

## Saving our Species 2017-2018 annual report card

### Thick Lip Spider Orchid

#### Species attributes

<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Caladenia tessellata</i>
<b>NSW status</b>	Endangered
<b>Commonwealth status</b>	Vulnerable
<b>Management stream</b>	Site-managed species



Photographer: Alan Stephenson

#### Overall status\*

- Populations at all sites are known to be on track.**
- Threat management is known to be on track at all sites, and population status is unknown at one or more sites.
- Threat management is known to be off track at one or more sites, and population status is unknown at one or more sites.
- Populations at one or more sites are known to be off track.

\* For SoS priority management sites (may not include all locations where the species occurs in NSW)

#### Summary

<b>Management sites</b>	Braidwood area; Morton National Park
<b>Action implementation</b>	3 of 3 management actions were fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
<b>Total expenditure</b>	\$8,261 (\$2,714 cash; \$5,547 in-kind)
<b>Partners</b>	Australian Orchid Council; NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage; participating landholders; Sassafras Conservation Area

## Management site 1: Braidwood area

<b>Local Government Area</b>	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional
<b>Estimated species population size</b>	10 orchids. Maximum of 20 orchid
<b>Partners</b>	NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage; participating landholders; Sassafras Conservation Area

### Population status

<b>On track</b>	On track (inferred)	Not on track (inferred)	Not on track	Not determined
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### Monitoring

<b>Long term target</b>	Maintain the population at or above the known maximum number of individuals (20 plants).
<b>Annual target</b>	Observe a population of seven or more individuals (leaves and / or flowering stems)
<b>Monitoring metric</b>	Species abundance
<b>Monitoring result</b>	10 individual orchids (leaves only) were observed.
<b>Confidence in monitoring</b>	High
<b>Conducted by</b>	Office of Environment and Heritage; Sassafras Conservation Area

### Investment

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-kind</b>
NSW Environmental Trust	\$1,254	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$800
Sassafras Conservation Area	\$0	\$1,000

## Management actions

The following actions (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in financial year 2017-2018 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Browsing by macropods.	Maintain the integrity of the installed fence, to prevent browser access.	Yes
One site occurs on private land and whilst the current owners are very active in monitoring and protecting the species, there is a risk that future land owners may be less sympathetic to its protection.	Maintain liaison role and address any requests from the landowner regarding the Conservation Agreement's implementation.	Yes

## Threat status

The following critical threats were monitored at this site during financial year 2017-2018.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
At risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low number of plants.	Sufficient seed is stored at Mount Annan Botanic Gardens to meet their specifications, including seed for future potential augmentation / translocation.	On track	High
Browsing by macropods.	No evidence of (mammalian) browsing.	On track	High
One site occurs on private land and whilst the current owners are very active in monitoring and protecting the species, there is a risk that future land owners may be less sympathetic to its protection.	Consult with landholder on one or more occasions.	On track	High

## Site summary

10 individual orchids (leaves only) were observed by the private landowners during the annual monitoring. Dry climatic conditions likely heavily influenced the lack of stems and flowers this season. No evidence of mammalian browsing was reported.

## Management site 2: Morton National Park

<b>Local Government Area</b>	Shoalhaven
<b>Estimated species population size</b>	66 individuals (from the past two seasons)
<b>Partners</b>	Australian Orchid Council; NSW Environmental Trust; Office of Environment and Heritage

### Population status

<b>On track</b>	On track (inferred)	Not on track (inferred)	Not on track	Not determined
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### Monitoring

<b>Long term target</b>	Maintain the population at or above the known maximum number of individuals (96 plants).
<b>Annual target</b>	Locate 27 individuals, based on 80% of the baseline number from the preceding year.
<b>Monitoring metric</b>	Species abundance
<b>Monitoring result</b>	56 individuals were found (four with flowers and 52 with leaves only)
<b>Confidence in monitoring</b>	High
<b>Conducted by</b>	Australian Orchid Council; Office of Environment and Heritage

### Investment

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-kind</b>
Australian Orchid Council	\$0	\$1,050
NSW Environmental Trust	\$1,460	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$2,697

## Management actions

The following action is identified as being required in financial year 2017-2018 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
At risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low number of plants.	Monitor and collect additional seed capsule (s) for inclusion in the Mount Annan Botanic Gardens existing seedbank.	Partial implementation - dependent on other component

## Threat status

The following critical threats were monitored at this site during financial year 2017-2018.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
At risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low number of plants.	Sufficient seed is stored at Mount Annan Botanic Gardens to meet their specifications, including seed for future potential augmentation / translocation.	On track	High
Possibly threatened by long-term absence of fire.	Investigate the impact of fire by surveying for orchids (as per the species monitoring action), and survey the vegetation. This is the second vegetation survey post-ecological burn.	On track	High

## Site summary

Two site visits were undertaken to survey when detection is most likely. 56 individuals were found (four with flowers and 52 with leaves only). 10 other individuals from last season were not observed. The four flowers observed were small and of poor quality, and not expected to produce seed capsules containing viable seed. The second (annual) vegetation survey post-fire was conducted by a consultant, identifying species and cover abundance. Additional species (lower stratum) were identified in the burn plots (six to 10 new species) and control plots (one to three new species). There were minimal changes to cover abundance scores, likely influenced by the dry climatic conditions.