

Conservation Action Plan

Pultenaea sp. Olinda

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-104, AIS-ES-105, AIS-ES-141
Site location	An area of 3574 hectares in Wollemi National Park
NPWS contact	Manager, Mudgee 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 <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i>	<i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> is an erect to procumbent endangered shrub reaching a height of 0.5 metres to occasionally 2 metres tall. The plant has alternate needle-like leaves and bright yellow pea-like flowers with a red/brown keel that appears in spring. It occurs as a component of heath communities where it is confined to ledges and clefts associated with pagoda rock formations with or without a sparse <i>Eucalyptus</i> and/or <i>Callitris</i> canopy. The species is only found in a restricted distribution east of Rylstone with most known individuals occurring in Wollemi National Park.

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 regime	Inappropriate fire frequency and intensity that destroys soil stored seedbank, or limits germination and recruitment, may lead to a decline or extinction of <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> population at the sites.
Feral herbivores and pigs	Damage to individual plants, and degradation of <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> habitat by introduced herbivores, such as feral goats and deer, through grazing and trampling. Damage to individual plants, and degradation of habitat, by feral pigs through browsing, trampling, wallowing and rooting may lead to a decline of <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> at the sites.
Pathogens, diseases and microorganisms	Infection by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> resulting in mortality of individual plants.
Anthropogenic climate change	Changes to weather patterns and climatic conditions as a result of anthropogenic climate change that increases frequency and severity of drought conditions may exceed the adaptive capacity and reduce survivorship of <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> at the sites. This risk is exacerbated by the severely restricted distribution and very small population size of the species at the sites.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (e.g., roadside vegetation management) and visitor use (e.g., rogaining or orienteering events) that lead to degradation of habitat and damage to individuals by slashing and herbicide use and trampling of individual plants.

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 regime	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance on the appropriate fire management for the habitat of <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> within 12 months of 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.
Feral herbivores and pigs.	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, reduce feral goat, deer and pig densities to levels that are not having an ecologically significant impact on <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i>, and maintain densities at or below those levels, by trapping and shooting and other approved integrated control measures.
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 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 adoption of this plan and update as required. • Implement and update the hygiene management plan.
Disturbance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance or visitor use is having an adverse impact on <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i>. If adverse impacts are observed implement actions to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - upgrade/realignment of trails to avoid known plants/habitat - installation of signage or more discrete marking systems to delineate exclusion areas to prevent slashing or herbicide use near sites - installation of barriers or other suitable protective structures around plants to minimise impacts from visitor use. • Implement guidance for staff, utility managers, event organisers and contractors as required, about appropriate maintenance practices that minimise or prevent impacts to <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> population and habitat.
All risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain ex-situ seedbank from a genetically representative sample of the population. • If required, augment existing 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 <i>Pultenaea sp. Olinda</i> population	Population estimate	Design, and implement annually, monitoring to generate an estimate of the number of mature (viable) 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 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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Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage
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