



SAVING OUR SPECIES

Prostanthera gilesii

2020-2021 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

Management sites	Mount Canobolas State Conservation Area
Action implementation	3 (of 3) management actions were fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
Total expenditure	\$16,550 (\$10,000 cash; \$6,550 in-kind)
Partners	Environment, Energy and Science; Saving our Species volunteers



Scientific name:
Prostanthera gilesii

NSW status:
Critically Endangered

Commonwealth status:
Not listed

Management stream:
Site-managed species

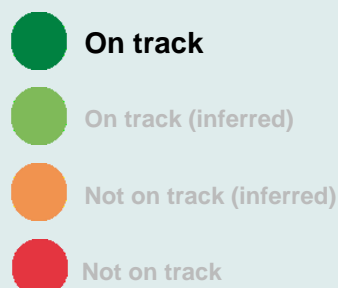
Photo: Terry Mazzer

Priority management site: Mount Canobolas State Conservation Area

Local government area:
Cabonne

Partners:
Environment, Energy and Science; Saving our Species volunteers

Population outcome



Monitoring

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

Monitoring metric	Ramet/Genet count
Annual target	Maintain the ramet numbers to be greater than 100.
Long term target	Maintain or improve species abundance/condition over time.
Monitoring result	Three monitoring surveys were undertaken. Numbers of plants have fluctuated between 126 and 105 over the year. Fluctuations are caused by plant death, finding of new plants and difficulty distinguishing between plants which are close together and overlapping.
Scientific rigour of monitoring method	Moderate
Conducted by	Environment, Energy and Science

Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$10,000	\$6,200
Saving our Species volunteers	\$0	\$350

Management actions

The following actions are those identified as being required in financial year 2020-2021 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Destruction of plants and habitat by feral pigs	Install 3-5 camera traps focused on the plants, to detect and monitor pig activity to guide intensity of control effort.	Yes
Encroachment of exotic weeds, especially blackberry, into habitat where the species occurs.	Eight days of Blackberry spraying by contractor.	Yes
Infection of native plants by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	Action not required this year.	Yes

Threat outcome

Assessment on the status of critical threats at this site.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status
Encroachment of exotic weeds, especially blackberry, into habitat where the species occurs.	Blackberry is present in less than 30% of monitoring quadrats.	Not assessed
Infection of native plants by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Destruction of plants and habitat by feral pigs	No evidence of feral pig damage at the site.	On track
Inappropriate fire regimes, especially high frequency fire.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed
Risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low species abundance.	Maintain or reduce level of threat.	Not assessed

Site summary

The year 2020—21 was a consolidating year for *Prostanthera gilesii* after the fire in 2018 and dry years in 2018—2019. Resprouted plants continued to grow and at the main/larger site the population is now 105 plants (ramets). Many of these plants have joined together into a tangled clump where it is not possible to separate individuals. Future monitoring will need to change to accommodate this. The two plants at the second, smaller site are little changed.

The major change at the larger site was the use of methods of manual control of blackberry within the site and foliar spraying of blackberry around the site to provide a buffer. Monitoring of blackberry was not undertaken in 2020—21 as control was being conducted when monitoring would have occurred. It is expected that monitoring of blackberry in 2021—22 will show a lessening of the threat due to the control conducted.

Saving our Species 2020-2021 annual report card for *Prostanthera gilesii*. For more information refer to the specific strategy in the Saving our Species program.