



## SAVING OUR SPECIES

# Pterostylis despectans

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

<b>Management sites</b>	Barnes Crossing
<b>Action implementation</b>	1 (of 5) management actions was fully or partially implemented as planned for the financial year.
<b>Total expenditure</b>	\$6,957 (\$6,000 cash; \$957 in-kind)
<b>Partners</b>	Environment, Energy and Science



**Scientific name:**  
*Pterostylis despectans*

**NSW status:**  
Critically Endangered

**Commonwealth status:**  
Endangered

**Management stream:**  
Site-managed species





Photo: Miranda Kerr

# Priority management site: Barnes Crossing

**Local government area:**  
Murray River

**Partners:**  
Environment, Energy and  
Science

## 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.*

<b>Monitoring metric</b>	Species abundance
<b>Annual target</b>	Ensure a population persists at the site. See evidence of pollination in at least one season from the previous five.
<b>Long term target</b>	To maintain a viable, reproducing population at the site.
<b>Monitoring result</b>	At least 150 plants.
<b>Scientific rigour of monitoring method</b>	Low
<b>Conducted by</b>	Environment, Energy and Science

## Investment

Participant	Cash	In-kind
Environment, Energy and Science	\$6,000	\$957

## 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?
Competition from annual exotic grasses and <i>Romulea</i> spp. which are encroaching from a road drain and an easement on the site.	Plan weed control program.	No - logistical delays
Current or potential future land management practices do not support conservation	Initiate and complete an agreement with Riverina Local Land Services about future land management.	No - logistical delays
Disturbance due to activities including the building and maintenance of roads and tracks	Maintain contact with Riverina Local Land Services.	No - logistical delays
The species is susceptible to extinction via stochastic processes due to its small known population size and restricted distribution.	Progress germination tests, propagation and establishment of potted collection with ongoing care until suitable growth stage for reintroduction.	Yes
The species may be further threatened by future changes to stock access and grazing, especially if a stock-watering point were to be added to the site.	Contact Riverina Local Land Services to negotiate grazing regime.	No - logistical delays

## Threat outcome

Assessment on the status of critical threats at this site.

Threat	Annual target	Threat status
The species may be further threatened by future changes to stock access and grazing, especially if a stock-watering point were to be added to the site.	No evidence of stock grazing.	On track
Competition from annual exotic grasses and <i>Romulea</i> spp. which are encroaching from a road drain and an easement on the site.	No further encroachment by weeds.	Not on track
Current or potential future land management practices do not support conservation	No evidence of inappropriate land management.	On track
Disturbance due to activities including the building and maintenance of roads and tracks	No disturbance from track establishment or maintenance.	On track
The species is susceptible to extinction via stochastic processes due to its small known population size and restricted distribution.	Increase number of propagated plants grown and maintained for reintroduction in the <i>ex situ</i> population at the Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan.	On track

## Site summary

The Barnes crossing population appears to be stable, although seed production and maturity are low. Emerging tagged plants may not be the same individual each year. A new weed population was detected near monitored plants, which was eradicated by hand. Threat management was limited due to logistical issues associated with COVID-19. Ex situ population work is progressing and there are 41 plants in the glasshouse at The Australian Botanic Gardens Mt Annan. A major success is germination of seeds in the lab using fungal associates from other greenhood species. Ongoing work will be required to meet a target of 500 plants to be translocated in the future. Recommend continuing propagation to expand *ex situ* population and improving and continuing site monitoring, including investigating why plants do not successfully reproduce from seeds.

Saving our Species 2020-2021 annual report card for *Pterostylis despectans*. For more information refer to the specific strategy in the Saving our Species program.