

Conservation Action Plan

Summer leek orchid (*Prasophyllum canaliculatum*)

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-120
Site location	An area of 798 hectares in South East Forest National Park
NPWS contact	Team Leader Conservation, South Coast 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 Summer leek orchid	Summer leek orchid is a critically endangered plant. The orchid grows singly or in groups of two to four plants. The flowers can range from seven to nine millimetres wide and are a mix of red, green, and brown in colour. The summer leek orchid can mainly be found in grassy habitats such as the ground layer of woodlands or kangaroo grass dominated grassland. Plants can be difficult to locate outside the flowering season as its leaves blend with the grasses in its habitat. This species may lie dormant for several years if conditions are not right for it to emerge. The plant only occurs in small, scattered groups in two swamps in South East Forest 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
Weeds	Habitat degradation and competition through invasion, establishment, intensification and spread of weeds to the extent that recruitment or establishment of plants is impaired.
Feral herbivores and pigs	Damage to individual plants, and degradation of habitat, by feral pigs and deer, through browsing, trampling, wallowing and rooting may lead to a decline of Summer leek orchid at the site.
Disturbance	Visitors use that leads to degradation of habitat and damage to individual plants by unauthorised vehicle access. This risk is exacerbated by the Summer leek orchid's restricted distribution and small population size.

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
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 Summer leek orchid, by targeted application of physical and chemical weed control.
Feral herbivores and pigs	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To the extent practicable, reduce feral pig and deer densities to levels that are not having an ecologically significant impact on the Summer leek orchid, and maintain densities at or below these levels, by trapping, baiting and shooting.
Disturbance	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether visitor use is having an adverse impact on the summer leek orchid. If adverse impacts are observed, delineate sites by signs, threatened species marker posts or barriers and install structures around juvenile plants to minimise impacts of visitor use.

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 Summer leek orchid population	Population count	Design, and implement annually, monitoring to count the number of Summer leek orchid plants 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 asset (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)).

Date prepared	July 2022
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Approved by	Atticus Fleming, Acting Coordinator General, Environment and Heritage
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