



Conservation action plan

Persoonia mollis subsp. *maxima*

This conservation action plan (CAP) has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of clause 78C of the National Parks and Wildlife Regulation 2019 (NPW Reg) in relation to land declared an Asset of Intergenerational Significance (AIS) under section 153G of the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*.

Site details

Table 1 shows site information about the declared land.

Table 1 Site details

Site information	Detail
AIS site	AIS-E0-321, AIS-E0-322, AIS-E0-323
Site location	An area of 72 hectares in Berowra Valley National Park An area of 165 hectares in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park
NPWS contact	Team Leader Conservation, Greater Sydney Branch

Environmental values

Table 2 shows the environmental values of the declared land (NPW Reg, cl 78C(3)(a)).

Table 2 Environmental values

Identified values	Value description
Important habitat for <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i>	<i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> is a tall, branching, spreading shrub which grows 2–6 m high. Fruits are green and resemble a small plum, becoming purplish-brown and soft when mature. <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> is highly restricted and occurs in only 3 populations from the Hornsby Heights–Mount Colah area north of Sydney in the Sydney Basin Bioregion.

Key risks to environmental values

Table 3 shows the key risks to the environmental values of the declared land (NPW Reg, cl 78C(3)(b)).

Table 3 Key risks to environmental values

Key risks	Description
Inappropriate fire regimes	Inappropriate fire timing, frequency and/or intensity that limits germination and/or recruitment and kills adult plants may lead to a decline or local extinction of <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> at the site.
Weeds	Habitat degradation and/or competition through invasion, establishment, intensification and/or spread of weeds (for example, large-leaved privet) to the extent that recruitment or establishment of plants is impaired.
Alteration of hydrological regimes	Changes in surface flows and groundwater levels can cause localised change in water availability, quality and/or increase the risk of erosion and sedimentation, leading to degradation of <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> habitat.
Disturbance	Authorised infrastructure maintenance activities (for example road and trail maintenance or powerline easement maintenance) and/or unauthorised activities (for example, vehicle access) that lead to degradation of habitat and damage to individuals by damage to substrate, erosion and/or direct harm to individual plants and/or seedlings.
Demographic risks	The small population size, severely restricted geographic range and low rates of successful reproduction and/or recruitment of the <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> result in high vulnerability to disease outbreaks, natural catastrophes, environmental stochasticity, demographic stochasticity, loss of genetic diversity and inbreeding depression, which reduce the survival and/or recruitment of individuals leading to a decline of the species at the site.

Conservation activities

Table 4 shows the conservation activities required to:

1. control, abate or mitigate the key risks
2. maintain, restore and remediate the environmental values of the declared land (NPW Reg, cl 78C(3)(c)).

Table 4 Conservation activities

Key risks	Impacted sites	Conservation activities
Inappropriate fire regimes	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop guidance on the appropriate fire management for the declared land within 12 months of adoption of this plan and update as required. This guidance must provide for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ maintenance of appropriate fire regimes for the species within the declared land ○ implementation of any required fire protection and fire response measures in the declared land ○ integration into NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and NSW Government bushfire planning, risk management and operational response arrangements. • Implement fire management consistent with the guidance.
Weeds	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove weed species, to the extent required to ensure weeds do not have a negative impact on <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i>, by targeted application of physical, biological and/or chemical weed control.
Alteration of hydrological regimes	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To the extent practicable, manage changes to ground and surface water flows to minimise impacts to the habitat of <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i>. • To the extent practicable, liaise with surrounding land managers to minimise the impacts of land use on hydrological regimes and <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> habitat.
Disturbance	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake periodic reviews to identify whether infrastructure maintenance, visitor use, and/or unauthorised activities are having an adverse impact on the <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i>. If adverse impacts are observed, implement actions to mitigate the impacts. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ installation of barriers (for example, cable fencing and/or gates) to prevent unauthorised visitor access ○ rehabilitation of areas affected by unauthorised tracks ○ implementing sediment and erosion control measures and establishing buffer zones around habitat ○ compliance activities. • If required, develop and implement guidance for staff, utility managers, council and/or contractors about appropriate maintenance practices that minimise or prevent impacts to the <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> and its habitat.
Demographic risks	All sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and/or maintain an ex-situ living collection and/or seedbank from a genetically representative sample of the population and any relevant symbionts (for example, mycorrhizal fungi) in cooperation with an appropriate seedbank, storage and/or nursery facility. • If required, augment the existing population and/or establish a new population with ex-situ material.

Other activities

Within the declared land there are existing assets and infrastructure of the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and other external service providers, including public utilities.

Maintenance activities (including inspection, emergency works and routine maintenance) that are exempt development in accordance with the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, and which are performed on and around existing assets and infrastructure, are authorised activities under this CAP.

These activities must be undertaken in accordance with this CAP and in a manner that aims to minimise the risk to the declared environmental values of the land.

Measuring and reporting

Table 5 shows the requirements for measuring and reporting on the health and condition of the environmental values of the land (NPW Reg, cl 78C(3)(d)).

Table 5 Measuring and reporting requirements

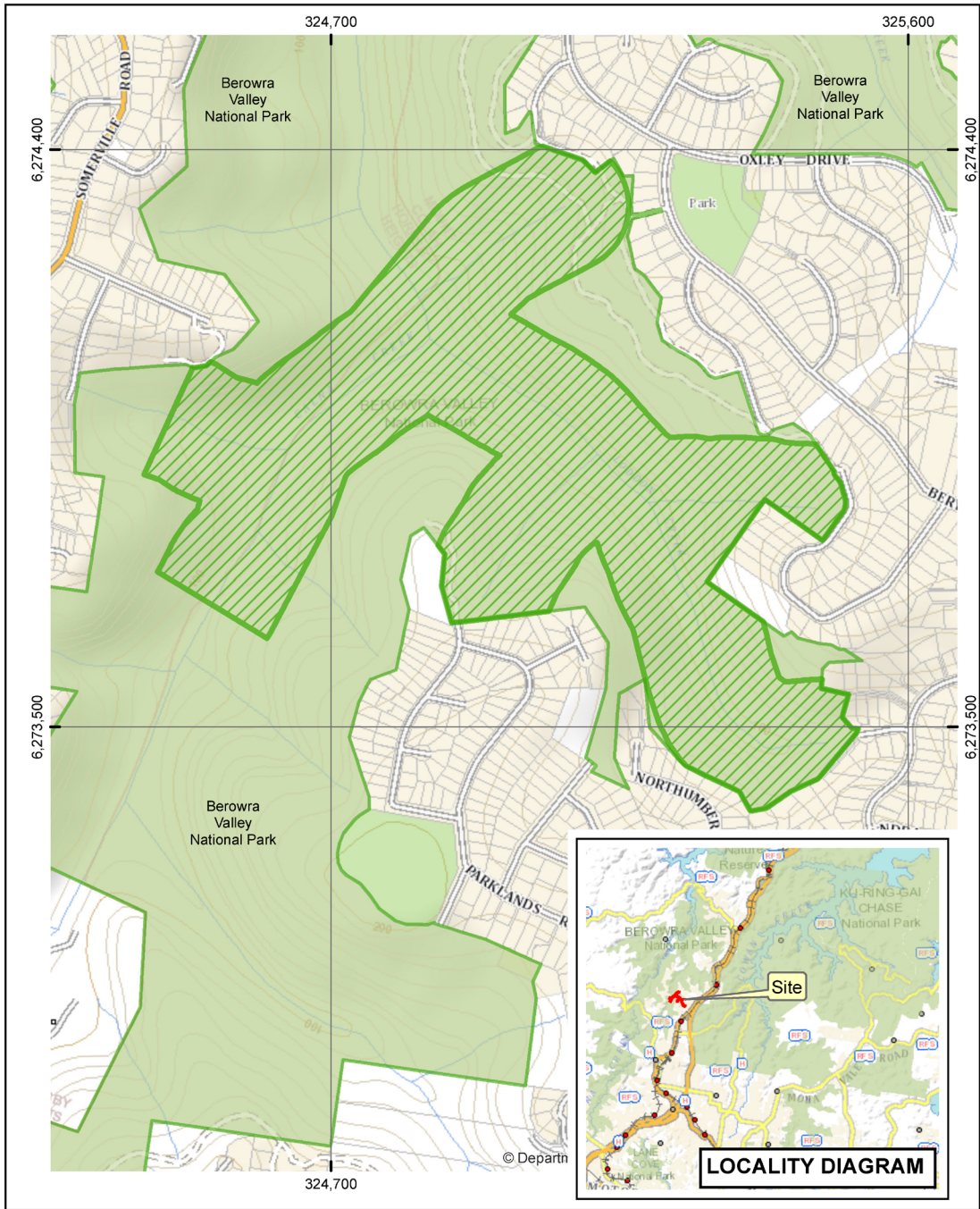
Attribute	Metric	Method
Health and condition of the <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> population	Population estimate	Implement monitoring at least every 5 years to generate an estimate of the number of mature individuals, juvenile plants, and seedlings of <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> at each site.
	Reproductive success/recruitment	Implement monitoring as soon as practicable following a natural disturbance event (for example, fire) to generate an estimate of <i>Persoonia mollis</i> subsp. <i>maxima</i> recruitment at each site.

A report on the health and condition of the value for which this AIS was declared will be prepared and published on the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au. The report will summarise the baseline and current health and condition of the values of the declared land and its overall trajectory.



Evaluation of conservation action plans

This CAP will be amended or replaced as new information becomes available that helps improve our management of the identified assets (NPW Reg, cl 78H).

The Secretary must appoint a scientist, or a panel of scientists, to conduct a review, as soon as possible after the period of 5 years from the first approval of a CAP, to examine whether CAPs have been effectively implemented (NPW Reg, cl 78J(1)).



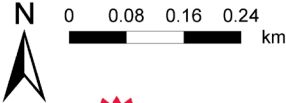
Legend



-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

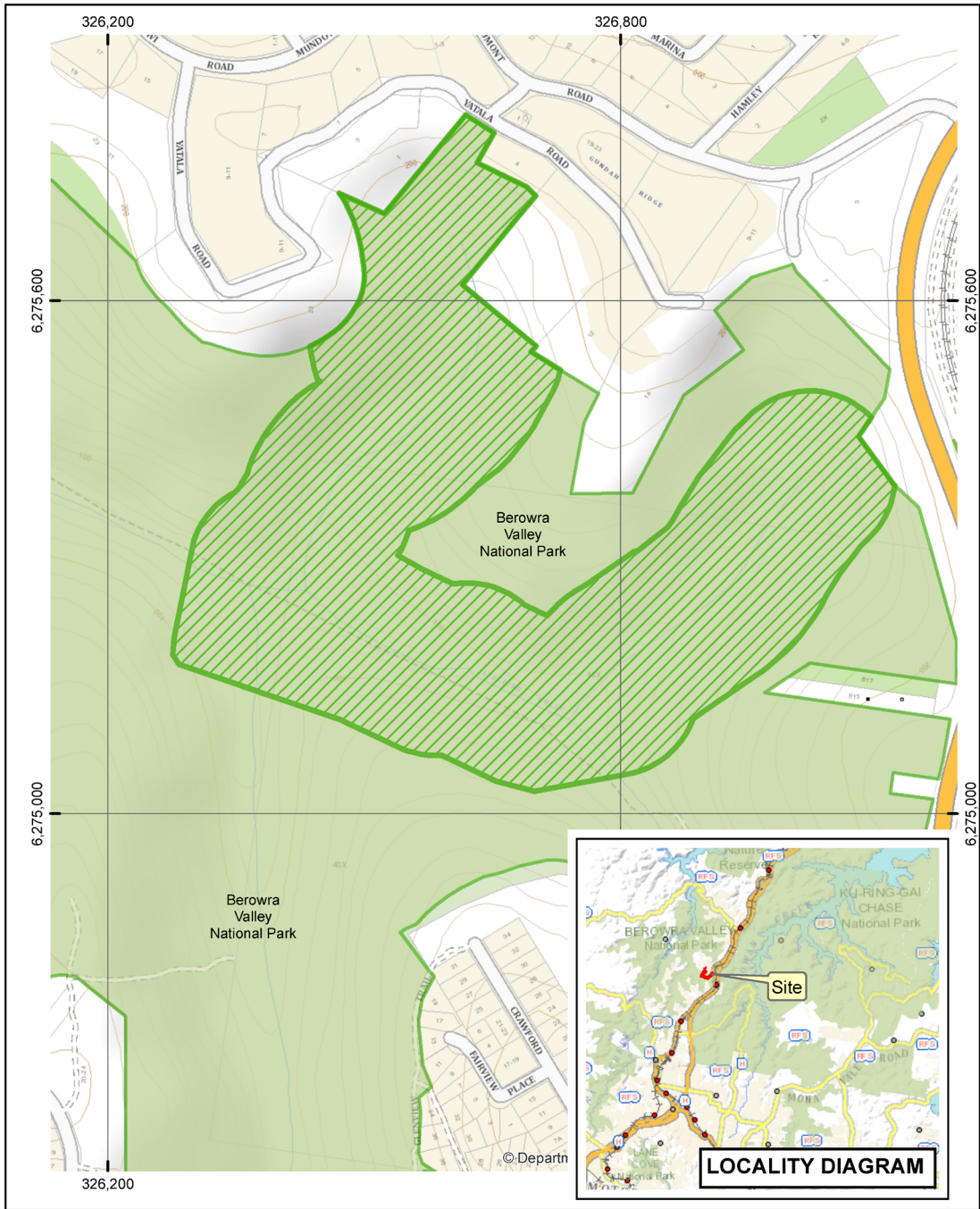
AIS-E0-321
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Personia mollis subsp. maxima
Berowra Valley National Park

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
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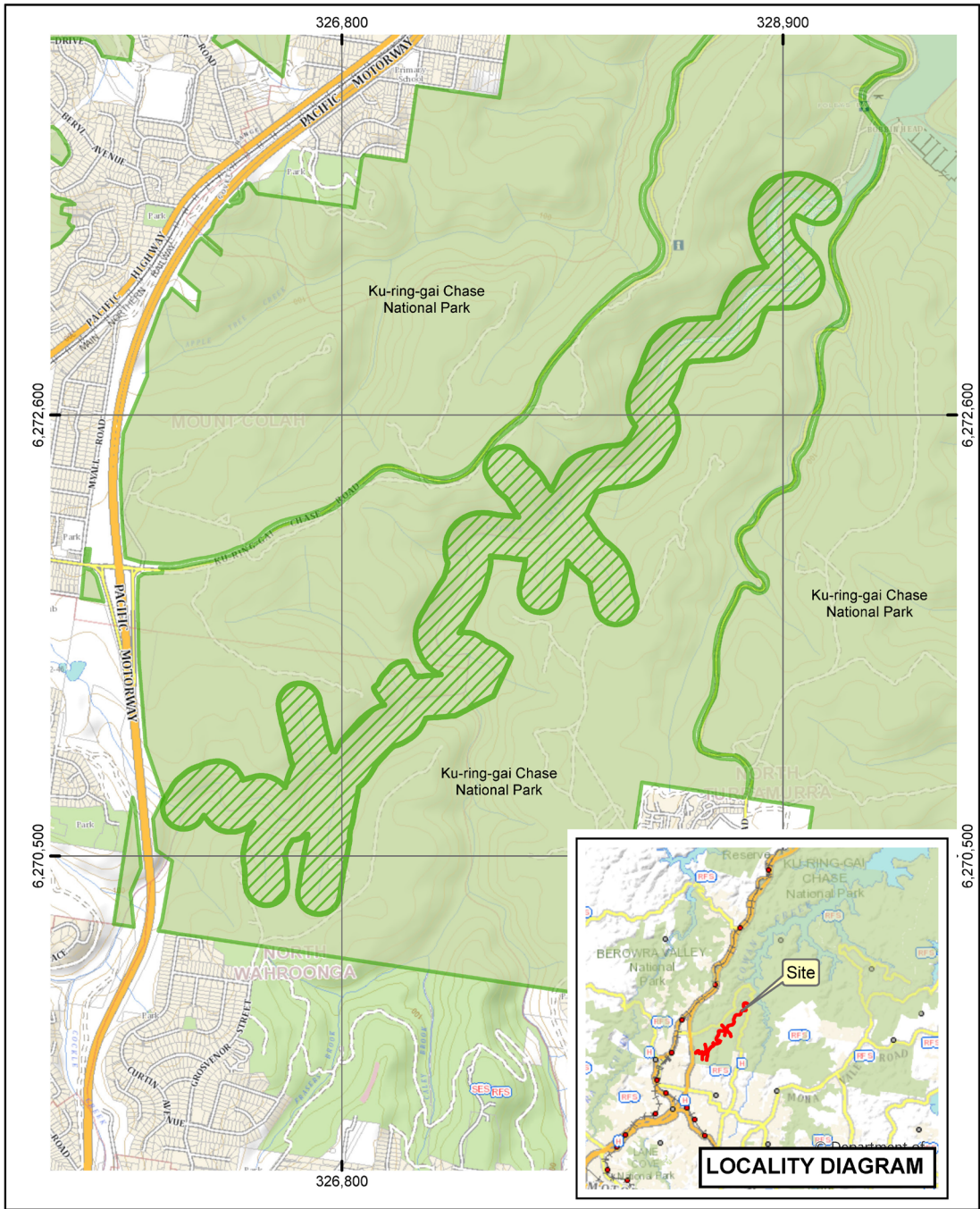
-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

AIS-E0-322
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Persoonia mollis subsp. maxima
Berowra Valley National Park



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Legend

-  Declared Land
-  NPWS Estate

AIS-E0-323
Asset of Intergenerational Significance
Persoonia mollis subsp. maxima
Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park

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