



SAVING OUR SPECIES

Alpine She-oak Skink

2019-2020 annual report card

Summary

Action implementation	1 (of 1) research action was fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
Total expenditure	\$33,039 (\$0 cash; \$33,039 in-kind)
Partners	Australian National University; Environment, Energy and Science



Scientific name:
Cyclodomorphus praealtus

NSW status:
Endangered

Commonwealth status:
Endangered

Management stream:
Data-deficient species

Photo: David Hunter

Research project 1 summary

Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Australian National University	\$0	\$30,000
Environment, Energy and Science	\$0	\$3,039

Research actions

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

Threat	Research action	Implemented as planned?
Lack of knowledge of the distribution and habitat requirements of the species.	Assist PhD surveys to gain greater knowledge of the species' biology, habitat requirements and population distribution and abundance across known and likely occurrence areas.	Yes

Project Description

This project aims to increase information on the distribution and ecology of the alpine she-oak skink in Kosciuszko National Park. A PhD project is currently being undertaken on this species with in-kind support from NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service. A total of 30% of the known habitat for the alpine she-oak skink was directly impacted by the 2019-20 bushfire event. Due to 2019-20 bushfires only 102 of the 116 sites were surveyed, 49 sites were impacted by fire. Animals were still detected at some fire impacted sites.

Outcomes or major success

The second year of a PhD project, funded by the Australian National University and being undertaken by Renee Hartley, has been completed. Survey work included herbivore impacts at monitoring sites, vegetation data to refine detectability for occupancy modelling and invertebrate collections. Diet analysis was also completed for the species. Genetic analysis is underway to provide information on variability amongst the species population.

Recommendation

Ongoing monitoring for this species to understand its occurrence post-fire, life history and broader distribution. An application will be prepared to move this species to the site-managed management stream in 2020-21.

Saving our Species 2019-2020 annual report card for Alpine She-oak Skink (*Cyclodomorphus praealtus*). For more information refer to the specific strategy in the Saving our Species program.