

**Department of Planning, Industry and Environment** 

# Wildlife and Conservation **Bushfire Recovery**

**Immediate Response January 2020** 



### **Message from the Minister**



The recent bushfires of late 2019 and early 2020 have had a devastating impact on our communities and our natural environment. Tragically, lives have been lost and thousands of homes have been destroyed or damaged, across the country. The bushfires have burned more than 5.3 million hectares in New South Wales, including more than 2.7 million hectares of our national park estate.

We are still determining the full magnitude of the damage, in terms of the extent and severity of the fires and the impacts on our wildlife and their natural habitats. Efforts continue to actively fight fires that are still burning in a number of areas of the state. Using state of the art aerial imagery, remote sensing and mapping techniques, our scientists are completing our understanding of the impacts the fires have had on our natural environment and what this means for recovery.

What we know is that many of our most vulnerable species have been heavily impacted as a result of the fires and now face threats from habitat loss, scarcity of food and water and predation by feral animals. While our assessment continues, we are undertaking essential recovery actions right now.

This document sets out the immediate actions we are taking to protect wildlife and support the natural recovery process that has already started in many areas. Our immediate response includes the deployment of watering stations, supplementary food drops, and broad-scale feral animal control. We are also planning for the longer-term restoration and recovery of our native animals, plants and landscapes across New South Wales. We will continue to update our response as we improve our understanding of the impacts of the fires.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the firefighting effort. In particular, I want to thank those volunteers who have selflessly contributed their time to protect others, often while their own properties were under threat, and the firefighting staff in my own portfolio, including in the National Parks and Wildlife Service, many of whom are still fighting active fires.

Coming through a disaster is a time when our community unites. Many of us have been touched by the images of the tireless and heroic efforts of not only our firefighters, but also volunteers rescuing wildlife from fire grounds and providing care. These stories and images have contributed to a groundswell of support and generosity from communities in New South Wales, Australia and internationally. This support will greatly assist in the rehabilitation of many injured animals and restoration of their habitat.

The Hon. Matthew Kean MP
Minister for Energy and Environment

## Key facts about the impacts of the 2019-2020 bushfires on NSW wildlife and conservation

#### **Impacts**

Fire affected



5.3 million hectares of land



**54%** of the **Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage Area** 



**35%** of rainforest areas



**24%** of koala habitat



**6** threatened fauna species have more than 70% of their recorded



More than 80% of the Greater Blue Mountains **World Heritage Area** 



**40%** of state forest land



of national park estate



**4%** of freehold land

46 threatened plant species have more than 90% of their recorded sites within fire affected zones

#### Immediate government response

sites within the fire affected zones



Over 2 tonnes of supplementary food delivered to brush-tailed rock-wallabies

\$1 million in emergency

funding set aside as part of a \$6.5 million investment to support rescue and care of injured wildlife

**Drinking stations installed** for native wildlife



Extensive feral animal and weed control

Firefighting mission saves prehistoric Wollemi pines

Veterinarian and wildlife expertise provided through Taronga Conservation Society



**6** separate species rescued and taken into captive protection



Fire severity and refugia mapping



# Impact on wildlife and conservation in NSW

#### How much of NSW has been burnt?

The 2019-2020 bushfire season is the most widespread and extreme bushfire disaster that New South Wales has ever experienced. As at 28 January 2020, more than 5.3 million hectares (6.7%) of New South Wales has been impacted by the bushfires. This includes extensive damage in our national parks, with more than 2.7 million hectares of national park estate affected. In some regions, more than half of the national park estate has been affected.

# Mapping the extent and severity of damage

The full extent of the impact of the fires on wildlife is still emerging. Many research institutions along with government agencies are making efforts to assess the extent of the fires to help us with our recovery efforts.

On 16 January 2020, we published an <u>initial map</u> showing the area burnt, using satellite imagery and data from the NSW Rural Fire Service. This map will be updated fortnightly<sup>1</sup>.

To date, the fires have affected the following key areas:

- more than 37% of the national park estate
- more than 80% of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area
- more than 54% of the Gondwana Rainforests World Heritage Area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In collaboration with the University of NSW, the Environment, Energy and Science Group within the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has developed a new method using Google earth imagery to rapidly assess the intensity of the fires across the landscape and identify patches that did not burn.





Many individual national parks have also been seriously impacted:

- 55 parks or reserves have had more than 99% of their area affected by fire
- 70 parks or reserves have 75-99% of their area affected
- 29 parks or reserves have 50-74% of their area affected.

Although significant areas of the national park estate have been affected by the fires, the intensity of the fires within the burnt areas varies greatly.

We expect areas where the fires were not as severe, and the tops of the trees did not burn, to regenerate more readily. These areas will provide important refuge areas for our wildlife while the bush begins to recover.

There are also patches of bushland that have escaped the fire altogether. For example, while more than 80% of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area has been fire-affected, only 7% experienced high fire intensity burns, where the tops of the trees burnt.



#### Impacts on native vegetation

Many Australian native plants and communities are naturally adapted to fires of a certain intensity and frequency and can recover from fire events. Others are not and may need intervention to improve their chances of recovery.

We are still assessing the impact of the fires on vegetation types. So far, we know that:

- 53% of heathlands in New South Wales have been impacted by the fires. The native plant species in these ecosystems are highly adapted to fire
- 41% of wet sclerophyll forests (predominantly with an overstory of eucalypts and acacias) have been impacted by the fires. The trees in these ecosystems are generally adapted to fire but the moist understory habitat can be more fire sensitive
- 35% of rainforests in New South Wales have been impacted by the fires. These types of ecosystems are sensitive to fire and may require more support for recovery.

See Appendix 1 for detailed analysis of the impact on threatened plant species.



#### **The NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust**

The NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust manages nearly 2000 private land conservation agreements with landholders across New South Wales covering more than 2.1 million hectares.

More than 50,000 hectares across 260 landholders who have private land conservation agreements with the NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust have been affected by the fires. The NSW Biodiversity Conservation Trust can support impacted landholders with technical advice or financial assistance. Assistance will include grants for fencing, weed control or assisted revegetation as part of their overall fire recovery.



### Impacts on wildlife

We know that the fires have had a devastating impact on native animals. There have been many reports that the loss of native animals extends to more than 800 million animals. The NSW Government is systematically assessing the impacts for individual species, but we already know that the fires have impacted the habitat of at least 84 of our most vulnerable animals.

Our analysis shows:

- about one quarter of all modelled koala habitat in eastern NSW has been impacted by the fires
- 30% of bushland where 32 threatened animal species have previously been sighted has been impacted by the fires
- 5% of bushland where 114 threatened animal species have previously been sighted has been impacted by the fires
- the long-footed potoroo is likely to be badly impacted as almost every previous sighting of this animal occurs within fire-affected areas
- the brush-tailed rock-wallaby is likely to be badly affected as more than 80% of all previous sightings of this animal occurs within fire-affected areas.

See Appendix 1 for detailed analysis of the impact on threatened native animals.



#### Recovery actions

There are some immediate interventions that have already started. These are the most urgent actions needed to support our wildlife and their natural habitats right now. We will build on these actions as our understanding of the impact of the fires and the priorities for recovery develop. Right now, government agencies, community volunteers, research institutions and non-government organisations are all working to deliver immediate relief in key locations.



#### **Saving our Species**

The Saving our Species program is a \$100 million commitment from the NSW Government to secure the future of NSW threatened plants and animals across all land tenures. A task that has just become more challenging, and even more important than ever before.

With over 1000 threatened animals and plants in New South Wales, Saving our Species is investing in over 450 threatened species and communities, but the recent fires have impacted and burnt critical habitat for many of these species and it will take time for the habitat to recover.

We are assessing the impact of the fires on our Saving our Species sites and interventions in order to identify and implement the practical actions needed to protect the plants and animals in these bushfire hit areas. Examples of the practical actions already underway include supplementary food for the mountain pygmy possum and brush-tailed rock-wallabies outlined on page 12.





#### Supplementary food, water and shelter

Many native animals that escaped the fires now face risks of starvation or dehydration, a situation made worse by the ongoing drought. Supplementary food, water and shelter are being provided to sustain native animals while their natural habitats recover.

Examples of the immediate actions include:

- drops of thousands of kilograms of supplementary food to more than a dozen colonies of brush-tailed rock-wallabies
- deployment of watering stations for koalas at several key sites on the North Coast
- delivery of supplementary food and water to mountain pygmy possums in Kosciuszko National Park
- emergency works to repair damaged infrastructure at the southern corroboree frog field enclosures in Kosciusko National Park.

#### Seed banking and insurance populations

Some animals and plants are at significant risk as a direct result of the fires. To give them the best chance of recovery we are collecting seeds for banking and individual animals for care and emergency housing until it is safe to release them back to the wild or to provide an insurance population should they struggle to survive. Our teams are on the ground working with a range of organisations including Taronga Conservation Society, the Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and non-government partners.

Rescue operations are underway for:

- platypus
- grey-headed flying foxes
- Booroolong frogs
- genetically important koalas from the Blue Mountains region
- Manning River helmeted turtles
- northern corroboree frogs
- seeds and plant cuttings from endangered rainforest plants and other high-risk habitats for nursery propagation, care and habitat restoration
- seeds from critically endangered plant species including Bago leek orchid and Kelton's leek orchid.



#### Feral animal and weed control

Fire-affected landscapes leave our native animals exposed to feral cats, dogs and foxes. Our native animals are also competing for scarce food with feral deer, pigs and goats. Emergency feral animal and weed control is underway to protect our native animals while their habitat recovers. This pest control will also help farmers impacted by the fires.

Our immediate actions include:

- widespread aerial shooting of feral deer, pigs and goats in burnt areas and unburnt refuge areas
- extensive aerial baiting for foxes and wild dogs in burnt areas and unburnt refuge areas
- ground-based shooting, trapping and baiting of feral predators (dogs, cats, foxes) and feral herbivores (deer, pigs, goats and rabbits) in key refuge areas and important sites for remaining populations of threatened species
- post-fire weed control in areas to benefit threatened species and those previously inaccessible due to dense vegetation
- planning for the installation of feral proof fences to protect recovering vegetation and wildlife communities.



#### Planned action for feral animal control

Over the next twelve months, National Parks and Wildlife Service will deliver extensive control programs to protect native animals and plants from feral animals and weeds. This includes:

- 1500-2000 hours of aerial shooting
- localised follow up and ground shooting
- up to 60,000 kilometres of aerial baiting
- deployment of up to 1 million baits.

Strict approvals and evidence-based guidelines are in place to mitigate the risks to native species and domestic animals.

Target levels will be reviewed regularly taking into account operational factors and results on the ground.



#### Survival, recovery and regeneration

We are preparing an inventory of fire impacts on animals and plants. This includes surveying the areas and species that have survived the fires and tracking recovery. We have started on-ground surveys for wildlife and installed remote cameras to track animal movements so that we can support long-term recovery.

The news in some parks is positive. We are finding areas that have survived the fires and areas that are already starting to naturally regenerate. These areas provide important refuges for surviving animals to find food and some limited shelter.



# Wollemi pines saved from this season's bushfires

The Wollemi pines, which were thought to be extinct before 1994 and whose location is kept secret to prevent contamination, were saved through an unprecedented environmental protection mission during the recent bushfires.

The operation included large air tankers laying fire retardant. Specialist firefighters from the National Parks and Wildlife Service Remote Area Firefighting Team were winched into the remote site from helicopters to set up an irrigation system in the gorge to increase the moisture content on the grounds.



#### **Mountain pygmy possums**

We have established food and water stations for endangered mountain pygmy possums in Kosciuszko National Park. These tiny possums live on the ground in rocky boulder fields and forage in the surrounding alpine heath. Their habitat was burnt in the 2019-2020 fires.

#### **Brush-tailed rock-wallabies**

We have dropped and carried in thousands of kilograms of food, including carrots and sweet potatoes, into over a dozen colonies of brush-tailed rock-wallabies across the fire affected areas within national parks. These wallabies are endangered in New South Wales. More than 80% of their food source has been affected by the fires and there are few places available to them to naturally forage, until their natural habitats begin to recover.





#### Koalas

About one quarter of all the modelled koala habitat in eastern NSW has been impacted by the bushfires, including some key populations. In addition to urgent support measures such as drinking stations and feral animal control, we are developing a longer-term plan to ensure NSW koalas recover from the bushfires. The NSW Koala Strategy Expert Advisory Panel chaired by the Deputy Chief Scientist and Engineer is meeting with koala experts to identify priority actions. From this we will publish a NSW Koala Strategy: Bushfire Recovery Plan.



#### Supporting wildlife carers

Injured wildlife needs specialist care to maximise their chance of recovery. Volunteer wildlife rehabilitators and veterinary professionals are on the frontline, rescuing injured wildlife. The NSW Government is providing resources to support wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. A total of \$6.5 million has been committed for this work, including \$1 million in emergency funding in response to the bushfires.

Our immediate actions include:

- making \$500,000 available for wildlife rehabilitators to cover costs of rescue and rehabilitation of injured native wildlife
- establishing wildlife coordinator positions within the National Parks and Wildlife Service to help coordinate wildlife rescue
- assisting with rescue of injured wildlife from fire grounds
- providing information for the community through the <u>Environment, Energy and Science website</u>.

#### Where to from here

We are still collecting information and data to inform longer term recovery (noting that some fires are still active). But we have already commenced work and we will shortly publish a medium-term NSW wildlife and conservation bushfire recovery plan. This will build on the actions identified in this immediate response plan.

Our planning is considering detailed species or local protection plans, measures to support key refuge areas in national parks, and longer-term measures to protect wildlife from feral animals and other pests in key habitats. The plan will consider:

- mapping and analysis to identify biodiversity impacts and prioritise on-ground action
- bolstering our breeding programs in fire affected areas, including consideration of relocation and translocation of animals impacted by the fires
- · habitat restoration
- expanding conservation fencing to protect recovering ecosystems
- additional fire management to protect refugia and unburnt areas.

Our landscape is quite extraordinary in how it naturally responds to fire. But these fires have been unprecedented in scale with a devastating impact on our plants and animals. Our staff are on the ground providing an immediate emergency response with invaluable input from scientists, experts and community groups. We will closely monitor the recovery of our wildlife and ecosystems, and adapt our efforts to support this recovery as we learn more.

### **Appendix 1**

Table 1 Initial analysis of threatened native animals in fire affected areas based on previous records of sightings. Please note that data was current as of 6 January 2020.

For more comprehensive and updated information, visit or search for 'Understanding the impact of the 2019-20 fires'.

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Long-footed potoroo	Potorous longipes	Critically Endangered	68	97.1	2.9
<null></null>	Philoria pughi	Endangered	131	89.3	0.0
Hastings River mouse	Pseudomys oralis	Endangered	1091	81.9	7.1
Brush-tailed rock-wallaby	Petrogale penicillata	Endangered	3962	81.7	7.7
Parma wallaby	Macropus parma	Vulnerable	1993	73.7	12.8
Greater glider population in the Eurobodalla local government area	Petauroides volans	Endangered	632	71.4	13.8
Blue Mountains water skink	Eulamprus leuraensis	Endangered	280	66.4	8.6
Yellow-bellied glider	Petaurus australis	Vulnerable	18481	53.6	9.3
Glandular frog	Litoria subglandulosa	Vulnerable	309	53.1	12.9
Giant dragonfly	Petalura gigantea	Endangered	295	52.9	19.0
Davies' tree frog	Litoria daviesae	Vulnerable	354	51.4	9.9
White-footed dunnart	Sminthopsis leucopus	Vulnerable	205	47.8	30.7
Peppered tree frog	Litoria piperata	Critically Endangered	72	47.2	0.0
Stuttering frog	Mixophyes balbus	Endangered	2036	46.0	14.5
Mountain pygmy- possum	Burramys parvus	Endangered	685	45.6	54.3

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Glossy black- cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus lathami	Vulnerable	23226	45.4	11.6
Sphagnum frog	Philoria sphagnicolus	Vulnerable	681	43.8	32.3
Rufous bettong	Aepyprymnus rufescens	Vulnerable	2027	43.2	25.2
Eastern false pipistrelle	Falsistrellus tasmaniensis	Vulnerable	2646	42.0	18.4
Golden-tipped bat	Phoniscus papuensis	Vulnerable	1291	41.8	19.8
Sooty owl	Tyto tenebricosa	Vulnerable	5355	41.3	18.2
Red-tailed black- cockatoo (coastal subspecies)	Calyptorhynchus banksii banksii	Critically Endangered	5	40.0	0.0
Long-nosed potoroo	Potorous tridactylus	Vulnerable	4618	39.5	52.5
Masked owl	Tyto novaehollandiae	Vulnerable	3416	37.4	16.8
Spotted-tailed quoll	Dasyurus maculatus	Vulnerable	10295	37.4	22.6
Fleay's barred frog	Mixophyes fleayi	Endangered	420	37.1	58.6
Northern free- tailed bat	Ozimops Iumsdenae	Vulnerable	59	32.2	6.8
Southern brown bandicoot (eastern)	Isoodon obesulus obesulus	Endangered	1212	32.0	53.8
Gang-gang cockatoo	Callocephalon fimbriatum	Vulnerable	9378	31.3	20.6
Spotted tree frog	Litoria spenceri	Critically Endangered	13	30.8	69.2
Hoary wattled bat	Chalinolobus nigrogriseus	Vulnerable	238	29.8	16.4
Olive whistler	Pachycephala olivacea	Vulnerable	1377	27.9	47.6
Purple copper butterfly, Bathurst copper butterfly	Paralucia spinifera	Endangered	166	27.7	5.4

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Pouched frog	Assa darlingtoni	Vulnerable	885	26.6	53.7
Powerful owl	Ninox strenua	Vulnerable	10486	26.4	15.7
Broad-headed snake	Hoplocephalus bungaroides	Endangered	467	26.3	34.7
Emu population in the New South Wales North Coast Bioregion and Port Stephens local government area	Dromaius novaehollandiae	Endangered	2371	25.8	25.2
Rufous scrub- bird	Atrichornis rufescens	Vulnerable	1312	24.4	66.4
Stephens' banded snake	Hoplocephalus stephensii	Vulnerable	442	24.2	23.5
Green-thighed frog	Litoria brevipalmata	Vulnerable	308	24.0	10.1
Smoky mouse	Pseudomys fumeus	Critically Endangered	225	23.6	29.8
Albert's lyrebird	Menura alberti	Vulnerable	2072	23.4	58.0
Striated fieldwren	Calamanthus fuliginosus	Endangered	205	22.4	72.7
Southern corroboree frog	Pseudophryne corroboree	Critically Endangered	260	22.3	77.7
Greater broad- nosed bat	Scoteanax rueppellii	Vulnerable	1966	22.1	15.5
Scarlet robin	Petroica boodang	Vulnerable	7879	21.9	19.4
Common blossom-bat	Syconycteris australis	Vulnerable	273	21.6	38.8
Large-eared pied bat	Chalinolobus dwyeri	Vulnerable	1821	21.5	10.9
Grey falcon	Falco hypoleucos	Endangered	312	20.5	20.8
Red-backed button-quail	Turnix maculosus	Vulnerable	69	18.8	15.9
Brush-tailed phascogale	Phascogale tapoatafa	Vulnerable	1450	18.6	10.8

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Red goshawk	Erythrotriorchis radiatus	Critically Endangered	61	18.0	14.8
White- crowned snake	Cacophis harriettae	Vulnerable	61	18.0	4.9
Marbled frogmouth	Podargus ocellatus	Vulnerable	397	17.9	54.9
Little bent- winged bat	Miniopterus australis	Vulnerable	4750	17.6	14.6
Large bent- winged bat	Miniopterus orianae oceanensis	Vulnerable	6640	17.6	14.3
Flame robin	Petroica phoenicea	Vulnerable	10051	16.4	22.1
Common planigale	Planigale maculata	Vulnerable	278	16.2	14.4
Eastern chestnut mouse	Pseudomys gracilicaudatus	Vulnerable	198	16.2	55.1
Varied sittella	Daphoenositta chrysoptera	Vulnerable	9763	16.1	22.9
Manning River helmeted turtle, Purvis' turtle	Myuchelys purvisi	Endangered	299	16.1	14.1
Eastern pygmy- possum	Cercartetus nanus	Vulnerable	2359	16.0	28.0
Wompoo fruit- dove	Ptilinopus magnificus	Vulnerable	3928	15.8	41.4
Little lorikeet	Glossopsitta pusilla	Vulnerable	8920	15.0	16.7
Broad-toothed rat	Mastacomys fuscus	Vulnerable	683	14.9	80.8
Rosenberg's goanna	Varanus rosenbergi	Vulnerable	510	14.7	30.8
Pink robin	Petroica rodinogaster	Vulnerable	147	14.3	57.8
Barking owl	Ninox connivens	Vulnerable	2028	14.1	21.1
Black- breasted button-quail	Turnix melanogaster	Critically Endangered	64	14.1	70.3

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Giant barred frog	Mixophyes iteratus	Endangered	4053	13.2	10.3
Giant burrowing frog	Heleioporus australiacus	Vulnerable	1077	13.3	40.5
Olongburra frog	Litoria olongburensis	Vulnerable	196	12.8	40.3
Bellinger River snapping turtle	Myuchelys georgesi	Critically Endangered	104	12.5	2.9
Eastern cave bat	Vespadelus troughtoni	Vulnerable	627	12.4	13.9
Squirrel glider	Petaurus norfolcensis	Vulnerable	5103	12.3	9.2
Eastern grass owl	Tyto Iongimembris	Vulnerable	339	11.8	19.5
Tusked frog population in the Nandewar and New England Tableland Bioregions	Adelotus brevis	Endangered	196	11.7	1.0
Wallum froglet	Crinia tinnula	Vulnerable	1759	11.0	22.8
Booroolong frog	Litoria booroolongensis	Endangered	3116	10.3	3.4
Red-crowned toadlet	Pseudophryne australis	Vulnerable	2245	10.2	33.9
Southern myotis	Myotis macropus	Vulnerable	4422	10.2	8.3
Coastal petal tail	Petalura litorea	Endangered	98	10.2	43.9

Table 2 Initial analysis of threatened native plants in fire affected areas based on previous records of sightings. Please note that data was current as of 6 January 2020. For more comprehensive and updated information, visit or search for 'Understanding the impact of the 2019-20 fires'.

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Creswick apple box	Eucalyptus corticosa	Vulnerable	76	100	0.0
<null></null>	Philotheca obovatifolia	Endangered	14	100	0.0
<null></null>	Bertya sp. (Clouds Creek, M. Fatemi 4)	Endangered	3	100	0.0
Montane green five- corners	Styphelia perileuca	Vulnerable	40	100	0.0
<null></null>	Caladenia montana	Vulnerable	2	100	0.0
<null></null>	Prasophyllum innubum	Critically Endangered	3	100	0.0
Kelton's leek orchid	Prasophyllum keltonii	Critically Endangered	55	100	0.0
<null></null>	Prasophyllum bagoense	Critically Endangered	389	100	0.0
<null></null>	Persoonia hindii	Endangered	936	100	0.0
Binghi homoranthus	Homoranthus binghiensis	Endangered	9	100	0.0
<null></null>	Eucalyptus sp. Howes Swamp Creek	Endangered	10	100	0.0
<null></null>	Pimelea cremnophila	Critically Endangered	5	100	0.0
Genoa River correa	Correa lawrenceana var. genoensis	Endangered	9	100	0.0
Musty leek orchid	Prasophyllum pallens	Vulnerable	1	100	0.0
<null></null>	Thelymitra alpicola	Vulnerable	3	100	0.0
<null></null>	Cucumis althaeoides	Critically Endangered	5	100	0.0
<null></null>	Hibbertia circinata	Critically Endangered	1	100	0.0

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Torrington beard-heath	Leucopogon confertus	Endangered	10	100	0.0
Budawangs bush-pea	Pultenaea baeuerlenii	Vulnerable	19	100	0.0
Imlay mallee	Eucalyptus imlayensis	Critically Endangered	14	100	0.0
Budawangs wallaby grass	Plinthanthesis rodwayi	Critically Endangered	16	100	0.0
Soft grevillea	Grevillea mollis	Endangered	20	100	0.0
Floyd's zieria	Zieria floydii	Endangered	10	100	0.0
Coveny's zieria	Zieria covenyi	Endangered	39	100	0.0
<null></null>	Baeckea kandos	Endangered	22	100	0.0
Bredbo gentian	Gentiana bredboensis	Critically Endangered	6	100	0.0
Narrow-leaf melichrus	<i>Melichrus</i> sp. Gibberagee	Endangered	771	99.9	0.0
Swamp mint- bush	Prostanthera palustris	Vulnerable	417	99.3	0.7
Narrabarba wattle	Acacia constablei	Vulnerable	109	99.1	0.0
Johnson's cycad	Macrozamia johnsonii	Endangered	629	99.1	0.0
Gibraltar mallee	Eucalyptus dissita	Vulnerable	76	98.7	1.3
East lynne midge orchid	Genoplesium vernale	Vulnerable	56	98.2	0.0
Gibraltar grevillea	Grevillea rhizomatosa	Vulnerable	1139	97.7	1.1
Budawangs cliff-heath	Budawangia gnidioides	Vulnerable	63	96.8	0.0
<null></null>	Veronica blakelyi	Vulnerable	177	96.6	0.6
Small pale grass-lily	Caesia parviflora var. minor	Endangered	80	96.3	1.3
Evans grevillea	Grevillea evansiana	Vulnerable	86	95.4	0.0

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
New england gentian	Gentiana wissmannii	Vulnerable	20	95.0	0.0
Rusty desert phebalium	Phebalium glandulosum subsp. eglandulosum	Endangered	35	94.3	0.0
Monga tea tree	Leptospermum thompsonii	Vulnerable	45	93.3	2.2
<null></null>	Paspalidium grandispiculat um	Vulnerable	131	93.1	2.3
Kanangra wattle	Acacia clunies-rossiae	Vulnerable	155	92.9	5.8
Kowmung hakea	Hakea dohertyi	Endangered	140	92.9	5.7
Ettrema mallee	Eucalyptus sturgissiana	Vulnerable	222	92.8	0.5
Rylstone bell	Leionema sympetalum	Vulnerable	54	92.6	1.9
Bird orchid	Chiloglottis anaticeps	Endangered	12	91.7	0.0
<null></null>	Kardomia prominens	Endangered	10	90.0	0.0
Superb midge orchid	Genoplesium superbum	Endangered	10	90.0	0.0
Bombay bossiaea	Bossiaea bombayensis	Vulnerable	10	90.0	0.0
Backwater grevillea	Grevillea scortechinii subsp. sarmentosa	Vulnerable	64	89.1	0.0
Warra Broad- leaved sally	Eucalyptus camphora subsp. relicta	Endangered	18	88.9	0.0
Torrington pea	Almaleea cambagei	Endangered	26	88.5	3.9
Fletcher's drumsticks	Isopogon fletcheri	Vulnerable	33	87.9	0.0
<null></null>	Pultenaea sp. Olinda	Endangered	38	86.8	0.0

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Banyabba shiny-barked gum	Eucalyptus pachycalyx subsp. banyabba	Endangered	30	86.7	13.3
Tall velvet sea-berry	Haloragis exalata subsp. velutina	Vulnerable	31	83.9	16.1
Slender greenhood	Pterostylis foliata	Vulnerable	12	83.3	0.0
Water nutgrass	Cyperus aquatilis	Endangered	66	83.3	0.0
Bristly shield fern	Lastreopsis hispida	Endangered	6	83.3	0.0
Mountain trachymene	Trachymene scapigera	Endangered	17	82.4	0.0
Deane's boronia	Boronia deanei		201	81.1	14.4
Wingello grevillea	Grevillea molyneuxii	Vulnerable	27	77.8	3.7
Banyabba grevillea	Grevillea banyabba	Vulnerable	53	77.4	15.1
<null></null>	Velleia perfoliata	Vulnerable	21	76.2	14.3
Parris' bush- pea	Pultenaea parrisiae	Vulnerable	25	76.0	24.0
Metcalfe's greenhood	Pterostylis metcalfei	Vulnerable	75	72.0	0.0
Phantom wattle	Acacia phasmoides	Endangered	24	70.8	20.8
dense cord- rush	Baloskion longipes	Vulnerable	41	70.7	2.4
Stinky lily	Typhonium sp. aff. brownii	Vulnerable	32	68.8	0.0
<null></null>	Olearia cordata	Endangered	87	66.7	13.8
Cryptic forest twiner	Tylophora woollsii	Vulnerable	76	65.8	11.8
Manning yellow solanum	Solanum sulphureum	Endangered	127	63.8	0.0
Velvet zieria	Zieria murphyi	Endangered	44	63.6	15.9

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Pygmy cypress pine	Callitris oblonga	Vulnerable	85	63.5	7.1
Buttercup doubletail	Diuris aequalis	Vulnerable	240	62.5	0.8
Beadle's grevillea	Grevillea beadleana	Endangered	111	62.2	27.0
Bodalla pomaderris	Pomaderris bodalla	Endangered	119	58.8	2.5
<null></null>	Glycine latrobeana	Vulnerable	7	57.1	42.9
Chambigne bertya	Bertya sp. (Chambigne NR, M. Fatemi 24)	Critically Endangered	23	56.5	30.4
Nerriga grevillea	Grevillea renwickiana	Endangered	57	56.1	0.0
Blue-tongued greenhood	Pterostylis oreophila	Endangered	9	55.6	44.4
Hairy geebung	Persoonia hirsuta	Critically Endangered	637	55.3	3.5
Elegant greenhood	Pterostylis elegans	Endangered	29	55.2	17.2
Rock-face bluebell	Wahlenbergia scopulicola	Vulnerable	11	54.6	45.5
Tinospora vine	Tinospora smilacina	Endangered	57	54.4	12.3
Inverell cycad	Macrozamia humilis	Endangered	35	54.3	17.1
<null></null>	Hibbertia stricta subsp. furcatula	Endangered	94	53.2	24.5
Ovenden's ironbark	Eucalyptus caleyi subsp. ovendenii	Endangered	17	52.9	5.9
Bailey's indigo	Indigofera baileyi	Vulnerable	36	52.8	8.3
Granite boronia	Boronia granitica	Endangered	74	52.7	21.6
Creek triplarina	Triplarina imbricata	Vulnerable	19	52.6	5.3
Tree guinea flower	Hibbertia hexandra	Endangered	37	51.4	35.1

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Cambage kunzea	Kunzea cambagei	Endangered	37	51.4	5.4
Black-hooded sun orchid	Thelymitra atronitida	Vulnerable	4	50.0	50.0
<null></null>	Pterostylis alpina	Critically Endangered	8	50.0	25.0
Evans sedge	Lepidosperma evansianum	Vulnerable	14	50.0	0.0
Stringybark she-oak population in the Clarence Valley local government area	Allocasuarina inophloia	Vulnerable	2	50.0	0.0
Brown butterfly orchid	Sarcochilus dilatatus	Endangered	4	50.0	0.0
Scrambling lignum	Muehlenbecki a costata	Endangered	37	48.7	51.4
Nightcap plectranthus	Plectranthus nitidus	Vulnerable	35	48.6	20.0
Merimbula star-hair	Astrotricha sp. Wallagaraugh	Endangered	87	46.0	2.3
Megalong valley bottlebrush	Callistemon megalongensi s	Endangered	114	43.9	0.0
Big Nellie hakea	Hakea archaeoides	Critically Endangered	99	43.4	29.3
Chef's cap correa	Correa baeuerlenii	Vulnerable	261	43.3	13.4
Fragrant pepperbush	Tasmannia glaucifolia	Vulnerable	340	42.7	52.1
Peach myrtle	Uromyrtus australis	Vulnerable	144	41.7	51.4
Hartman's sarcochilus	Sarcochilus hartmannii	Endangered	27	40.7	29.6
Dungowan starbush	Asterolasia beckersii	Vulnerable	32	40.6	6.3
Tuncurry midge orchid	Genoplesium littorale	Endangered	260	40.4	16.5
Capertee stringybark	Eucalyptus cannonii	Critically Endangered	535	40.2	16.5

na	ecords on nburnt abitat in ational park
Charmhaven Angophora Vulnerable 5817 39.8 1.0 apple inopina	0
Grove's <i>Melaleuca</i> Vulnerable 358 39.7 8.1 paperbark <i>groveana</i>	1
<null> Asterolasia Vulnerable 151 38.4 37 elegans</null>	7.8
Trailing Monotoca Endangered 8 37.5 50 monotoca rotundifolia	0.0
Eucalyptus Eucalyptus Endangered 118 37.3 20 langleyi langleyi population north of the Shoalhaven River in the Shoalhaven local government area	0.3
<null> <i>Micromyrtus</i> Endangered 650 36.3 42 blakelyi</null>	2.9
<null> Oldenlandia Vulnerable 14 35.7 21 galioides</null>	1.4
Noah's false Lindernia Endangered 339 35.4 0.3 chickweed alsinoides	3
Lesser Arthropteris Endangered 6 33.3 66 creeping fern palisotii	5.7
<null> Tephrosia Endangered 33 33.3 30 filipes</null>	0.3
Seringia Seringia Vulnerable 6 33.3 0.0 denticulata in denticulata the Hawkesbury local government area	0
Gorge hakea Hakea fraseri Endangered 27 33.3 37	7.0
Grey deua <i>Pomaderris</i> Vulnerable 3 33.3 66 pomaderris <i>gilmourii</i> var. cana	6.7
<null> Acacia Vulnerable 265 33.2 56 gordonii</null>	5.2
<null> Zieria Endangered 740 32.8 39 involucrata</null>	9.2
Large-leafed <i>Monotaxis</i> Endangered 46 32.6 41 monotaxis <i>macrophylla</i>	1.3

			NSW	percent of records in fire affected area	percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Macnutt's Acad wattle mach	cia nuttiana	Endangered	62	32.3	41.9
Nabiac Alloc casuarina simu	casuarina ılans	Vulnerable	153	32.0	19.6
<null> Sola armo</null>	num ourense	Vulnerable	145	31.7	65.5
	oglottis vptera	Endangered	19	31.6	42.1
Trailing Aspe woodruff asthe	erula enes	Vulnerable	167	31.1	11.4
Shannon Boro creek boronia hapa	nnia alophylla	Vulnerable	234	30.8	54.7
Slaty red gum Euca	alyptus cina	Endangered	954	30.7	1.6
	plocos ıerlenii	Vulnerable	416	30.5	62.3
	mmitis ophylla	Vulnerable	67	29.98	29.9
<null> Mau triglo</null>	ndia ochinoides	Endangered	526	29.	1.5
Slender screw Linds fern incis		Vulnerable	308	28.6	8.8
5 5	coonia cescens	Endangered	1207	28.5	0.4
<null> Anci</null>	strachne Ienii	Endangered	102	28.	31.4
, ,	onsia igoensis	Vulnerable	1263	28.2	7.7
Tangled Galiu bedstraw austi		Vulnerable	33	27.0	36.4
Corokia Coro white		Endangered	204	27.1	57.8
	damnia scens	Vulnerable	2876	26.9	20.1
Bordered Hibb guinea flower marg	ertia ginata	Critically Endangered	406	26.9	1.5
Polblue Euph eyebright ciliol	hrasia ata	Vulnerable	161	26.1	37.9
Dorrigo daisy Olea bush flock	ria toniae	Vulnerable	623	25.8	25.2
Border ranges Sola nightshade limita		Endangered	8	25.0	50.0

Common name	Scientific name	Conservation status	Total number of records in NSW	Rounded percent of records in fire affected area	Rounded percent of records on unburnt habitat in national park
Few-seeded bossiaea	Bossiaea oligosperma	Endangered	124	24.2	0.0
Small-flower grevillea	Grevillea parviflora subsp. parviflora	Vulnerable	5217	23.4	5.8
<null></null>	Tetratheca glandulosa	Vulnerable	1854	23.3	23.3
Brush sauropus	Phyllanthus microcladus	Vulnerable	95	23.2	0.0
Northern blue box	Eucalyptus magnificata	Endangered	44	22.7	4.6
Kiandra leek orchid	Prasophyllum retroflexum	Endangered	9	22.2	77.8
Tenterfield eyebright	Euphrasia orthocheila subsp. peraspera	Vulnerable	9	22.2	22.2
<null></null>	Grevillea obtusiflora	Endangered	66	21.2	15.2
Acalypha	Acalypha eremorum	Endangered	38	21.1	21.1
<null></null>	Euphrasia arguta	Endangered	29	20.7	3.5
<null></null>	Darwinia peduncularis	Critically Endangered	78	20.5	59.0
Square- stemmed olax	Olax angulata	Vulnerable	39	20.5	56.4
White-flowered wax plant	Cynanchum elegans	Vulnerable	469	20.0	10.7
Parris' pomaderris	Pomaderris parrisiae	Endangered	40	20.0	50.0
Bolivia hill boronia	Boronia boliviensis	Vulnerable	5	20.0	60.0
<null></null>	Diuris eborensis	Endangered	5	20.0	20.0

**Note:** These tables have been generated from the species sighting records held in the NSW Bionet database for species in one or more of the seven Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia (IBRA) regions affected by the fires. This included over 5 million plant records, 207,000 frog records, 273,000 reptile records, 1.5 million mammal records and 5.6 million bird records. Only species listed as threatened in New South Wales and where more than 10% of the animal and 20% of the plant records were recorded within the Rural Fire Service fire affected area are included in the analysis.

# Find out more about your environment at:

#### www.environment.nsw.gov.au

© 2020 State of NSW and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

With the exception of photographs, the State of NSW and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment are pleased to allow this material to be reproduced in whole or in part for educational and non-commercial use, provided the meaning is unchanged and its source, publisher and authorship are acknowledged. Specific permission is required for the reproduction of photographs.

The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has compiled this report in good faith, exercising all due care and attention. No representation is made about the accuracy, completeness or suitability of the information in this publication for any particular purpose. DPIE shall not be liable for any damage which may occur to any person or organisation taking action or not on the basis of this publication. Readers should seek appropriate advice when applying the information to their specific needs.

All content in this publication is owned by DPIE and is protected by Crown Copyright, unless credited otherwise. It is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International (CC BY 4.0), subject to the exemptions contained in the licence. The legal code for the licence is available at Creative Commons.

DPIE asserts the right to be attributed as author of the original material in the following manner: © State of New South Wales and Department of Planning, Industry and Environment 2020.

**Cover photo:** Shale forest endangered ecological community, O'Hares Creek (Keith Horton/DPIE);

**Page 5:** Wollemi pine rescue (John Spencer/DPIE); Regeneration in Crowdy Bay (Andrew Marshall/DPIE);

Page 6: Farmland (Michael Van Ewijk/DPIE)

Page 8: Grey-flying fox (Shane Ruming/DPIE);

**Page 9:** Brush-tailed rock-wallaby food drop operation (John Spencer/DPIE); Platypus (Sharon Wormleaton/DPIE);

Page 10: Feral dear (Mel Schroder/DPIE); Wilddog baiting (Shane Robinson/DPIE);

**Page 12:** Wollemi pine rescue (John Spencer/DPIE), Mountain pygmy possum (Justin Mallee/DPIE); Brush-tailed rock-wallaby food drop operation (John Spencer/DPIE); Koala (Andrew Marshall/DPIE);

#### Published by:

Environment, Energy and Science
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
59 Goulburn Street, Sydney NSW 2000
PO Box A290, Sydney South NSW 1232
Phone: +61 2 9995 5000 (switchboard)
Phone: 1300 361 967 (Environment, Energy and
Science enquiries)

TTY users: phone 133 677, then ask for 1300 361 967 Speak and listen users: phone 1300 555 727,

then ask for 1300 361 967

Email: info@environment.nsw.gov.au Website: www.environment.nsw.gov.au

Report pollution and environmental incidents Environment Line: 131 555 (NSW only) or info@environment.nsw.gov.au See also www.environment.nsw.gov.au

ISBN 978-1-922318-18-3 EES 2020/0027 January 2020