

## Saving our Species project 2013-14 annual report card

### Dwarf Mountain Pine

#### Species attributes

Scientific name:	<i>Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii</i>
NSW status:	Endangered
Commonwealth status:	Endangered
Management stream:	Site-managed



Photographer: Ian Brown

#### Overall project status\*

- Populations at all key management sites are generally stable or increasing
- All management is being implemented as planned; too early to detect response to management at some sites
- Management at some sites requires review/amendment to ensure that the project is likely to meet its objectives
- Major review of / changes to the project required to ensure long-term objectives are likely to be met

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

#### Project summary

Key management sites:	Katoomba Falls; Narrow Neck; Elphinstone; Wentworth Falls
Action implementation:	11 of 12 actions were implemented as planned for the financial year (includes species population monitoring actions + other project actions fully or partially implemented)
Total expenditure:	\$26,100 (cash and in-kind)
Project partners:	Blue Mountains City Council; Office of Environment and Heritage

## Management site 1: Katoomba Falls

LGA: Blue Mountains

Project partners: Blue Mountains City Council; Office of Environment and Heritage

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### Species population monitoring action

*Reported trends are based on best available information*

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted	Conducted by	Trend
Unknown	Yes	Office of Environment and Heritage	Decreasing

### Investment

*This includes cash and in-kind contributions*

Project participant	Investment
Blue Mountains City Council	\$1,400
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$10,700

### Project actions

*The project actions below are those identified as being required in 2013-14 to secure the species in the wild*

Threat	Management/monitoring action description	Implemented as planned?
Chemical spillages into waterways from development sites, damaging species habitat.	Monitor for evidence of direct disturbance on the species at the sites.	Yes
Drought will increase risk of fire on the site. Species is likely to be sensitive to fire as it is located in wet habitat.	Monitor for impacts of climate change and drying out of the species on the site.	Yes
Weed encroachment onto plants, weed invasion into or expansion within the catchments, and insensitive control measures.	Carry out weed density assessment. Physical removal of weeds at site, and upstream of site.	Yes
Weed encroachment onto plants, weed invasion into or expansion within the catchments, and insensitive control measures.	Organise volunteer weeding days upstream of the Katoomba Falls population.	Yes

## Site summary

Integrated weed control works in the Katoomba Falls catchment, both directly on weeds impacting on habitat areas and on propagule sources within the catchment are progressively reducing the risks from weed invasion. High level of community engagement.

## Management site 2: Narrow Neck

LGA: Blue Mountains

Project partners: Office of Environment and Heritage

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### Species population monitoring action

*Reported trends are based on best available information*

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted	Conducted by	Trend
25	Yes	Office of Environment and Heritage	Stable

### Investment

*This includes cash and in-kind contributions*

Project participant	Investment
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$0

### Site summary

More plants were located in 2014 from previous estimates in 2004, thus expanding the known population at this site to approximately twenty-five plants. Weed risk is very low.

## Management site 3: Elphinstone

LGA: Blue Mountains

Project partners: Office of Environment and Heritage

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### Species population monitoring action

*Reported trends are based on best available information*

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted	Conducted by	Trend
Unknown	Yes	Office of Environment and Heritage	Stable

### Investment

*This includes cash and in-kind contributions*

Project participant	Investment
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$5,000

### Project actions

*The project actions below are those identified as being required in 2013-14 to secure the species in the wild*

Threat	Management/monitoring action description	Implemented as planned?
Weed encroachment onto plants, weed invasion into or expansion within the catchments, and insensitive control measures.	Assess the condition of the species / species' habitat and evidence of the effects of degrading landuse practises	Yes

### Site summary

During aerial surveys a second population was located at 'Elphinstone lower'. At both Elphinstone 'upper' and 'lower' sites, plants were all healthy and no dead plants were observed. The site is relatively pristine.

## Management site 4: Wentworth Falls

LGA: Blue Mountains

Project partners: Office of Environment and Heritage

### Species population monitoring action

*Reported trends are based on best available information*

Estimated population	Population monitoring conducted	Conducted by	Trend
Unknown	Yes	Office of Environment and Heritage	Decreasing

### Investment

*This includes cash and in-kind contributions*

Project participant	Investment
Office of Environment and Heritage	\$9,000

### Project actions

*The project actions below are those identified as being required in 2013-14 to secure the species in the wild*

Threat	Management/monitoring action description	Implemented as planned?
Activities such as vegetation clearing, land management changes, erosion, and pollution can decrease water quality.	Monitor for evidence of direct disturbance on the species at the sites.	Yes
Weed encroachment onto plants, weed invasion into or expansion within the catchments, and insensitive control measures.	Physical control of weeds. National Parks and Wildlife Service and Council obtained Catchment Management Authority grants to control multiple riparian weeds upstream of Dwarf Mountain Pine Sites at Wentworth Falls.	No
Weed encroachment onto plants, weed invasion into or expansion within the catchments, and insensitive control measures.	Monitor impacts of weeds.	Yes

### Site summary

Species monitoring in 2014 indicated the majority of plants are healthy. However there had been some plant deaths since last surveyed in 2004. Over-shading may be implicated in these deaths. Weed incursion is minimal.