



## SAVING OUR SPECIES

# North Rothbury Persoonia

2019-2020 annual report card

### 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>	North Rothbury; Persoonia pauciflora Translocation site
<b>Action implementation</b>	2 (of 2) management actions were fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
<b>Total expenditure</b>	\$25,065 (\$13,400 cash; \$11,665 in-kind)
<b>Partners</b>	Environment, Energy and Science; Huntlee Pty Ltd



**Scientific name:**  
*Persoonia pauciflora*

**NSW status:**  
Critically Endangered

**Commonwealth status:**  
Critically Endangered

**Management stream:**  
Site-managed species





Photo: Nathan Emery

# Priority management site: North Rothbury

**Local government area:**  
Cessnock

**Partners:**  
Environment, Energy and Science; Huntlee Pty Ltd

## Population outcome

-  On track
-  On track (inferred)
-  **Not on track (inferred)**
-  Not on track

The species population is inferred to be off track based on threat management being off track. The population trend is unknown at this time.

## Monitoring

*Species population monitoring by one or more methods indicates response to management over time and provides an outcome measure.*

Species population monitoring was not conducted at this site this financial year - funding issues.

## Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$0	\$6,665
Huntlee Pty Ltd	\$11,000	\$0

## Management actions

*The following actions are those identified as being required in financial year 2019-2020 to secure the species in the wild.*

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Slashing and grazing management causing general habitat degradation.	Liaise with at least one landholder about entering into a voluntary management agreement.	Yes

## Threat outcome

Assessment on the status of critical threats at this site.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status
Habitat loss and fragmentation due to clearing for agriculture and residential development.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Roadside management.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Slashing and grazing management causing general habitat degradation.	Formalise at least one voluntary management agreement.	Not on track
Competition from increasing weed densities and further invasion.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Slashing and grazing management causing general habitat degradation.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Habitat loss and fragmentation due to clearing for agriculture and residential development.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
The species is susceptible to extinction via stochastic processes due to its restricted distribution/area of occupancy.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed

## Site summary

An accredited assessor was engaged to examine the suitability of a 17 ha property to be conserved under a Biodiversity Stewardship Agreement (BSA). This property supports several *Persoonia pauciflora* and is strategically important as a wildlife corridor. Despite its high conservation value, the results of the assessment found that the management costs that are required to be paid under a BSA were effectively equal to the likely sale price of biodiversity credits generated from the property. This means that the landowner would see minimal financial benefits from conserving the property under a BSA. Consequently, the landowner decided not to formally conserve the site.

# Priority management site: *Persoonia pauciflora* Translocation site

<p><b>Local government area:</b> Not specified</p> <p><b>Partners:</b> Environment, Energy and Science; Huntlee Pty Ltd</p>	<p><b>Population outcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green; font-size: 1.2em; margin-right: 5px;">●</span> <b>On track</b></li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen; font-size: 1.2em; margin-right: 5px;">●</span> On track (inferred)</li> <li><span style="color: orange; font-size: 1.2em; margin-right: 5px;">●</span> Not on track (inferred)</li> <li><span style="color: red; font-size: 1.2em; margin-right: 5px;">●</span> Not on track</li> </ul>
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## Monitoring

*Species population monitoring by one or more methods indicates response to management over time and provides an outcome measure.*

<b>Monitoring metric</b>	Reproductive success/recruitment
<b>Annual target</b>	A minimum of 369 translocated individuals are alive.
<b>Long term target</b>	At least 50% of all translocated individuals survive for at least five years. Viable seed production is observed in 30% of surviving plants after three years of establishment.
<b>Monitoring result</b>	A total of 558 of the original planted 792 plants have survived, representing a 74% survival rate.
<b>Scientific rigour of monitoring method</b>	High
<b>Conducted by</b>	Environment, Energy and Science

## Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$0	\$5,000
Huntlee Pty Ltd	\$2,400	\$0

## Management actions

*The following actions are those identified as being required in financial year 2019-2020 to secure the species in the wild.*

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
The species is susceptible to extinction via stochastic processes due to its restricted distribution/area of occupancy.	The reproductive status of all 792 translocated individuals are individually monitored.	Yes

## Threat outcome

Assessment on the status of critical threats at this site.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status
The species is susceptible to extinction via stochastic processes due to its restricted distribution/area of occupancy.	Seed production is evident in a minimum of 200 plants.	On track

## Site summary

A *Persoonia pauciflora* translocation program commenced in 2015, with additional plantings occurring in 2016, 2017 and 2018. Over this period a total of 792 plants were introduced into the wild, most of which were planted with the help of volunteers from the North Rothbury community.

The 2019-20 monitoring of the translocated plants commenced in June 2020, with approximately half of the plants monitored at that time. The monitoring was completed in September 2020 and the results of all monitored plants have been reported. Monitoring shows the results of a successful translocation. Despite the drought, 74% of planted *Persoonia pauciflora* have survived. Two watering events were undertaken to assist the plants through the worst of the drought. Seed production was recorded and the translocated plants are likely to contribute to the ongoing expansion of this species into new areas of suitable habitat.

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Saving our Species 2019-2020 annual report card for North Rothbury *Persoonia* (*Persoonia pauciflora*). For more information refer to the specific strategy in the Saving our Species program.