

Saving our Species project 2015-2016 annual report card Thick Lip Spider Orchid

Species attributes

Scientific name:	Caladenia tessellata
NSW status:	Endangered
Commonwealth status:	Vulnerable
Management stream:	Site-managed



Photographer: Colin Totterdell

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.



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Populations at one or more sites are not on target.

Project summary

Priority management sites:	Braidwood area; Morton National Park
Action implementation:	7 of 7 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$52,883 (\$6,966 cash; \$45,917 in-kind)
Project partners:	Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan; Australian Orchid Council; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust; Participating landholders



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

Management site 1: Braidwood area

LGA: Palerang

Project partners: Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan; NSW Environmental Trust; Participating landholders; Office

of Environment and Heritage

Estimated species population size: 10 plants (7 flowering)

Population status

On target

On target (inferred)

Not on target (inferred)

Not on target

Baseline

Long term target	Annual target	Index	Monitoring result	Confidence in monitoring	Conducted by
Maintain population at or above 90% of maximum recorded (20) individuals averaged over a three year period.	Observed population size of at least 6 individuals.	Species abundance	10 plants were observed, 7 of which were flowering; 3 year rolling average of 8 individuals.	High	Participating landholders

Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$3,014
Participating landholders	\$0	\$32,500
Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan	\$0	\$2,300
NSW Environmental Trust	\$6,794	\$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?
At risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low number of plants.	Engage Mount Annan Botanic Gardens to collect seed and store appropriately at low temperature for potential use in translocation project should the wild population be lost or severely depleted.	Yes
Browsing by macropods.	Install and maintain a macropod-proof fence around the area where the species occurs. The fence should also exclude feral pigs.	Yes
One site occurs on private land and whilst the current owners are very active in monitoring and protecting the species, there is a risk that future land owners may be less sympathetic to its protection.	Negotiate with landowner for long term protection of the site.	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
Browsing by macropods.	Exclude native pest browsing by installation of fencing.	On target	Moderate

Site summary

Annual monitoring undertaken. Seed capsules collected and successfully seedbanked at Mount Annan Botanic Gardens. Permanent fencing erected to protect against browsers and soil disturbance impacts. A Conservation Agreement is almost finalised for the site.

Management site 2: Morton National Park

LGA: Shoalhaven

Project partners: Australian Orchid Council; Office of Environment and Heritage; NSW Environmental Trust

Estimated species population size: 0

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	No orchids were observed.	High	Australian Orchid Council; Office of Environment and Heritage

Investment

Project participant	Cash	In-kind
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0	\$7,053
Australian Orchid Council	\$0	\$1,050
NSW Environmental Trust	\$172	\$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?
Possibly threatened by long-term absence of fire.	Keep species records and known/predicted fire regime requirements updated in all relevant databases, Fire Management Strategies and Bushfire Risk Management Plans. Relevant species impact assessments must be undertaken prior to any planned burns.	Yes

Site summary

Annual survey undertaken - no orchids observed. Ecological burn undertaken in April 2015.