



SAVING OUR SPECIES

Seaforth Mintbush

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	Manly Dam; Translocation site
Action implementation	5 (of 5) management actions were fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
Total expenditure	\$29,925 (\$11,000 cash; \$18,925 in-kind)
Partners	Environment, Energy and Science; Northern Beaches Council; Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust (RBGDT) - Plant Sciences; The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan



Scientific name:
Prostanthera marifolia

NSW status:
Critically Endangered

Commonwealth status:
Critically Endangered

Management stream:
Site-managed species

Photo: Gavin Phillips





Priority management site: Manly Dam

Local government area:
Northern Beaches

Partners:

Environment, Energy and Science; Northern Beaches Council; Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust (RBGDT) - Plant Sciences; The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan

Population outcome

-  **On track**
-  **On track (inferred)**
-  **Not on track (inferred)**
-  **Not on track**

Monitoring

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

Monitoring metric	Species abundance
Annual target	More than 70 plants.
Long term target	By 2050, the management site has a stable population with a minimum of 70 individual plants.
Monitoring result	The 2019 prescribed burn resulted in high recruitment for the population in that area. Numbers are low in areas that have not had a recent burn. Work has continued to individually tag each plant.
Scientific rigour of monitoring method	Moderate
Conducted by	Environment, Energy and Science

Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$0	\$175
Northern Beaches Council	\$0	\$9,850

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?
Habitat degradation from adjacent land uses such as weed invasion, fertiliser and herbicide drift, storm water runoff and seepage, rubbish dumping and trampling.	Maintain the fencing around the habitat area, which was part of the burn.	Yes
Infection of native plants by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	Include <i>P. marifolia</i> in the treatment trials as part of Key Threatening Processes Project for <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	Yes
Infection of native plants by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	Appropriate hygiene protocols implemented by staff, contractors and volunteers entering the habitat.	Yes
Mixed weed invasion.	Weed control is undertaken as part of the Northern Beaches Council's management of Manly Warringah War Memorial Park.	Yes

Threat outcome

Assessment on the status of critical threats at this site.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status
Habitat degradation from adjacent land uses such as weed invasion, fertiliser and herbicide drift, storm water runoff and seepage, rubbish dumping and trampling.	No disturbance of habitat or individual plants.	On track
Mixed weed invasion.	Weed cover less than 5%.	On track
Inappropriate fire regimes, especially high frequency fire.	Record fire extent and intensity should a fire event occur. Compare results with appropriate fire regimes for the species.	Not assessed
Infection of native plants by <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> .	No evidence of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> in the species or habitat. <i>P. cinnamomi</i> is known to be present in the soil.	Not on track
Lack of distributional information. Other populations potentially exist in the local area, which could become evident following a fire event.	Should a fire event occur in suitable habitat, undertake surveys 6 months after the fire.	Not assessed
Risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low species abundance.	Maintain and increase <i>ex situ</i> populations at Australian Botanic Gardens Mount Annan and additional nursery. Improve genetic variability in the <i>ex situ</i> population.	On track

Site summary

The Northern Beaches Council manages the Manly Warringah War Memorial Park and undertakes bush regeneration throughout the park. The program to tag the new individuals (in the area subject to the prescribed burn in 2019) was completed. While the population in the burnt area is high, few plants are above ground in the long-unburnt areas. Planning is underway to undertake prescribed burns in the habitat areas, and the prescribed burns are predicted to lead to recruitment.





Low weed densities occur within the habitat areas. No evidence of *Phytophthora cinnamomi* was found on the Seaforth Mint or on other plants in its vicinity. *P. cinnamomi* is known to be present in the soil, and the species is highly susceptible. Seaforth Mint is part of the phosphite treatment trials being undertaken as part of the Key Threatening Process project for *P. cinnamomi* in conjunction with the Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust.

Contributing site (other): Translocation site

Local government area:
Not specified

Partners:
Environment, Energy and Science; Northern Beaches Council

Population outcome

-  On track
-  On track (inferred)
-  Not on track (inferred)
-  Not on track

Outcome traffic lights are not determined for contributing sites.

Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$11,000	\$3,550
Northern Beaches Council	\$0	\$5,350

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?
Risk from catastrophic events because of small number of extant populations and low species abundance.	Continue planning for the establishment of an expanded <i>ex situ</i> collection and translocation program. Collect soil samples at the known locations to inform the translocation program.	Yes

Site summary

The Royal Botanic Gardens and Domain Trust provided the report entitled 'Conservation genomics of *Prostanthera densa* and *P. marifolia*: species status, management and translocation advice'. The report confirmed that *P. marifolia* is a genetically distinct species. It also concluded that *P. marifolia* is characterised by a lack of clonality, but high inbreeding is present among its individuals.

Soil collections were undertaken at known locations of the species by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Soil Scientists to assist in the selection of appropriate translocation sites.

Saving our Species 2020-2021 annual report card for Seaforth Mintbush (*Prostanthera marifolia*). For more information refer to the specific strategy in the Saving our Species program.