# Environmental impact assessment guidelines Eucalyptus benthamii



### Maiden and Cambage

### Common name: Camden White Gum

following information The is provided to assist authors of Species Impact Statements, development and activity proponents, and determining and consent authorities, who are required to prepare or review assessments of likely impacts on threatened species pursuant to the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the NPWS Information Circular 2: No. Threatened Species Assessment under the EP&A Act: The '8 Part Test' of Significance (November 1996) and with the accompanying "Threatened Species Information" sheet.

#### Survey

Surveys for *Eucalyptus benthamii* can be conducted at any time of the year, and should include searches along creeklines and adjacent alluvial flats and plains.

### Life cycle of the species

The life cycle of *E. benthamii* may be affected by:

- prevention of major flood events which reduces broadscale silt deposition, hence reducing germination opportunities;
- increased nutrient levels arising from agricultural practices, which promote weed growth that poses a threat to the establishment of seedlings;
- increased fire intensity due to debris build up which can result in the death of seedlings, seed and trees; and

• creation of dams or water storages which may inundate *E. benthamii* habitat.

#### Threatening processes

No key threatening processes are listed under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act* 1995 for *E. benthamii.* 

## Viable local population of the species

The Bents Basin population consists of approximately 100 trees, while the much larger Kedumba Valley population comprises up to 10,000 trees.

#### A significant area of habitat

All sites other than the Kedumba Valley constitute significant areas of habitat, even if a site contains only one tree.

#### Isolation/fragmentation

Isolation and fragmentation of *E. benthamii* habitat followed clearing for agriculture and the completion of the Warragamba Dam, which flooded areas of habitat.

The scattered individuals along the Nepean River may constitute an effective link for the exchange of genetic material among isolated components of the population.

### Regional distribution of the habitat

The habitat of *E. benthamii* is restricted to the alluvial flats of the Kedumba/Cox/Nepean river system at an altitude of 140-750m.

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#### Limit of known distribution

The northern limit of known distribution is at Grose Wold, the southern is at The Oaks, and both are on the Nepean River. The Kedumba Valley constitutes the western extent.

## Adequacy of representation in conservation reserves

A portion of the Bents Basin population falls within Bents Basin State Recreation Area, which is managed by the NPWS.

#### For further information contact

The larger Kedumba Valley population is managed by Sydney Water as a Special Area.

As the majority of the population of this species is located within the above areas it is thought to be adequately represented.

#### **Critical habitat**

No critical habitat has been declared for *E. benthamii*.

Threatened Species Unit, Central Directorate, NSW NPWS, PO Box 1967, Hurstville NSW 2220. Phone (02) 9585 6678 or visit our website www.npws.nsw.gov.au.

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