

Saving our Species project 2015-2016 annual report card

Smoky Mouse

Species attributes

Scientific name:	<i>Pseudomys fumeus</i>
NSW status:	Critically endangered
Commonwealth status:	Endangered
Management stream:	Site-managed



Photographer: Jackie Miles and Linda Broome

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.

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

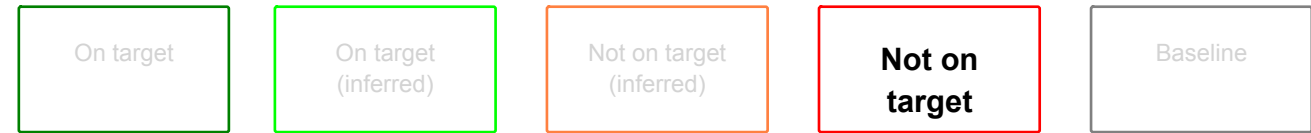
Project summary

Priority management sites:	Nullica; Priam Breeding Facility; SE NSW
Action implementation:	8 of 8 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$90,507 (\$34,600 cash; \$55,907 in-kind)
Project partners:	Commonwealth Department of the Environment; Forestry Corporation of NSW; Office of Environment and Heritage

Management site 1: Nullica

LGA: Bega Valley
Project partners: Forestry Corporation of NSW; Office of Environment and Heritage
Estimated species population size: Small

Population status



Long term target	Annual target	Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Detect species presence at 15 of 30 monitoring sites, continuously year-on-year, within 20 years.	Smoky Mouse presence detected on at least 4 sites in National Park and 4 sites in State Forest estate.	Activity index	Smoky Mouse presence detected on 4 sites in State Forest (logged = site1; unlogged = sites 4, 11, 13) and no sites in National Park.	Moderate	Office of Environment and Heritage

Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$21,100	\$42,656
Forestry Corporation of NSW	\$500	\$13,251

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?
Dieback caused by Cinnamon fungus (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) - many of the healthy plants in the habitat are highly susceptible.	Survey sample plots where there are indications of disease; test soil for presence of <i>Phytophthora</i> , to ensure infection does not enter uninfected areas.	Yes
Dieback caused by Cinnamon fungus (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) - many of the healthy plants in the habitat are highly susceptible.	Implement hygiene protocols for vehicles and walkers entering the areas; State Forest and Office of Environment and Heritage staff predominantly.	Yes
Predation by foxes.	Implement Fox Threat Abatement Plan - South East Forests site.	Yes
Predation from feral cats.	Trap cats using soft-catch traps especially in and around known locations of high-density.	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
Predation from feral cats.	Fox numbers remain low, cat presence identified to enable trapper to target locations where cats are present.	On target	Moderate
Too frequent burning, such as 4-7 years for hazard reduction burning, is likely to be deleterious to the shrub and hypogeal fungi resource.	Monitor vegetation condition at seven established sites in State Forest and one site in National Park. Establish monitoring on Site 11 (6 plots).	On target	High

Site summary

Smoky Mice detected at 4 of 15 State Forest sites in September 2015, none at 15 National Park sites. Fourteen cats and 4 foxes were trapped August-September 2015 and May-June 2016. Sandpad monitoring indicated low fox and dog numbers, but cat numbers remain high. A detector dog was trained and is assisting with locating feral cats. Dieback of habitat from *Phytophthora* infestation is continuing.

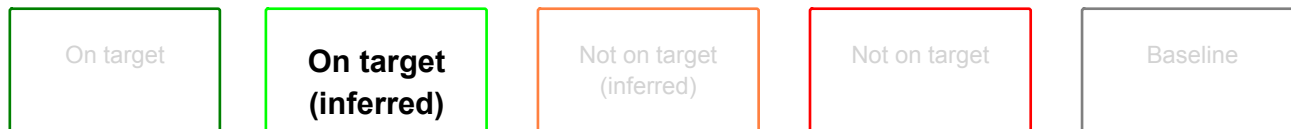
Management site 2: SE NSW

LGA: Bega Valley; Cooma-Monaro; Eurobodalla

Project partners: Commonwealth Department of the Environment; Office of Environment and Heritage

Estimated species population size: Undetermined

Population status



Species population monitoring was not conducted at this site this financial year (not required annually). The species population is inferred to be on target based on threat management being on target.

Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Commonwealth Department of the Environment	\$13,000	\$0

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?
Uncertainty about the species' density and distribution throughout the area.	Survey to establish extent of high quality habitat and map, primarily target Kosciuszko, Brindabella and Wadbilliga National Parks.	Yes

Site summary

This site has yet to be surveyed, as it is very remote, steep and difficult to access and survey efficiently with remote cameras. A detector dog (Maggie) has been purchased and is in training to assist with surveys to locate nesting burrows of Smoky Mice.

Management site 3: Priam Breeding Facility

LGA: Palerang

Project partners: None.

Estimated species population size: 6 founders

No actions were implemented at this site for this financial year.

Site summary

Not entered