# Saving our Species project 2015-2016 annual report card
# Hygrocybe austropratensis

## Species attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| Scientific name: | *Hygrocybe austropratensis* |
| NSW status: | Endangered |
| Commonwealth status: | N/A |
| Management stream: | Site-managed |

Photographer: Ray & Elma Kearney

## 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.

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

## Project summary

| | |
|---|---|
| Priority management sites: | Lane Cove Bushland Park; Mount Wilson |
| 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: | $12,310 ($11,473 cash; $837 in-kind) |
| Project partners: | Ausgrid; Lane Cove Municipal Council; Office of Environment and Heritage; Sydney Water; University of New South Wales |

## Management site 1: Lane Cove Bushland Park

LGA: Lane Cove

Project partners: Ausgrid; Lane Cove Municipal Council; Office of Environment and Heritage; Sydney Water; University of New South Wales

Estimated species population size: Unknown

### Population status

| On target | **On target (inferred)** | Not on target (inferred) | Not on target | Baseline |
|---|---|---|---|---|

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 |
|---|---|---|
| Lane Cove Municipal Council | $7,733 | $597 |
| Office of Environment and Heritage | $3,740 | $107 |
| University of New South Wales | $0 | $134 |

## 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? |
|---|---|---|
| Damage and loss of habitat due to encroachment of access tracks into unstable and sensitive areas. | Implement fungi protection works including track repairs, boardwalk and improved track drainage. | Yes |
| Damage and loss of habitat due to weed encroachment and inappropriate bush regeneration measures that disturb the forest canopy and native understorey plants. | Ongoing weed control in accordance with Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) best practice guidelines. | Yes |
| Damage or loss due to changes in water quality and volume, particularly industrial pollutants and domestic contaminants. | Liaise with Sydney Water to have systematic assessment of status of pipes/pop-tops in close proximity to sites with species. Repair/replace pipes where sewage is leaching into habitat and monitor and maintain pipes/pop-tops. | Yes |
| Damage or loss due to changes in water quality and volume, particularly industrial pollutants and domestic contaminants. | Design and implement a stormwater improvement program for Bushland Park to minimise impacts to fungi habitat. Includes seeking advice on the most appropriate approach to manage stormwater (flow, quality, direction). | Yes |
| Lack of understanding of habitat requirements, ecological processes and associations between fungi, their habitat and other species. | Improve knowledge of fungi micro-habitats including measuring fungi habitat attributes, evaluating fungi habitat condition, mapping and modelling fungi habitat, and monitoring species and threatened ecological community trends over time using fungi habitat condition as a surrogate measure. | 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Damage or loss due to changes in water quality and volume, particularly industrial pollutants and domestic contaminants. | Add specific water quality testing for total recoverable hydrocarbons & polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons to Council's existing water quality monitoring which is undertaken quarterly and after two wet weather events. | Baseline | Low |
| Damage and loss of habitat due to encroachment of access tracks into unstable and sensitive areas. | Reporting of new disturbances to fungi habitat as they arise with response as required and appropriate. | On target | Low |
| Damage and loss of habitat due to weed encroachment and inappropriate bush regeneration measures that disturb the forest canopy and native understorey plants. | Maintain 9ha site with 85% of site with less than 20% weed cover. | On target | Moderate |

## Site summary

Liaison with Sydney Water has enabled the securing of lids to pop-tops and address sewage overflows after wet weather events. A grant was secured with the OEH Estuary Management Program to undertake study on how to improve water quality within Gore Creek incorporating water quality monitoring results. Liaison with Ausgrid has developed a management agreement for works within power-line easement and sensitive fungi habitat. Commencement of a project with University of New South Wales to investigate fungi micro-habitat characteristics to enable mapping of habitat. Continued weed control with weeds maintained at low levels. Successful completion of track upgrade works to maintain access control within Reserve and protect fungi habitat.

## Management site 2: Mount Wilson

LGA: Blue Mountains

Project partners: None.

Estimated species population size: Unknown

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

### Site summary

Commencement of actions at the Mount Wilson multi species fungi site were purposely delayed until Lane Cove Bushland priority site was underway, progressing smoothly and building on existing Council weed control and site protection programs. Threats at Mount Wilson are potentially not as complex and significant as those occurring at Lane Cove Bushland Park, which is surrounded by residential and commercial industries. The current status of the Mount Wilson population is unknown.  2016/17 will see the commencement of actions for this site, including the expansion of the fungi micro-habitat assessment and mapping project to incorporate this site to inform future habitat management and monitoring.