

# Saving our Species project 2015-2016 annual report card Brush Sophora

#### Species attributes

Scientific name:	Sophora fraseri
NSW status:	Vulnerable
Commonwealth status:	Vulnerable
Management stream:	Site-managed



Photographer: Greg Steenbeeke

#### Overall project status\*



Populations at all sites are on target



Populations at one or more sites were not monitored this year, but threat management is on target. Populations at remaining sites are on target.



Populations at one or more sites were not monitored this year, but threat management is not on target. Populations at remaining sites are on target.



Populations at one or more sites are not on target.

## Project summary

Priority management sites:	Bungabee; Cougal; Ettrick; Richmond Range; Toonumbar
Action implementation:	18 of 20 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$26,116 (\$11,616 cash; \$14,500 in-kind)
Project partners:	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust; Participating landholders



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

# Management site 1: Ettrick

LGA: Kyogle

Project partners: Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust;

Participating landholders

Estimated species population size: 281

#### Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

**Baseline** 

Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Species abundance	Established known extent of site and baseline population 281	Moderate	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

## Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
NSW Environmental Trust	\$3,520	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$1,840
Participating landholders	\$0	\$1,400

## Management actions

The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Loss of individuals from road/track works or maintenance	Prior to slashing or road works flag all individuals to avoid impacts.	Partial implementation (Survey identified and recorded all Brush Sophora however no road works were planned)
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Physical and chemical control of weeds.	Yes

#### Threat status

This table includes critical threats that were monitored at this site, this financial year.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Identify and assess the weeds impacting populations at two sample sites (BS4 and BS8).	Baseline	Moderate
Loss of habitat through clearing for agriculture.	Objective was to assess habitat in terms of any threats from agricultural land use and specifically clearing.	On target	Moderate

## Site summary

Population monitoring completed with total of 281 including seedlings. Threat monitoring completed and primary weed control undertaken over 1.2 hectares.

# Management site 2: Bungabee

LGA: Lismore

Project partners: Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

Estimated species population size: Not assessed

#### Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

Baseline

Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Species abundance	Not available 2015/16	N/A	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

#### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
N/A	\$0	\$0

## Site summary

A review of Bungabee Wildlife Atlas records and past survey was undertaken. Priority for survey, monitoring and weed control was given to the other four Brush Sophora management sites for 2015-16.

# Management site 3: Richmond Range

LGA: Kyogle

Project partners: Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust

Estimated species population size: 28

#### Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

Baseline

Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Species abundance	Baseline population of 28 (12 at Cambridge BS6; 16 at BS7).	High	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

#### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
NSW Environmental Trust	\$1,056	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$3,200

#### Management actions

The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Inappropriate fire regimes: regeneration from seed is stimulated by fire, but plants may be killed by fire before producing seed.	Keep species records and known/predicted fire regime requirements up to date and concur in all appropriate databases. Liaise with relevant agency to incorporate species requirements into the Flora Fire Response Database and Reserve Fire Management Strategy.	Yes
Loss of individuals from road/track works or maintenance	Install green posts to indicate the location of sensitive threatened species at all known sites. Increase staff (and contractor) awareness of the location and importance of sites to reduce impacts of slashing and track maintenance.	Yes
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Physical and chemical control of weeds. Splatter gun and foliar spray to control Lantana.	Yes

#### Threat status

This table includes critical threats that were monitored at this site, this financial year.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Establish baseline weed data at the two Richmond Range populations (BS6 & BS7) including species, density and percentage cover and set up initial photo-points.	On target	Moderate
Loss of individuals from road/track works or maintenance	Objective is no loss or damage to individuals from road works or traffic at Cambridge and Culmaran. Site and species monitoring will provide a baseline to measure.	Baseline	Moderate

## Site summary

Richmond Range management site comprises two small populations of Brush Sophora totalling 28 plants.

# Management site 4: Toonumbar

LGA: Kyogle

Project partners: Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust;

Participating landholders

Estimated species population size: 254

#### Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

**Baseline** 

Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Species abundance	Baseline population for Toonumbar Management Site	High	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

#### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
NSW Environmental Trust	\$4,224	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$2,480
Participating landholders	\$0	\$2,800

## Management actions

The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Inappropriate fire regimes: regeneration from seed is stimulated by fire, but plants may be killed by fire before producing seed.	Keep species records and known/predicted fire regime requirements up to date and concur in all appropriate databases. Liaise with relevant agency to incorporate species requirements into the Flora Fire Response Database and Reserve Fire Management Strategy.	Yes
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Physical and chemical control of weeds; splatter gun and foliar spray. Encompasses Biodiversity Priorities for Widespread Weeds site 1659 (Eastern Toonumbar National Park).	Yes

#### Threat status

This table includes critical threats that were monitored at this site, this financial year.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Provide baseline information on weed threat at three population sub-sites (BS1, BS2 & BS3).	Baseline	Moderate

## Site summary

Toonumbar management site includes five populations of Brush Sophora totalling at least 254 individuals over 2.4 hectares.

# Management site 5: Cougal

LGA: Kyogle

Project partners: Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust;

Participating landholders

Estimated species population size: 135

#### Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

**Baseline** 

Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Species abundance	Initial count is 135.	Moderate	Bushland Restoration Services; Office of Environment and Heritage

#### Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
NSW Environmental Trust	\$2,816	\$0
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$2,080
Participating landholders	\$0	\$700

#### Management actions

The project actions below (including research and survey actions) are those identified as being required in 2015-16 to secure the species in the wild.

Threat	Management action	Implemented as planned?
Weed infestation, especially by Lantana.	Physical and chemical control of weeds. Splatter gun and foliar spray to control Lantana and other weeds.	Yes

#### Threat status

This table includes critical threats that were monitored at this site, this financial year.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status	Confidence in monitoring
Loss of habitat through clearing for agriculture.	Locate the extent of the population and establish baseline condition of habitat in relation to land use.	On target	Moderate

Site summary
This management site represents the second largest population of Brush Sophora with 135 individuals over almost 2 hectares. Although located on two adjoining private properties, the primary land management is conservation.