

Action Statement

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988

No. 198

Angahook Pink-fingers *Caladenia maritima*

Description and distribution

The Angahook Pink-fingers *Caladenia maritima* (D.L. Jones) D.L. Jones & M.A. Clem. is endemic to Victoria, occurring in the Victorian Otway Plain Bioregion in the vicinity of Anglesea. Approximately 500 plants occur in the wild, in a single population.

The Angahook Pink-fingers is reserved at Angahook-Lorne State Park, which is managed by Parks Victoria.

Habitat

The Angahook Pink-fingers occurs in Messmate Eucalyptus obliqua coastal woodland with a heathy understorey dominated by Austral Grass-tree Xanthorrhoea australis, Hibbertia sericea and Silky Teatree Leptospermum myrsinoides on well-drained, dark grey sandy loam.

Conservation status

National conservation status

Angahook Pink-fingers is not listed under the **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999**.

Victorian conservation status

Angahook Pink-fingers is currently classified as 'endangered' in Victoria according to 'Advisory List of Rare or Threatened Vascular Plants in Victoria - 2004' (DSE 2004).

Angahook Pink-fingers is not listed under the **Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988**

Decline and threats

Current threats with estimated severity

Biology/Ecology

High - Conditions for maintenance of pollinator and fungal activity unknown; increased extinction risk due to single population.



Distribution in Victoria
(from *Flora Information System*, NRE 2002)

Weed invasion

Moderate at present - Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera*) and Sallow Wattle (*Acacia longifolia* var. *longifolia*) occur within the park.

Site protection

Moderate - confined to an area subject to multiple use.

Grazing

Low - kangaroos and wallabies absent; rabbits in low numbers.

Potential threats with estimated risk

Illegal collection

High - probably highly sought after by collectors.

Inappropriate fire regimes

Moderate - site has been burnt recently and fire planning is in preparation. Some pressure from nearby residents to burn site in Spring during flowering.

Accidental damage

High – Potential for trampling from recreational users including walkers and dogs.

- Angahook Pink-fingers is probably highly sought after by collectors, so site confidentiality is vital. Involvement from non government organisations and individuals will be limited to a small number of individuals with a demonstrated track record in orchid conservation.
- Angahook Pink-fingers responds well to fire and determination of a suitable fire regime is essential to promote flowering and probably seedling recruitment.
- Angahook Pink-fingers is extremely vulnerable to site disturbance. The impact of existing walking tracks needs to be assessed and management action taken if required.

Previous management action

- The site was visited during preparation of the Action Statement.
- The population was discovered by the Friends of Angahook-Lorne State Park and has been monitored by them for the past three years.

Major conservation objective

Long-term objective

To ensure that the Angahook Pink-fingers can survive, flourish and retain its potential for evolutionary development in the wild.

Objectives of this Action Statement

1. Protect the existing population of Angahook Pink-fingers.
2. Search for additional populations

Intended management action

Monitoring

The intended management actions listed below are further elaborated in DSE's Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) system. Detailed information about the actions and locations, including priorities, is held in this system and will be provided annually to land managers and other authorities.

1. Acquire baseline population data at the known population.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region, DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division
2. Assess habitat of known population in order to identify ecological correlates.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region, DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division
3. Conduct surveys in suitable habitat in the broad vicinity of the known population.

Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region, DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division

4. Conduct annual censusing of the known population, and collate, analyse and report on census data.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region, DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division
5. Assess threats to known population, with emphasis on visitor pressure and weed invasion.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region
6. Plan and implement measures to mitigate threats, if required.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE South-west Region
7. Collect and store seed and determine seed viability.
Responsibility: DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division, Royal Botanic Gardens
8. Involve community groups in recovery actions where appropriate and provide support under the Botanic Guardians scheme.
Responsibility: Parks Victoria, DSE Biodiversity & Natural Resources Division, DSE SW Region

References

DSE (2004) Advisory List of Rare or Threatened Vascular Plants in Victoria – 2004. Department of Sustainability and Environment, Victoria, Australia.

Compiled by Fiona Coates, Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research, Department of Sustainability and Environment.

Further information can be obtained from Department of Sustainability and Environment Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Action Statements are available from the Department of Sustainability and Environment website: <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au>

This Action Statement has been prepared under section 19 of the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 under delegation from Professor Lyndsay Neilson, Secretary, Department of Sustainability and Environment, September 2004.

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