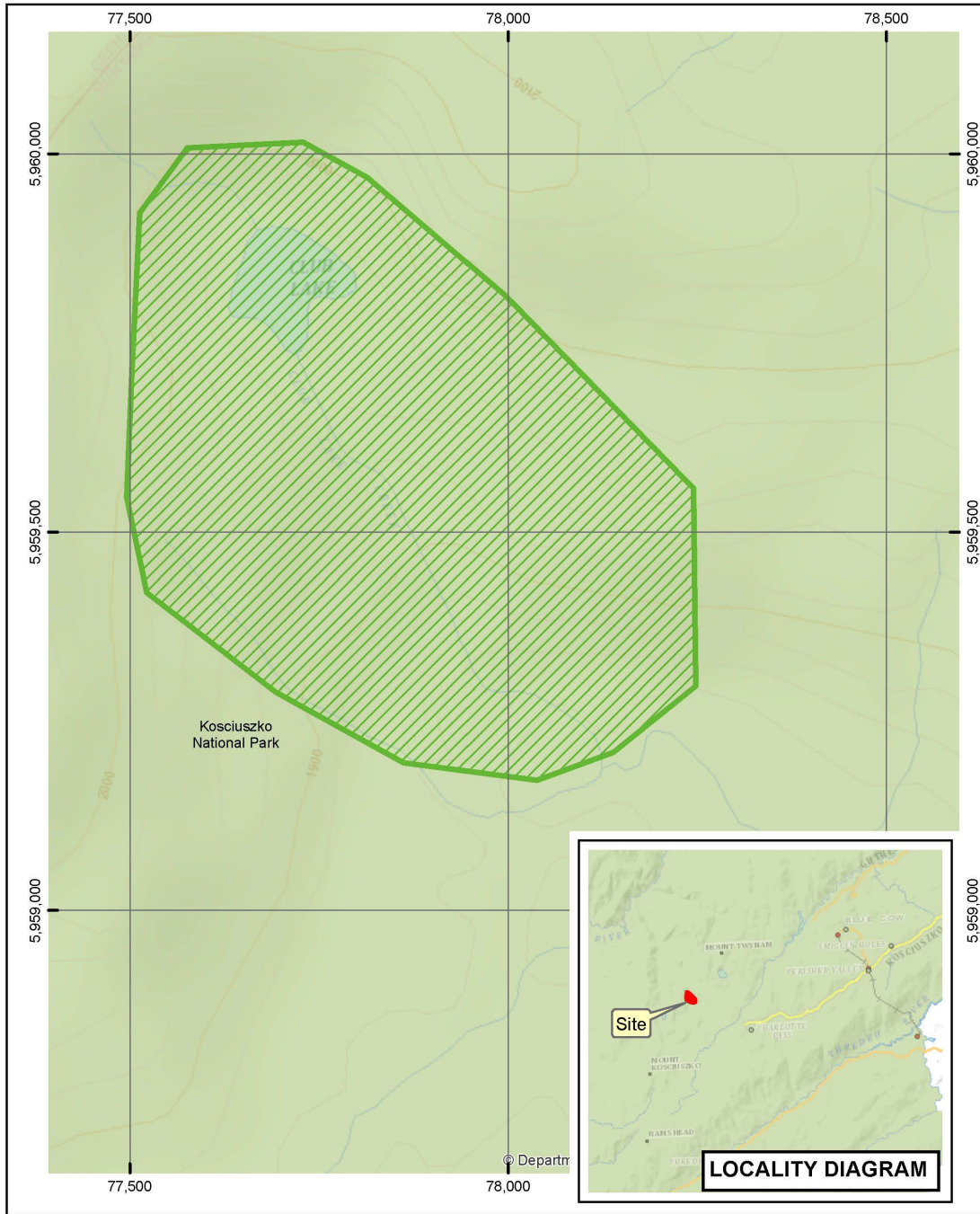
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**Legend**

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

**AIS-E0-023**  
**Asset of Intergenerational Significance**  
**Archer's carex (*Carex archeri*)**  
**Kosciuszko National Park**

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Date approved	June 2023
Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage Group
Due for review	June 2028

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