

To: Assistant Minister for the Environment (For Decision)

cc. Minister for the Environment and Energy



**2018 ASSESSMENT PRIORITIES FOR THREATENED SPECIES, ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES AND KEY THREATENING PROCESSES**

Timing: 9 August 2018 – 20 business days from the receipt of advice (statutory deadline).

**Recommendations:**

1. That you agree to the Threatened Species Scientific Committee's Proposed Priority Assessment List for species and ecological communities (**Attachment A**) becoming the Finalised Priority Assessment List without changes.

Agreed /  Not agreed

2. That you agree to the Committee's proposed assessment completion times in **Attachment A**.

Agreed /  Not agreed

3. That you agree to declare a population to be a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act and change the name of a listed entity by making the statutory decisions in **Attachment I**, signing the legislative instruments at **Attachments J and L** and approving the explanatory statements at **Attachments K and M**.

Agreed /  Not agreed

4. That you agree to the Committee's request for an extension to the assessment completion time for *Myoporum turbinatum* (Salt Myoporum) from 30 September 2018 until 30 September 2019.

Agreed /  Not agreed

5. That you sign the letter to the Chair of the Committee at **Attachment P**.

Signed /  Not signed

Signatory:

Date: 8/8/2018

Comments:

Clearing Officer: Sent 12/07/2018	Kylie Jonasson	First Assistant Secretary, Biodiversity Conservation Division	section 22
Contact Officer:	Geoff Richardson	Assistant Secretary, Protected Species and Communities Branch	section 22

## Key Points:

1. **Attachment A** is the Threatened Species Scientific Committee's 2018 Proposed Priority Assessment List of species and ecological communities for assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
2. You have 20 business days after receiving the proposed assessment list (until 9 August 2018) to make any changes, after which it automatically becomes the Finalised Priority Assessment List (s194K). You may add or omit items or change the assessment completion times. You may have regard to any matters you consider appropriate in making these changes.
3. This is your only opportunity to determine what is assessed. Once an item is included in the final list, it cannot be removed and must be assessed by the Committee and their advice provided to you for a listing decision. At that point you may only consider whether the entity is eligible and the effect of listing or delisting that entity. An outline of the full process is at **Attachment B**.
4. In considering whether to change the proposed assessment list, you should note that the reasons why a public nomination is not included in the final assessment list are published. Draft statements prepared by the Committee for items they have not included are at **Attachment C**. The Committee's reasons for including each item are at **Attachment D**.

## Summary of the proposed list

5. The proposed list includes 74 species and two ecological communities. No threatening processes have been prioritised by the Committee in 2018. The proposed list can be summarised by:
  - a. **Taxa**: the 74 species include 29 plants, 18 frogs, 15 fish, five mammals, four reptiles, two invertebrates and one bird species
  - b. **Range Jurisdiction**: 56 of the 74 species are only found in one state or territory (27 in Western Australia, 13 in New South Wales, 8 in Queensland, 6 in Victoria and 2 in the Northern Territory). The remaining 18 species occur across multiple jurisdictions, including two marine species. One of the ecological communities is only found in South Australia, the other is found in the marine and estuarine waters of eastern and southern Australia
  - c. **Change to the list**: 55 species and 2 ecological communities have been proposed for addition to the threatened list, 13 species for transfer to a different category within the list and six species for deletion from the list. Forty-two of the species being assessed for addition to the list are already listed in the proposed category under state or territory legislation and are being prioritised to achieve national alignment of their listing status
  - d. **Source of the nomination**: Two species and two ecological communities in the proposed list were nominated by the public. The public nominations considered are summarised at **Attachment E**. The remaining 72 species were identified by the Committee based on:

- i. Collaboration with the states and territories through the Common Assessment Method to achieve alignment of currently-listed species across jurisdictions (33 species endemic to a state or territory and 3 which occur across multiple jurisdictions)
  - ii. National expert reviews of the threat status of frogs (17 species), fish (10 species), mammals (4 species), lizards and snakes (2 species)
  - iii. National Environmental Science Programme (NESP) analysis of species at imminent risk of extinction. The Committee has prioritised 10 imperilled fish species identified as being at imminent risk of extinction in 2018 as they are not currently listed under the EPBC Act. All of the bird species and all except one of the mammal species identified in this analysis are already listed. There is insufficient information to assess the unlisted mammal, the Tasman Antechinus, but the Department is working with the Tasmanian government to gather the required information. The Committee will consider whether the birds and mammals are in the appropriate threat category in the list and make recommendations on those that require reassessment in the 2019 prioritisation process. The Committee will also consider the equivalent analysis for imperilled plants which is being finalised by the NESP researchers
  - iv. NESP research on the emerging threat posed by myrtle rust (2 species)
  - v. Fisheries Status Reports prepared by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences.
6. Further information on the proposed list is at **Attachment F**. Departmental activities and sensitivities relevant to each item are summarised in **Attachment G**. Maps of the distribution of each item are at **Attachment H**.

### **Associated decisions**

7. One of the items proposed for assessment is a fish, the Western Spotted Galaxias, which is currently listed as a threatened subspecies. A recent taxonomic revision has determined that this subspecies is no longer valid, but that reassessment as a threatened population is warranted. To enable the reassessment, the Committee recommends that you make a determination that the population is a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act (s517) and amend the listed name from the existing subspecies to the new population name (s184(d)). Your statutory decisions relating to this taxon are set out in **Attachment I**, with Legislative Instruments at **Attachment J and L** for your signature and Explanatory Statements at **Attachment K and M** for your approval.
8. In preparing the proposed assessment list, the Committee also reviewed the progress of assessments under way. The Committee requests an extension of the assessment completion timeframe for one species (background in **Attachment N**).

### **Background**

9. The EPBC Act maintains lists of threatened species and ecological communities and key threatening processes, which can only be amended by you on advice of the Committee.



10. The Act requires an annual call for nominations to amend the list, followed by a prioritisation process led by the Committee. The Act requirements for the nomination and prioritisation process are at **Attachment O**.

### **Sensitivities and Handling**

11. The Department supports the Committee's proposed priorities and recommends that you make no changes to the proposed assessment list. The species and ecological communities proposed for assessment are not contentious.
12. There are opportunities for positive news stories including the assessment of the Humpback Whale for delisting – a conservation success attributable to Australian engagement on the international whaling moratorium. The continued commitment of the Australian Government to aligning the conservation status of threatened species across jurisdictions through the Common Assessment Method is also a positive story.
13. The Committee has recommended Redfish (*Centroberyx affinis*) be assessed for potential listing as conservation dependent. The species is depleted from past over-fishing in commercial and recreational fisheries managed by the Commonwealth and New South Wales governments. Historically, such assessments have been somewhat contentious, although this species has been the subject of management restrictions for more than 20 years, and may require few, if any, additional controls to be considered eligible for conservation dependent listing.
14. There are substantial overall benefits to many stakeholders from national listing of ecological communities, particularly as they act as a guide to landscape-level environment protection and natural resource management investment (to manage threats and restore habitat). Despite this, some previous ecological community assessments and listings have been contentious with industry peak bodies. This is particularly in regions where large areas of native vegetation continue to be cleared. The two proposed in 2018 are not in these areas and are less contentious (see **Attachment F** for further information). The Department will engage with relevant industry bodies to manage any criticism and prepare talking points on the benefits of potential listing of the ecological communities.
  - a. The Drooping Sheoak grassy woodland represents some of the last refuges for biodiversity in the extensively cleared farming landscapes of the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas of South Australia. It was nominated by the local Natural Resource Management Board and is expected to be largely supported by local landholders. As per previous ecological community listings in the region, national listing would enable further engagement with farmers and community groups to manage threats (e.g. invasive species) and facilitate landscape restoration to the benefit of biodiversity and farming.
  - b. The Temperate coastal oyster beds is now restricted to nine locations in eastern and southern Australia, with less than 5 ha remaining. Oysters are commercially harvested at one Tasmanian site but the take is small and damage is minimal. Hence listing would not stop current licensed oyster fishery activities, nor recreational take, and is likely to benefit other fisheries (the reefs are a refuge and food supply for fish). Man-made oyster farms are not part of this nomination and so would not be affected.

15. Many of the species proposed for addition to the list are already listed and protected under state or territory legislation. The distribution of the proposed species and ecological communities overlaps with many existing matters of national environmental significance – EPBC Act listed threatened species and ecological communities, heritage places and internationally important wetlands – which would already trigger Commonwealth regulation of significant impacts. Assessment and listing of these entities would require consideration of them in future referrals and approvals. It would also enable Commonwealth investment in their recovery.
16. A letter to the Chair of the Committee regarding the final assessment list is at **Attachment P** for your signature. Please return to the Department for amendment if you make changes to the proposed assessment list.
17. Talking points and draft social media content can be provided on request.

**Consultation: YES**

18. Environment Standards Division, Biodiversity Conservation Division and the Office of the Threatened Species Commissioner, Heritage, Reef and Marine Division, and the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office were consulted.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A:** 2018 Proposed Priority Assessment List
- B:** Outline of the assessment and listing process
- C:** Exclusion statements for publicly nominated items not included on the Proposed Priority Assessment List
- D:** Inclusion statements for items included on the Proposed Priority Assessment List
- E:** Public nominations considered
- F:** Further information on the Proposed Priority Assessment List
- G1:** Considerations relevant to the proposed items
- G2:** Considerations relevant to Common Assessment Method Legacy endemic species
- H:** Maps of the proposed ecological communities and species
- I:** Determining a population of biological entities as a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act and amending the list of threatened species to change the name of a species
- J:** Legislative Instrument – Determining a population is a species
- K:** Explanatory Statement – Determining a population is a species
- L:** Legislative Instrument – Changing the name of a threatened species
- M:** Explanatory Statement – Changing the name of a threatened species
- N:** Background on extending the completion timeframe for an assessment
- O:** EPBC Act sections relevant to the nomination and prioritisation process
- P:** Letter to the Chair of the Committee

THREATENED SPECIES SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Established under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*

**PROPOSED PRIORITY ASSESSMENT LIST FOR THE ASSESSMENT PERIOD  
COMMENCING 1 OCTOBER 2018**

Black text show nominations from the public and blue text show nominations from the Committee#

Item	Australian Distribution	Proposed for assessment as	Assessment completion time
<b>Flora species</b>			
<i>Acacia woodmaniorum</i> (Woodman's Wattle)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Androcalva adenothealia</i>	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Androcalva perlaria</i> (Pearl-like Androcalva)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Bossiaea</i> sp. Frankland (E.M. Sandiford EMS 896)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Caladenia graniticola</i> (Pingaring Spider-orchid)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Clausena excavata</i>	NT	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Ctenotus angusticeps</i> (Northwestern Coastal Ctenotus)	WA	Not listed	30 Sep 19
<i>Eremophila glabra</i> subsp. Scaddan (C. Turley s.n. 10/11/2005)	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Fontainea oraria</i> (Coastal Fontainea)	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Gentiana bredboensis</i>	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Grevillea acropogon</i>	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Hibbertia</i> sp. Toolbrunup (J.R.Wheeler 2504)	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Homoranthus bebo</i>	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Hypocalymma angustifolium</i> subsp. Hutt River (S.Patrick 2982)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Hypocalymma</i> sp. Cascade (R. Bruhn 20896)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Hypsela sessiliflora</i>	NSW	Not listed	30 Sep 19
<i>Lasiopetalum moulllean</i>	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Melaleuca</i> sp. Wanneroo (G.J. Keighery 16705)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Myriocephalus nudus</i>	WA	Extinct	30 Sep 19
<i>Phebalium speciosum</i>	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Philotheca ericifolia</i>	NSW	Not listed	30 Sep 19
<i>Pimelea axiflora</i> subsp. <i>pubescens</i>	NSW	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> (Scrub Turpentine)	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i> (Native Guava)	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Stylidium amabile</i>	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Stylidium asymmetricum</i> (Aymmetric Triggerplant)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)	WA	Not listed	30 Sep 19
<i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> subsp. <i>amblyphyllum</i>	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> subsp. <i>croniforme</i> (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<b>Reptile species</b>			
<i>Aprasia rostrata rostrata</i> (Monte Bello Worm-lizard)	WA	Not listed	30 Sep 19

Item	Australian Distribution	Proposed for assessment as	Assessment completion time
<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i> (Northern Blue-tongued skink)	NT, WA, Qld	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Varanus mertensi</i> (Mertens's Water Monitor)	NT, Qld, WA	Endangered	30 Sep 20
<i>Varanus mitchelli</i> (Mitchell's Water Monitor)	NT, WA	Endangered	30 Sep 20
<b>Frog species</b>			
<i>Cophixalus aenigma</i> (Tapping Nursery-frog)	Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 20
<i>Cophixalus concinnus</i> (Elegant Frog)	Qld	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 20
<i>Cophixalus hosmeri</i> (Rattling Nursery-frog)	Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 20
<i>Cophixalus mcdonaldi</i> (Mount Elliot Nursery-frog)	Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 20
<i>Cophixalus monticola</i> (Mountain Top Nursery-frog)	Qld	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 20
<i>Cophixalus neglectus</i> (Bellenden Ker Nursery-frog)	Qld	Endangered	30 Sep 20
<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i> (Giant Burrowing Frog)	NSW, Vic	Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Litoria booroolongensis</i> (Booroolong Frog)	NSW, Vic	Vulnerable	30 Sep 21
<i>Litoria littlejohni</i> (Heath Frog)	NSW, Vic	Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Litoria spenceri</i> (Spotted Tree Frog)	NSW, Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Mixophyes fleayi</i> (Fleay's Frog)	NSW, Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 21
<i>Mixophyes iteratus</i> (Southern Barred Frog)	NSW, Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 21
<i>Phyllorhina kundagungan</i> (Mountain Frog)	NSW, Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 21
<i>Phyllorhina richmondensis</i> (Richmond Range Sphagnum Frog)	NSW, Qld	Vulnerable	30 Sep 21
<i>Spicospina flammocaerulea</i> (Sunset Frog)	WA	Vulnerable	30 Sep 19
<i>Taudactylus rheophilus</i> (Tinkling Frog)	Qld	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Uperoleia daviesae</i> (Howard River Toadlet)	NT	Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Uperoleia mahonyi</i> (Mahony's Toadlet)	NSW	Vulnerable	30 Sep 19
<b>Fish species</b>			
<i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i> (Silver Perch)	ACT, NSW, Vic, SA	Endangered	30 Mar 21
<i>Centroberyx affinis</i> (Redfish)	Coastal Waters Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, Tas	Conservation Dependant	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias aequipinnis</i> (East Gippsland Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias brevissimus</i> (Short-tail Galaxias)	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias gunaikurnai</i> (Shaw Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias lanceolatus</i> (Tapered Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias longifundus</i> (West Gippsland Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias mcdowalli</i> (McDowall's Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias mungadhan</i> (Dargo Galaxias)	Vic	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias supremus</i> (Kosciuszko Galaxias)	NSW	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Galaxias truttaceus</i> (Western Australian population)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Melanotaenia</i> sp. (Malanda Rainbowfish)	Qld	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21



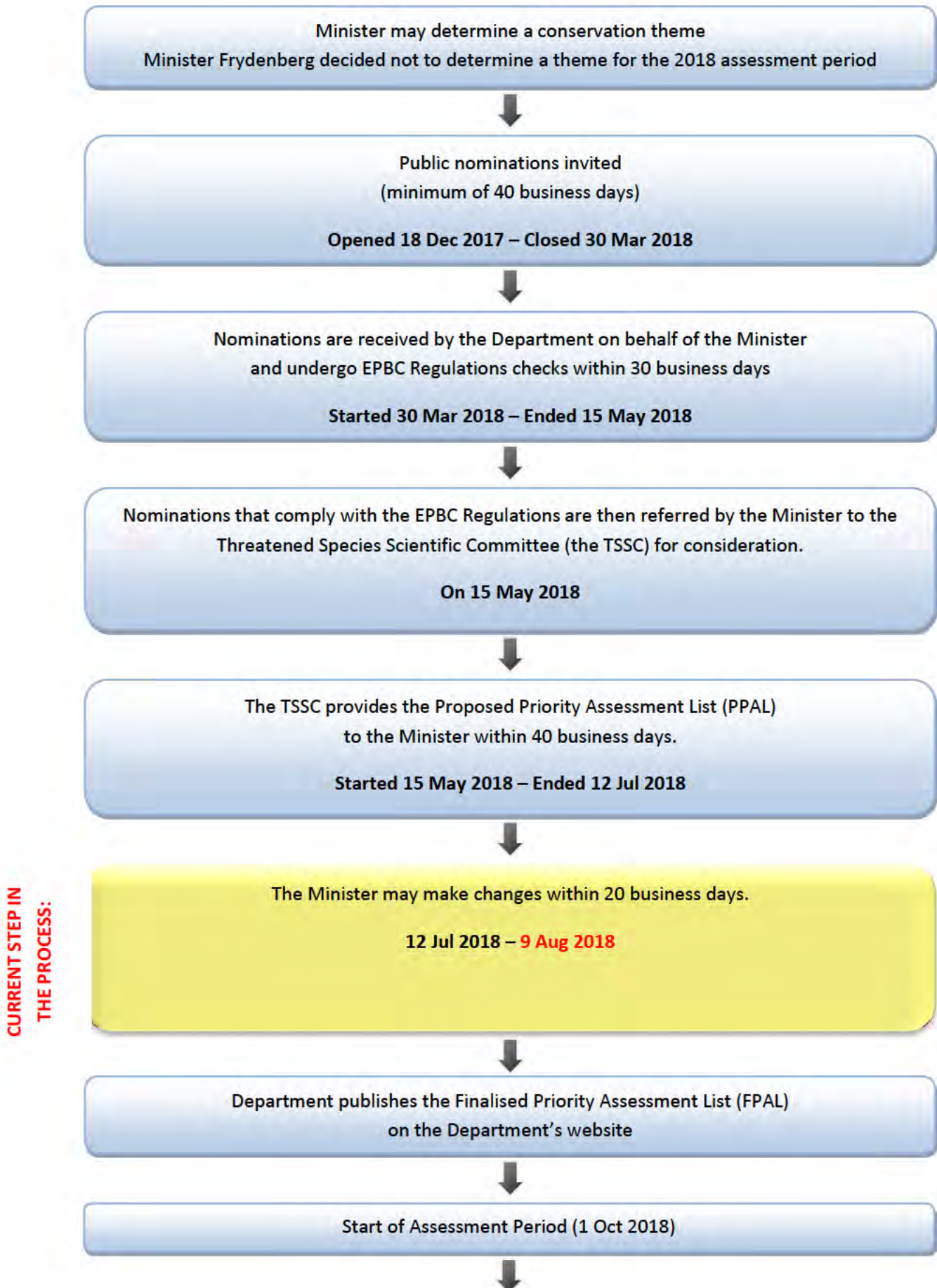
Item	Australian Distribution	Proposed for assessment as	Assessment completion time
<i>Milyeringa justitia</i> (Barrow Cave Gudgeon)	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 21
<i>Nannoperca pygmaea</i> (Little Pygmy Perch)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Prototroctes maraena</i> (Australian Grayling)	Tas, NSW, Vic	Endangered	30 Sep 20
<b>Bird species</b>			
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i> (Grey Falcon)	Australia-wide except Tasmania	Endangered	30 Mar 21
<b>Invertebrate species</b>			
<i>Hesperocolletes douglasi</i> (Douglas' Broad-headed Bee)	WA	Critically Endangered	30 Sep 19
<i>Trioza barrettiae</i> (Banksia brownii Plant-louse)	WA	Endangered	30 Sep 19
<b>Mammal species</b>			
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> (Humpback Whale)	Coastal Waters	Not Listed	30 Mar 21
<i>Perameles bougainville fasciata</i> (Liverpool Plains Striped Bandicoot)	NSW*	Extinct	30 Sep 21
<i>Perameles bougainville myosurus</i> (Marl)	WA*	Extinct	30 Sep 21
<i>Perameles bougainville notina</i> (South-eastern Striped Bandicoot)	SA, Vic*	Extinct	30 Sep 21
<i>Perameles bougainville papillon</i> (Nullarbor Barred Bandicoot)	SA, WA*	Extinct	30 Sep 21
Any other Species nominated by the Committee			30 Sep 20
<b>Ecological Communities</b>			
Drooping Sheoak ( <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i> ) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion	SA	Critically Endangered	30 April 21
Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs	Qld, Tas, NSW, Vic	Critically Endangered	30 April 21
Any other Ecological Community nominated by the Committee			30 Sep 20
<b>Key Threatening Processes</b>			
Any other Key Threatening Process nominated by the Committee			30 Sep 20

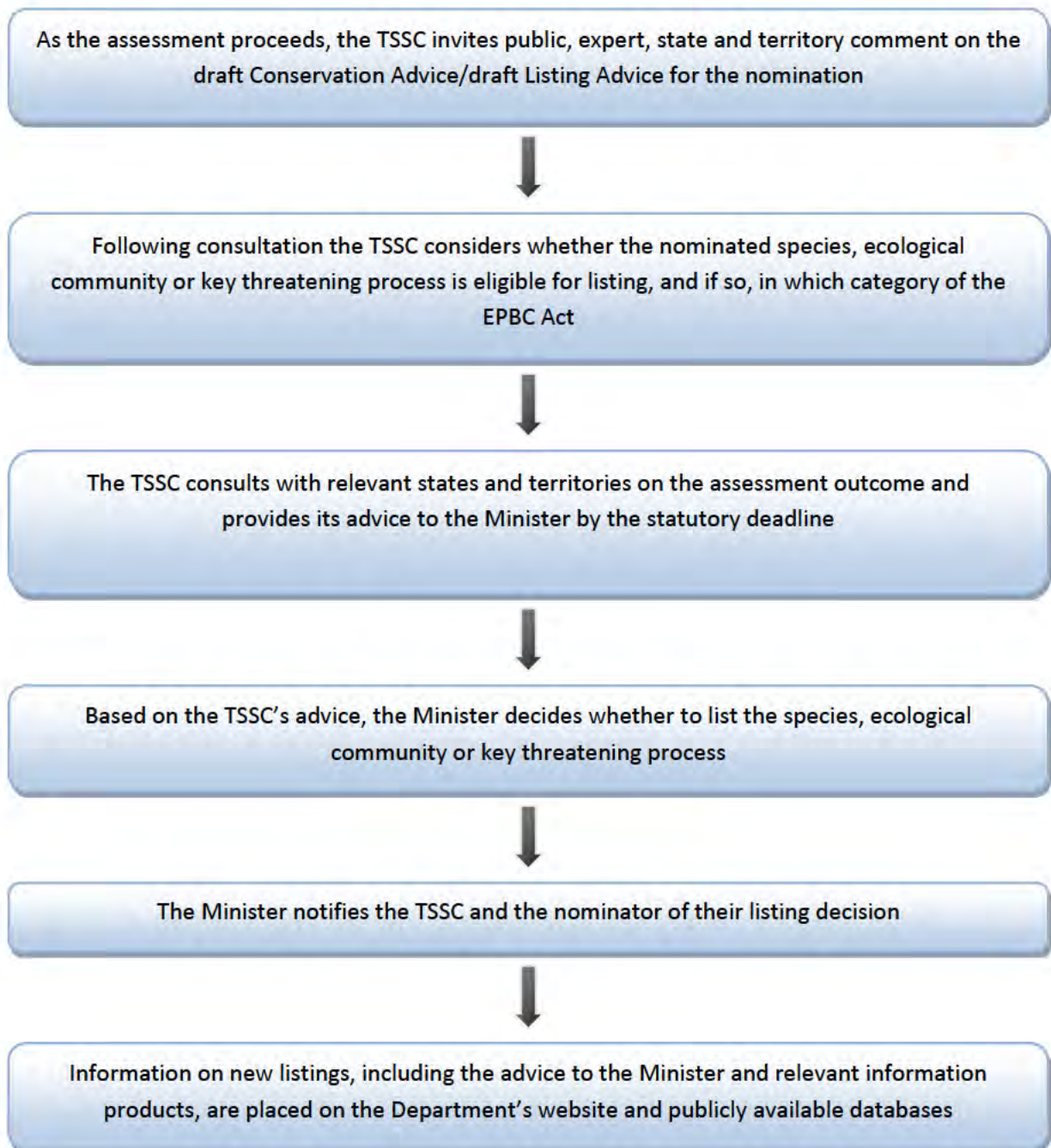
# Under section 194G(3) of the EPBC Act, the Proposed Priority Assessment List may include items the Committee itself wishes to nominate along with nominations received from the public.

\*Former distribution.



## Outline of the process for listing threatened species, ecological communities and key threatening processes





**Exclusion statements for publicly nominated items not included on the Proposed Priority Assessment List**

The Department publishes the exclusions statements provided to you by the Committee under section 194J(1) on the internet and also provides these statements to the nominators of species that were publically nominated.

Species	Exclusion statement
<i>Tylophora linearis</i>	<p><i>Tylophora linearis</i> is a clonal climbing plant, up to two metres high that occurs in New South Wales and southern Queensland. This species is listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act. It has been publicly nominated for de-listing as a result of new information, which suggests that the species is more abundant and widespread than previously known. This species was nominated for delisting in 2017, and additional information was provided in 2018, including the timeframe over which the species has declined, whether it is severely fragmented, and a scientific justification for the method used to estimate the number of mature individuals. The species has triggered the EPBC Act on a number of occasions. However, the species continues to be threatened by land clearance, which may result in the species becoming threatened if it was to be removed from the list. Therefore, the Committee has not prioritised the species for inclusion on the 2018 FPAL. This species will not be automatically considered for inclusion in the 2019 PPAL.</p>
<i>Litoria raniformis</i> (Growling Grass Frog)	<p><i>Litoria raniformis</i> (Growling Grass Frog) is found across a large area of coastal and inland south-east Australia, including Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia. The species' range has contracted, with the most pronounced contraction in New South Wales. The species is currently listed as 'Vulnerable' under the EPBC Act, 'Threatened' under Victorian legislation, 'Endangered' under New South Wales legislation, and 'Vulnerable' under Tasmanian and South Australian legislation. The species was publicly nominated for transfer into the 'Endangered' category under the EPBC Act in 2017. The nomination presents a case for population decline based on a literature review of papers and websites, citing formal and informal surveys carried out since the 1970's. The main threats were considered to be habitat loss and degradation (particularly around Melbourne), drought and disease (Chytridiomycosis). The nomination did not include data on the scale of decline or impacts of the threats. A workshop of frog experts was held in Canberra in June 2016 to assess the status of all Australian frog species. The experts independently concluded that the current EPBC 'Vulnerable' listing for the species was appropriate. The Committee therefore recommends excluding this species from the 2018 FPAL. The species has a recovery plan (2012) and there is a threat abatement plan for Chytridiomycosis (2016). This species will not be automatically considered for inclusion in the 2019 PPAL.</p>



Ecological Community	Exclusion statement
Temperate and Sub-tropical Woodland Bird Community	The nominated ecological community consists of an assemblage of bird species characteristic of temperate and subtropical woodlands across Australia. There are serious concerns about the decline of this bird assemblage. Further investigation is required into the appropriate scale for defining and assessing the community, based on the impact of threats and the level and rate of decline in different regions. The Committee will consider the nominated ecological community or one or more of the proposed regional units in 2019, in the light of progress on its assessment of the 'Mallee bird community of the Murray Darling Depression bioregion' as an exemplar.
Darwin sandsheet heath	The nominated ecological community is predominantly a heathland that occupies the seasonally-inundated sandsheets of the Darwin Coastal bioregion. Additional information on the national extent and threats is required to enable an assessment to be completed. The Committee will reconsider this nomination when adequate information becomes available.
<i>Empodisma gracillimum</i> based peatland communities of the high rainfall zones of South-West Western Australia	The nominated ecological community consists of peatland systems located in the highest rainfall (>1200mm) areas of the lower southwest of Western Australia, largely within the Warren Bioregion and within the Shires of Manjimup and Denmark. Additional information provided in 2018 is helpful, but eligibility for listing has not been sufficiently justified. The Committee will reconsider this nomination when adequate information on and mapping of the national extent becomes available.
Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub of the Sydney Region	The Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub ecological community is a predominantly sclerophyllous heath or scrub that occurs in Sydney and was nominated for transfer to the Critically Endangered category in 2018. The primary key threats to the nominated ecological community are ongoing clearing, fragmentation and intensifying impacts associated with the urban environment. It is currently listed as Endangered under the EPBC Act and was recently uplisted to Critically Endangered under NSW legislation. The Committee has determined that this ecological community will not be prioritised for assessment on the 2018 PPAL, given its existing legislative protection and the capacity of the department to undertake additional assessments. It will automatically be reconsidered for assessment on the 2019 PPAL.
Kwongkan Shrubland thickets of Western Australia's Avon Wheatbelt	The nominated ecological community occurs in the Avon Wheatbelt in southwest Western Australia. It consists of a shrubland with two layers; an upper dense layer and a lower open layer, dominated by <i>Acacia</i> , <i>Allocasuarina</i> and/or <i>Melaleuca</i> species. It faces ongoing impacts from multiple threats including clearing and fragmentation, altered fire regimes, salinity, weed impacts and climate change. The available information suggests a potential conservation status of 'Endangered'. However, additional clarification of the description, national extent and threat impacts is needed before the ecological community could be considered for assessment. The nomination will be eligible for reconsideration in 2019.



Key Threatening Process	Exclusion statement
Death or injury to marine species following capture in the lethal shark control programs (nets and drumlines) on ocean beaches	<p><i>Death or injury to marine species following capture in the lethal shark control programs (nets and drumlines) on ocean beaches</i> was publically nominated in 2017 for consideration for listing as a Key Threatening Process. It was previously assessed in 2005 and found ineligible for listing as a Key Threatening Process. It was nominated again in 2015 and considered in both 2015 and 2016 without being included on the assessment list. The nomination highlights this Key Threatening Process as a significant source of mortality in a range of marine wildlife species, many of which are not the targets of the control programs. However, the threatening process operates over only small portions of the range of most of the species identified in the nomination. While local scale mortality may be significant, at the scale of the species' national distribution, it is not sufficient in most cases to either cause it to become threatened, or if already listed as threatened, to be transferred to a higher category. Additionally, for other species concerned, there are only sparse data on population size or trend, and thus it is not possible to assess the relative significance of mortality in shark control programs. A possible exception is the Grey Nurse Shark (<i>Carcharius taurus</i>), for which shark control programs are noted as a primary threat in this species' Recovery Plan. However, although the nomination merits consideration, given current capacity, this Key Threatening Process is not included on the PPAL in 2018. It will not automatically be eligible for reconsideration by the Committee in 2019.</p>
The impact of sarcoptic mange ( <i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i> ) on <i>Lasiorninus</i> spp.	<p>Sarcoptic Mange is an introduced ectoparasite of Australian wildlife that is particularly severe in wombat species. While it has been demonstrated to cause substantial declines when introduced to naïve populations, it is not clear that it will cause sufficient population decline at the national scale to warrant listing of Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat. The Committee notes that Sarcoptic Mange has been recorded in Southern Hairy-nosed Wombat populations since 1971. The nomination does not provide sufficient evidence that the disease occurs, or may occur, in the largest population of Southern Hairy-nosed Wombats on the Nullarbor plain. The Committee notes that the Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat population is a particularly closely managed population in which the occurrence of mange would likely be identified quickly and that intensive management could appropriately deal with the problem. On this basis, the Committee has decided not to prioritise this nomination for assessment in 2018 and notes that it will be automatically eligible for consideration for inclusion on the 2019 PPAL.</p>
The loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes	<p><i>The cascading effects of the loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes</i> was publically nominated for consideration for listing as a Key Threatening Process in 2017. The nomination relates to the role of the dingo in suppressing the presence, abundance and impact of foxes and cats, and regulating the abundance and impact of native herbivores, on the Australian landscape and its biodiversity. The Committee believes that there is merit in exploring the role of dingoes in controlling introduced predators and overabundant native herbivores, and enabling the survival and recovery of threatened plants and animals in Australian ecosystems, and recommended that it be included on the 2017 PPAL. Noting the minister's decision not to include this nomination on the 2017 FPAL, the Committee decided not to prioritise this nomination for assessment in 2018, and notes that it will not be automatically eligible for consideration for inclusion on the 2019 PPAL.</p>

### Inclusion statements for species and ecological communities included on the proposed list

The Committee has provided these inclusion statements to you under section 194J(1) of the EPBC Act.

Where a species has been prioritised by the Committee based on an expert review or on the basis of an assessment provided by the states and territories through the Common Assessment Method, a single inclusion statement has been used for all relevant species.

Species	Inclusion statement
<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i> Northern Blue-tongued skink	The Northern Blue-tongued skink ( <i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i> ) is endemic to Australia, occurring in Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia. The subspecies was publicly nominated for listing as Endangered under the EPBC Act. The Committee has prioritized this species for assessment based upon survey data, which showed the subspecies has had a 50 per cent reduction based on monitoring (Price-Rees et al 2010) pre and post Cane Toad invasion. There no evidence of population recovery. The Committee recommended including the species on the 2018 FPAL for further assessment against the listing criteria.
<i>Uperoleia mahonyi</i> Mahony's Toadlet	The Mahony's Toadlet ( <i>Uperoleia mahonyi</i> ) is a newly described species, endemic to NSW and restricted to the central coast region. It is considered to be a habitat specialist nominally found in coastal sandbeds systems, primarily located in wallum and heath habitat over leached sand. These habitats have become severely fragmented and limited in occurrence due to coastal development and sand mining. The species was publicly nominated for listing as 'Endangered' under the EPBC Act, on the evidence of several other species of threatened frog similarly dependent on wallum (Clulow <i>et al.</i> 2016). The Committee recommends including the species on the 2018 FPAL for further assessment against the listing criteria.
<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> Native Guava	The Native Guava ( <i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> ) is a tree growing up to 25 m tall, and endemic to New South Wales and Queensland. The Native Guava is not currently listed under the EPBC Act. This species has been identified as being threatened by Myrtle Rust, and is in the first group of priority species identified as threatened by Myrtle Rust. The Committee recommended including the species on the 2018 FPAL for further assessment against the listing criteria.
<i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i> Scrub Turpentine	The Scrub Turpentine ( <i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i> ) is a small tree growing up to 12 m tall, and endemic to New South Wales and Queensland. The Native Guava is not currently listed under the EPBC Act. This species has been identified as being threatened by Myrtle Rust, and is in the first group of priority species identified as threatened by Myrtle Rust. The Committee recommended including the species on the 2018 FPAL for further assessment against the listing criteria.
<i>Centroberyx affinis</i> Redfish	The Redfish ( <i>Centroberyx affinis</i> ) is a slow-growing, long-lived species found in coastal waters of eastern Australia. The species is not listed under the EPBC Act. The species is managed for commercial and recreational fishing. Nonetheless, the species had continued to decline and has been prioritised for further assessment against the listing criteria with a view to strengthening the management arrangements.



Species	Inclusion statement
<p><i>Prototroctes maraena</i> Australian Grayling</p>	<p>The Australian Grayling (<i>Prototroctes maraena</i>) is an obligatory diadromous, endemic species, occurring in freshwater, estuarine and marine waterways in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. The Committee nominated the species for uplisting from Vulnerable to Endangered. because: (i) monitoring data indicate that the species has experienced a decline in abundance and distribution across its range since the initial listing; (ii) the survival of the species is precarious as a result of continuing threats, including fish passage barriers; river regulation; loss of riparian vegetation, disease, sedimentation and other habitat changes.</p>
<p><i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i> Silver Perch</p>	<p>This species is a Committee nomination and is considered under the 2015 <i>Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on a Common Assessment Method for Listing of Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities</i>. This species occurs across multiple states and territories where its listing status is not aligned. This species is being prioritised for national reassessment to align its listing status across jurisdictions.</p>
<p><i>Falco hypoleucos</i> Grey Falcon</p>	<p>This species is a Committee nomination and is considered under the 2015 <i>Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on a Common Assessment Method for Listing of Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities</i>. This species occurs across multiple states and territories where its listing status is not aligned. It is currently not listed at the national level. This species is prioritised for national reassessment: (1) to align its listing status on the EPBC Act threatened species list and corresponding lists in each range jurisdiction; and (2) because it is estimated there are &lt;1000 mature individuals that are vulnerable to ongoing habitat loss and degradation through clearing and overgrazing and predation by cats.</p>
<p><i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> Humpback Whale</p>	<p>This species is a Committee nomination and is considered under the 2015 <i>Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on a Common Assessment Method for Listing of Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities</i>. This species occurs across multiple states and territories where its listing status is not aligned. This species is prioritised for national reassessment to: (1) align its listing status across jurisdictions; and (2) reassess its status in view of the Action Plan for Australian Mammals 2012, which determined that the species did not meet the criteria for listing as 'Vulnerable' because the east and west coast stocks have been increasing at greater than 10% per year and populations are now comparable in size to 3 generations ago.</p>
<p>23 WA, 7 NSW and 1 NT endemic species</p>	<p>These Committee nominations are considered under the 2015 <i>Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding on a Common Assessment Method for Listing of Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities</i>. These species are all endemic to a single state or territory, and have been assessed and listed or delisted under the relevant state or territory legislation. The assessments have been undertaken at a national scale against the IUCN listing criteria, and have been prioritised for corresponding listing or delisting under the EPBC Act.</p>

Species	Inclusion statement
Frog Expert Assessment Plan species	The Committee is systematically reviewing frog species identified by an expert working group under a Species Expert Assessment Plan. Based on the advice of the experts, the Committee considers that these species requires assessment under the threatened species provisions of the EPBC Act.
Fish Expert Assessment Plan species	The Committee is systematically reviewing fish species identified by an expert working group under a Species Expert Assessment Plan. Based on the advice of the experts, the Committee considers that these species requires assessment under the threatened species provisions of the EPBC Act.
Lizard and Snake Action Plan expert assessment	The Committee is systematically reviewing the Australian squamate species added to the IUCN Red List in 2018, which were identified from assessments by Australian expert working groups in 2017. Based on the IUCN listing, the Committee considers that these species require assessment under the threatened species provisions of the EPBC Act.
Mammal Action Plan species	The Committee is systematically reviewing species identified in the <i>Action Plan for Australian Mammals 2012</i> . Based on the conclusions of the action plan, the Committee considers that these species require assessment under the threatened species provisions of the EPBC Act.

Ecological Community	Inclusion statement
Drooping Sheoak ( <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i> ) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion	The Drooping Sheoak ( <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i> ) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete ecological community occurs exclusively in the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion of South Australia. It merits priority assessment because it has been significantly reduced through vegetation clearance, long-term intensive grazing and fire and it continues to decline due to multiple threats. Available information suggests a conservation status of 'Critically Endangered'. Listing the ecological community at the national level is likely to provide substantial conservation benefit.
Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs	The nominated ecological community occurs in temperate and subtropical southern Australian coastal and estuarine waters. It is known to occur at nine locations, from Moreton Bay in Queensland, to Port Phillip Bay in Victoria and includes two sites in Tasmania. It is defined primarily by persistent intertidal or subtidal native oyster beds and reefs and their associated species. It merits priority assessment because most occurrences have been completely destroyed by oyster harvesting and it faces considerable ongoing degradation through overexploitation, urbanisation of catchments and coastlines, pests, diseases and water pollution. Listing the ecological community at the national level is likely to provide substantial conservation benefit, particularly by affording greater recognition in development planning and supporting recovery efforts.



**Public nominations considered by the Threatened Species Scientific Committee for the 2018 Proposed Prioritised Assessment List**

The Committee considered nominations received in response to the most recent call for nominations (18 December 2017 - 30 March 2018) and nominations received in response to the previous call for nominations (13 January 2017 - 31 March 2017) that were not included on the 2017 Finalised Priority Assessment List.

Shaded items have been included on 2018 Proposed Prioritised Assessment List; unshaded items have not been included

Species nominations	Common name	Location	Nominator	Year of nomination
<i>Uperoleia mahonyi</i>	Mahony's Toadlet	NSW	s47F [redacted]	2018
<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i>	Northern Blue-tongued skink	Qld, NT, WA	s47F [redacted]	2018
<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Growling Grass Frog	NSW, Vic, SA, Tas	s47F [redacted]	2017
<i>Tylophora linearis</i>		Qld, NSW	s47F [redacted]	2017

Ecological community nominations*	Location	Nominator	Year of nomination
Native flat oyster and Sydney rock oyster ecosystems of temperate Australian marine and estuarine waters	Qld, Tas, NSW Vic	s47F [redacted]	2018
Drooping Sheoak <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i> Grassy Woodlands on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion (IBRA 7.0)	SA	s47F [redacted]	2018
Kwongkan shrubland thickets of Western Australia's Avon Wheatbelt	WA	s47F [redacted]	2018
Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub of the Sydney Region	NSW	s47F [redacted]	2018
Temperate and Sub-tropical Woodland Bird Community	Qld, NSW, Vic, SA, Tas, WA	s47F [redacted]	2017
Darwin sandsheet heath	NT	s47F [redacted]	2017
<i>Empodisma gracillimum</i> based peatland communities of the high rainfall zones of South-West Western Australia	WA	s47F [redacted]	2017

\* When considering the nominated definitions for each prioritised ecological community, the Committee has revised some of the names to reflect a national extent that would provide the best conservation benefit; i.e. while the Committee has included these nominations in the PPAL, the names may have changed.

## ATTACHMENT E

Key Threatening Process Nominations	Location	Nominator	Year of nomination
The impact of sarcoptic mange ( <i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i> ) on <i>Lasiorhinus</i> spp.	Where <i>Lasiorhinus</i> spp. (Hairy-nosed Wombats) occur (WA, SA & Qld)	s47F [REDACTED]	2018
The loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes	Australia	s47F [REDACTED]	2017
Death or injury to marine species following capture in the lethal shark control programs (nets and drumlines) on ocean beaches	Coastal areas	s47F [REDACTED]	2017

## Further information on the Proposed Priority Assessment List

The proposed assessment list at **Attachment A** comprises 74 species, two ecological communities and no key threatening processes. Further details on the list can be found at **Attachment G1 and G2**

The Committee developed the proposed assessment list through a considered process based on a preliminary assessment of the degree of threat and potential benefit of listing for all eligible nominations by the public and items nominated by the Committee.

The Department supports the Committee's proposed assessment list of species and ecological communities. EPBC Act listing would provide national recognition and protection, and promote recovery. The proposed assessment of species for delisting, change of category within the list, or listing as Extinct, demonstrates the Committee's ongoing commitment to maintaining the currency and accuracy of the national threatened species list and alignment of listing status with the relevant states and territories. The two proposed ecological communities are key gaps in EPBC Act protection.

Once an item is included in the final assessment list, it must be assessed. In considering the outcome of the Committee's assessment and making decisions to amend the lists of threatened species and ecological communities, you can only consider the scientific evidence on whether the item is eligible for listing or delisting, and the effect of listing or delisting (s186 and s187).

### Species

#### ***What is on the proposed assessment list?***

The proposed assessment list includes assessment of 74 species: 55 proposed new listings, 6 proposed transfers to a lower category, 7 proposed transfers to a higher category, and 6 proposed delistings (deletion from the list).

#### *Additions to the list (55 species):*

- 6 species for addition as Vulnerable
- 19 species for addition as Endangered
- 24 species for addition as Critically Endangered
- 5 species for addition as Extinct (this category is not a matter of National Environmental Significance).
- 1 species for addition as Conservation Dependent (this category is not a matter of National Environmental Significance).

#### *Transfers (Category change) within the list (13 species):*

- 3 species for transfer from Vulnerable to Endangered
- 1 species for transfer from Vulnerable to Critically Endangered
- 4 species for transfer from Endangered to Vulnerable
- 3 species for transfer from Endangered to Critically Endangered
- 2 species for transfer from Critically Endangered to Endangered

#### *Deletion from the list (6 species):*

- 1 species for deletion from the Extinct category
- 1 species for deletion from the Endangered category
- 4 species for deletion from the Vulnerable category

The 74 species on the proposed assessment list include: 29 plants, 18 frogs, 15 fish, five mammals, four reptiles, two invertebrates and one bird.

**Table 1:** Proposed EPBC Act listing changes group by taxa of the 74 species on the proposed assessment list.

Taxa	Addition	Deletion	Transfer	Total
Plant	23	4	2	29
Frog	11		7	18
Fish	12		3	15
Mammal	4	1		5
Reptile	3	1		4
Invertebrate	2			2
Bird	1			1
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>74</b>

***Where did the nominations come from?***

Nominations can be received through the annual public nominations process required by section 194E or identified by the Committee under section 194G(3).

Minister Frydenberg did not determine a theme for the 2018 assessment period ([MS17-001705](#)).

The 2018 proposed assessment list includes two species nominated by the public and 72 species nominated by the Committee (table 2).



**Table 2:** Source of species included on the 2018 proposed list.  
Public nominations are invited under section 194E and the Committee can identify species under section 194G(3).

Taxa	Public nomination 2018	Committee – Priority species	Committee – Common Assessment Method – existing listed ‘legacy’ species		Committee – Frog expert assessment	Committee – Fish expert assessment	Committee – Lizard and Snake Action Plan expert assessment	Committee – Mammal Action Plan expert assessment	Total
			Species endemic to a single state or territory	Species which occur across multiple states or territories					
Plant		2	27						29
Frog	1		1		16				18
Fish		2	2	1		10			15
Mammal				1				4	5
Reptile	1		1				2		4
Invertebrate			2						2
Bird				1					1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>74</b>

### **Public nominations**

The Committee considered two eligible public nominations for species in 2018 and has included both on the proposed assessment list. A further two nominations were received in 2017 and were not included in the 2017 final assessment list. The Committee has recommended neither of these 2017 nomination be included on the 2018 proposed assessment list and their reasons are provided at **Attachment C**.

The Department consulted relevant states and territories regarding the priority of these nominations and availability of existing information and assessments. The responses received were provided to the Committee for their consideration in preparing the proposed assessment list.

A nomination received from the s47F [REDACTED] for 33 bird and plant species occurring in the Flinders Rangers of South Australia which did not provide sufficient evidence to meet section 7.04(2)(b)(ii) of the EPBC Regulations. The Committee agreed that this nomination be rejected under section 194F(3)(b) of the EPBC Act. The Department will write to the nominator to notify them of this decision as required by the Act.

### **Committee nominations**

Committee nominations are for species or ecological communities that the Committee believes are priorities for assessment or reassessment where a nomination from the public has not been received. The Committee identified its nominations through consultation with state and territory agencies, experts and the Department.

In 2018, the 72 Committee nominations for species originate from: collaboration with the jurisdictions to harmonise Commonwealth, state and territory lists, national expert reviews, NESP research and Fisheries Status Reports prepared by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences.

#### *Priority species*

The Committee has included two plant species on the proposed list as they are highly threatened by myrtle rust.

The Committee has also included two fish species on the proposed list. One proposed to be listed as Conservation Dependent and the other as Vulnerable.

#### *Achieving consistent jurisdictional threatened species lists using a Common Assessment Method*

In 2015, as part of the National Review of Environmental Regulation, the Meeting of Environment Ministers agreed to develop a 'common assessment method' for national assessment of threatened species. An *Intergovernmental Memorandum of Understanding – Agreement on a Common Assessment Method for Listing of Threatened Species and Threatened Ecological Communities* commenced in October 2015. Under the memorandum, assessments undertaken using the common assessment method can be shared between relevant jurisdictions, providing for improved consistency across threatened species lists and clarity for the regulated community. Existing listed species will be progressively transitioned into an agreed national category and listed consistently across jurisdictions.

The proposed assessment list includes 33 species that have been assessed by the Western Australian, Northern Territory and New South Wales governments. These governments have

provided their assessments for consideration under the EPBC Act through the Common Assessment Method.

- Of the 33 species, 24 are proposed as additions to the list (one as an Extinct species), with five proposed for delisting, one species to be transferred from Vulnerable to Critically Endangered and one species to be transferred from Endangered to Critically Endangered.
- All of the 33 species are endemic to a single jurisdiction: 19 plants, two invertebrates, two fish, one frog and one reptile totalling 25 species in Western Australia, one plant species in the Northern Territory and seven plants in New South Wales.
- Each of the species has been assessed by the relevant jurisdiction's scientific committees and listed as threatened (or delisted) under state or territory threatened species legislation in the same category as is proposed under the EPBC Act, using the agreed method and at a standard which supports a streamlined assessment under the EPBC Act.

In addition, the Department invited the states and territories to suggest species that occur in multiple states and territories for national assessment or reassessment using the common assessment method. These assessments would be led by the Commonwealth.

The states and territories identified 27 species of which the Committee has included three species in the proposed assessment list; one mammal, one fish and one bird.

The Department is working with the jurisdictions to prioritise further species for assessment or reassessment in 2019 and subsequent years.

#### *Frog Species Expert Assessment Plan*

The Committee is currently progressing assessment of threatened frogs identified through a Species Expert Assessment Plan (SEAP), in collaboration with key scientists, experts and the Department. The Frog SEAP reviewed the status of frogs that are on the EPBC Act threatened species list and other frog species that warrant assessment for listing.

Based on the expert analysis, the Committee considers that 26 frog species require assessment under the EPBC Act. Ten of these were prioritised for assessment in 2017 (MS17-000836) and will be provided to you for a listing decision in the near future. In 2018, the Committee has included 17 species on the proposed list; nine are additions, four are proposed for transfer to a higher category and four proposed for transfer to a lower category. One of these species will be assessed under the CAM MoU as this species is endemic to Western Australia and the jurisdiction is able to provide an assessment.

#### *Fish Species Expert Assessment Plan*

The National Environmental Science Programme Threatened Species Recovery hub and the Australian Society for Fish Biology undertook an analysis of the probability of extinction for Australian fish. They identified 18 highly imperilled taxa, all of which are not currently listed as threatened species under the EPBC Act. The Committee has included ten of these on the proposed assessment list, proposed for addition to the Critically Endangered category.

Additional fish species will be considered by the Committee for inclusion on the 2019 proposed assessment list. The finalised assessments will also be provided to the states and territories for consistent listing under their legislation.

*Lizard and Snake Action Plan expert assessment*

The Department has received a small number of example assessments from the forthcoming *Action Plan for Australian Lizards and Snakes 2017* which will be published in late 2018 based on an assessment that the IUCN has undertaken on Australian squamates (reptiles with scales).

The IUCN process reviewed the status of Australian squamates that are on the EPBC Act threatened species list and other squamates species that warrant assessment for inclusion on the global Red List of Threatened Species. These were included in a Red List update published on 5 July 2018.

Based on the preliminary conclusions of the expert review provided to their June meeting, the Committee considered that approximately 60 squamates species require assessment under the EPBC Act. The Committee has included an initial two squamates species from the example assessments received, on the proposed assessment list. These are both proposed as additions to the list in the Endangered category.

Additional squamates species will be considered by the Committee for inclusion on the 2019 proposed assessment list. The finalised assessments of the two species on the proposed list will also be provided to the states and territories for consistent listing under their legislation.

*Mammal Action Plan*

The proposed assessment list includes four mammal species are proposed for addition to the Extinct category. They have been identified through a systematic review of threatened mammals following publication of the *Action Plan for Australian Mammals 2012*, which included an expert review of the conservation status of all Australian mammals.

The four species are historical extinctions, having not been recorded for many decades. Adding the four mammal species to the 2018 proposed assessment list will continue to strengthen the currency and comprehensiveness of the list.

The Department understands that there is no reasonable doubt that the last member of each of these species proposed has died, so they are expected to meet the requirements of section 179(1) to be listed to the Extinct category. The communication and messaging at the time of public consultation and a decision to list these species as Extinct will require careful handling.

***Effect and Benefits of Listing***

Once listed as Vulnerable, Endangered, Critically Endangered or Extinct in the Wild, a threatened species becomes a 'Matter of National Environmental Significance' and is taken into account during assessment of new developments under the EPBC Act. If a species is listed or transferred to the Extinct or Conservation Dependent category it is not a 'Matter of National Environmental Significance' (s18A(4)(a)).

Listing as threatened can also assist in attracting Australian Government and third party investment in conservation action. Threatened species are a target in funding programs including the National Landcare Program, and projects which identify benefits for listed threatened species and ecological communities are afforded higher priority.

Similarly, inclusion of a species in the list increases the potential to benefit from research effort, including through the National Environmental Science Programme.



## Ecological Communities

The purpose of national listing of ecological communities (ECs) is to identify, protect and restore the most threatened ecosystems in Australia. Nationally listed ECs become 'Matters of National Environmental Significance' that receive national recognition; are a mechanism for taking landscape-level biodiversity values into account during planning of major new developments; and are a practical and effective target for habitat and ecosystem conservation and restoration efforts by landholder and community groups (which are encouraged and supported through Australian Government initiatives such as National Landcare).

The Committee received four eligible public nominations for ECs in 2018 and has included two on the proposed assessment list. An additional three nominations were received in 2017, which were not prioritised for inclusion in the 2017 final assessment list. The Committee has recommended none of these 2017 nominations be included on the 2018 proposed assessment list and their reasons are provided at **Attachment C**.

Two ECs are recommended for inclusion in the 2018 proposed assessment list. Key issues regarding these ECs are discussed below.

### Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion

- This is a grassy woodland ecosystem typically with an overstorey canopy dominated by Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) on the Eyre and Yorke Peninsulas in South Australia.
- Significant threats include impacts arising from past clearance of vegetation; long-term intensive grazing by native and non-native herbivores including domestic stock; altered fire regimes; invasive species; and the cumulative impacts of these such as loss of key native species and connectivity, and deteriorating soil health (including salinity and erosion).
- Listing the ecological community would fill an important gap in the national EPBC Act list of ecological communities, as it occurs in two regions identified as under-represented on the national list.
- The Eyre and Yorke Peninsula regions where it occurs are agricultural regions that have been very heavily cleared of native vegetation in the past and this has exacerbated many other threats to the environment and agriculture, notably salinity and invasive species. The EC occurs very sparsely across the landscape; almost 90 per cent has been lost and only less than 15 000 hectares remains with some sheoak overstorey.
- Therefore, the Department believes that national listing would be supported by landholders, particularly if the benefits of listing are communicated. This has been the case for other EC listings in the Eyre Peninsula region such as the Eyre Peninsula Blue Gum Woodland listing in 2013 and the Peppermint Box Grassy Woodlands in 2007. With these two ecological communities, and other recent listings in agriculture areas such as the Eucalypt Woodlands of the Western Australia Wheatbelt, landowners are more interested in restoring trees and soil health in these areas, rather than clearing. This is in contrast to the potential listing of Poplar Box Grassy Woodland in NSW and Queensland, which has faced opposition from the NSW Farmers Association, because

there is more of it remaining and some farmers are still wanting to clear native vegetation to intensify production in Queensland and New South Wales.

- Listing would also be expected to lead to more opportunities for local Natural Resource Management and Landcare initiatives to engage with farmers and community groups to manage threats (e.g. invasive species) and facilitate regeneration to the benefit of both biodiversity and farming. South Australia does not currently list threatened ecological communities, so regional NRM Boards focus a lot of their activities on working with farmers to restore threatened ecological communities that are listed nationally. That is why this ecological community was nominated by the Eyre Peninsula NRM Board.

#### Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs

- This EC comprises temperate intertidal or subtidal oyster beds/reefs and associated species. It is formed by high densities of either native flat oysters (*Ostrea angasi*), or Sydney rock oysters (*Saccostrea glomerata*), in the marine and estuarine waters of eastern and southern Australia. The complex structures of their hard shells are further colonized by a range of other organisms, including other shellfish, echinoderms, crustaceans, ascidians, sponges, hydroids and fish (and where light permits, algae), resulting in a diverse and distinct marine EC.
- It is important to note that the nominated EC represents the last naturally occurring oyster beds in southern Australia (at only nine locations). Over 90 per cent has been cleared, and less than five hectares remains. Man-made oyster farms (e.g. oyster cultivation in trays, baskets and rafts for human consumption) are not part of this naturally occurring EC.
- Key threats include: impacts arising from past overexploitation through harvesting by destructive methods; increasing urbanisation of catchments and coastlines; increasing prevalence of disease and pest impacts; and, water pollution, sedimentation and altered water flow regimes.
- Most activities that interact with the EC will continue to be the responsibility of state government, because of their scale and nature (e.g. recreational fisheries). However, listing the EC would provide enhanced protection from significant impacts during coastal development (e.g. managing the impacts during dredging). It would also enhance representative coverage of the national list of threatened ecological communities, specifically for marine communities. Listing is also likely to result in greater support for coastal threat abatement and restoration efforts.
- Two commercial fishers hold licences to harvest oysters by hand from naturally occurring oyster beds in Georges Bay, Tasmania – for the domestic and export market. If this EC were listed the impact of the licensed harvesting on the threatened EC would need to be re-assessed, as part of its sustainable fishery permitting (for which there is a ten-year approval). This is unlikely to cause problems to the fishery because the oyster take is small and damage is minimal, since the oysters are harvested by hand; and the harvesting is a continuing use. Listing should not impact on current licensed fishery activities; but rather it will support efforts to protect the oyster reef from future overexploitation and damage from other activities. Communication with industry and other key stakeholders will be undertaken during the assessment.

- The nomination has the support of a number of eminent marine scientists and follows recent work by the NESP Marine Hub on Australia's once extensive shellfish reefs – <https://www.nespmarine.edu.au/news/restoring-australias-lost-shellfish-reefs>.

### **Key threatening processes**

The Committee considered three public nominations for key threatening processes – one received in 2018 and two received in 2017, but not prioritised.

The Committee has not included any of the key threatening processes on the proposed assessment list. The Committee's reasons for not including the processes are in the exclusion statements in **Attachment C**.

On advice from the Department, Minister Frydenberg removed the nomination of 'The loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes' as a key threatening process from the 2017 Finalised Priority Assessment List. The Committee continues to support the assessment of this process, but have not prioritised it based on the Minister's decision in 2017.

**SPECIES**

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<b>Plants</b>			
<i>Rhodamnia rubescens</i> (Scrub Turpentine)	NSW	Addition as Critically Endangered  NSW - Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species has been identified as highly imperilled by the emerging threat of myrtle rust.</li> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 31 listed ecological communities including the Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub of the Sydney Region.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 7 National and World Heritage listed places including the Australian Convict Sites (Cockatoo Island Convict Site). This species occurs in an additional 16 National Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 382 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 4 wetlands of international importance including Myall Lakes.</li> <li>• There are 93 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding.</li> </ul>
<i>Rhodomyrtus psidioides</i> (Native Guava)	NSW	Addition as Critically Endangered  NSW - Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species has been identified as highly imperilled by the emerging threat of myrtle rust.</li> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 15 listed ecological communities.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed places of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia and Fraser Island and an additional 2 National Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 288 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 8 wetlands of international importance including Myall Lakes.</li> <li>• There are 93 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<b>Frogs</b>			
<i>Cophixalus aenigma</i> (Tapping Nursery-frog)	Qld	Addition as Vulnerable  Qld - Near Threatened  IUCN - Vulnerable D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community of the Broad leaf tea-tree (<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>) woodlands in high rainfall coastal north Queensland.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>• There are 68 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of a national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>• There are 24 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>
<i>Cophixalus concinnus</i> (Elegant Frog)	Qld	Addition as Critically Endangered  Qld - Near Threatened  IUCN - Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>• There are 48 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>• There are 21 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Cophixalus hosmeri</i> (Rattling Nursery-frog)	Qld	Addition as Vulnerable  Qld - Near Threatened  IUCN - Least Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community of the Broad leaf tea-tree (<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>) woodlands in high rainfall coastal north Queensland.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>• There are 52 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>• There are 22 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>
<i>Cophixalus mcdonaldi</i> (Mount Elliot Nursery-frog)	Qld	Addition as Vulnerable  Qld - Vulnerable  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 19 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of international importance Bowling Green Bay.</li> <li>• There are 18 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Green Army.</li> </ul>
<i>Cophixalus monticola</i> (Mountain Top Nursery-frog)	Qld	Addition as Critically Endangered  Qld - Vulnerable  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>• There are 49 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 22 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Cophixalus neglectus</i> (Bellenden Ker Nursery-frog)	Qld	Addition as Endangered  Qld - Vulnerable  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community of Broad leaf tea-tree (<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>) woodlands in high rainfall coastal north Queensland.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>• There are 61 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>• There are 22 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with few projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>
<i>Heleioporus australiacus</i> (Giant Burrowing Frog)	NSW, Vic	Transfer from Vulnerable to Endangered  NSW - Vulnerable  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 24 listed ecological communities including the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place The Greater Blue Mountains Area and 4 additional national heritage places and 7 Commonwealth Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 239 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs with 10 km of 2 wetlands of international importance including the Gippsland lakes.</li> <li>• There are 81 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and 20 Million Trees.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Litoria booroolongensis</i> (Booroolong Frog)	NSW, Vic	Transfer from Endangered to Vulnerable  NSW - Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 12 listed ecological communities including the Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place The Greater Blue Mountains Area, 2 additional Natural Heritage listed places and 4 Commonwealth Heritage Listed places.</li> <li>• There are 149 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within a wetland of international importance the Ginini flats wetlands complex and within 10 km of Blue lake.</li> <li>• There are 17 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and 20 Million Trees including \$100,000 (ex GST) from the 20 Million Trees Program is supporting the project: Fish River and Sewells Creek Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Corridors. This project may indirectly benefit this species through habitat enhancement / improvement.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Litoria littlejohni</i> (Heath Frog)	NSW, Vic	Transfer from Vulnerable to Endangered  NSW - Vulnerable  Vic - Threatened (Endangered)  IUCN - Least Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 18 listed ecological communities including the Temperate Highland Peat Swamps on Sandstone.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place The Greater Blue Mountains Area, 2 additional Natural Heritage listed places and 2 Commonwealth Heritage Listed places.</li> <li>• There are 192 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of international importance the Hunter Estuary Wetlands.</li> <li>• There are 72 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Litoria spenceri</i> (Spotted Tree Frog)	NSW, Vic	Transfer from Endangered to Critically Endangered  NSW - Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 3 listed ecological communities including the Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National Heritage listed place the Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves and an additional Natural Heritage listed place.</li> <li>• There are 59 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of international importance the Gippslands lakes.</li> <li>• There are 14 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Mixophyes fleayi</i> (Fleay's Frog)	NSW, Qld	Transfer from Endangered to Vulnerable  Qld - Endangered  NSW - Endangered  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 9 listed ecological communities.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the World and National Heritage listed place the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia.</li> <li>• There are 225 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within two wetlands of international importance Morton Bay and Myall Lakes.</li> <li>• There are 69 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Mixophyes iterates</i> (Southern Barred Frog)	NSW, Qld	Transfer from Endangered to Vulnerable  Qld - Endangered  NSW - Endangered  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 9 listed ecological communities.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the World and National Heritage listed place the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia.</li> <li>• There are 225 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within two wetlands of international importance Morton Bay and Myall Lakes.</li> <li>• There are 69 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Philoria kundagungan</i> (Mountain Frog)	NSW, Qld	Addition as Vulnerable  Qld - Vulnerable  NSW - Endangered  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 9 listed ecological communities including Brigalow (<i>Acacia harpophylla</i> dominant and co-dominant).</li> <li>• This species occurs within the World and National listed place the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia.</li> <li>• There are 81 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of a wetland of international importance Morton Bay.</li> <li>• There are 17 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Philoria richmondensis</i> (Richmond Range Sphagnum Frog)	NSW, Qld	Addition as Vulnerable  NSW - Endangered  IUCN - Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The distribution of species overlaps with 4 listed ecological communities.</li> <li>This species occurs within the World and National Heritage listed place the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia.</li> <li>There are 44 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>There are 16 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> <li>This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Taudactylus rheophilus</i> (Tinkling Frog)	Qld	Transfer from Endangered to Critically Endangered  Qld - Endangered  IUCN - Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community of Broad leaf tea-tree (<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>) woodlands in high rainfall coastal north Queensland.</li> <li>This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed place the Wet Tropics of Queensland.</li> <li>There are 70 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs upstream for a wetland of national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>There are 24 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding and Reef 2050 Plan.</li> </ul>
<i>Uperoleia daviesae</i> (Howard River Toadlet)	NT	Addition as Endangered  NT- Vulnerable  IUCN - Data Deficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are 33 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs upstream for a wetland of national importance Hilda Creek Headwater.</li> <li>There are 39 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Uperoleia mahonyi</i> (Mahony's Toadlet)	NSW	Addition as Vulnerable  NSW - Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 6 listed ecological communities including Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets of Eastern Australia.</li> <li>• There are 88 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in 2 wetlands of international importance including Hunter Estuary wetlands.</li> <li>• There are 77 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with no projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Regional Funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Reptiles</b>			
<i>Tiliqua scincoides intermedia</i> (Northern Blue-tongued skink)	NT, WA, Qld	Addition as Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 4 listed ecological communities including Arnhem Plateau Sandstone Shrubland Complex.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed places of Kakadu national park and Purnululu National Park and an additional 2 National Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 98 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 5 wetlands of international importance including Kakadu National Park.</li> <li>• There are 80 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with few projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under Green Army and regional funding.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Varanus mertensi</i> (Mertens's Water Monitor)	NT, Qld, WA	Addition as Endangered  NT - Vulnerable  IUCN - Assessment in preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 4 listed ecological communities including Arnhem Plateau Sandstone Shrubland Complex.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed places of Kakadu national park and Purnululu National Park and an additional 2 National Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 166 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 4 wetlands of international importance including Kakadu National Park.</li> <li>• There are 84 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding.</li> </ul>
<i>Varanus mitchelli</i> (Mitchell's Water Monitor)	NT, WA	Addition as Endangered  NT - Vulnerable  IUCN - Assessment in preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community of the Arnhem Plateau Sandstone Shrubland Complex.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National and World Heritage listed places of Kakadu national park and Purnululu National Park and an additional 2 National Heritage listed places.</li> <li>• There are 82 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 3 wetlands of international importance including Kakadu National Park.</li> <li>• There are 74 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<b>Fish</b>			
<i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i> (Silver Perch)	ACT, NSW, Vic, SA	Transfer from Critically Endangered to Endangered  ACT- Endangered  NSW - Vulnerable  Vic - Threatened (Vulnerable)  SA - Endangered  IUCN - Vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with 20 listed ecological communities including Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National listed place of Echuca Wharf.</li> <li>• There are 159 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs within 8 wetlands of international importance including Gunbower Forest.</li> <li>• There are 64 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding.</li> </ul>
<i>Centroberyx affinis</i> (Redfish)	Coastal waters	Addition as Conservation Dependent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species is fished commercially.</li> <li>• This species occurs in coastal waters and is subject to the <i>Redfish (Centroberyx affinis) Stock Rebuilding Strategy 2016 – 2021</i> prepared by AFMA.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Galaxias aequipinnis</i> (East Gippsland Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 25 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional and national Landcare funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Galaxias brevissimus</i> (Short-tail Galaxias)	NSW	Addition as Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological community Natural Temperate Grassland of the South Eastern Highlands.</li> <li>• There are 37 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs far upstream of 4 wetland s of international importance.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Galaxias gunaikurnai</i> (Shaw Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological communities Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• This species occurs within the National Heritage listed place Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves.</li> <li>• There are 17 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with few projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Galaxias lanceolatus</i> (Tapered Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 21 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 14 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream for a wetland of international importance Gippsland lakes.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with few projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Galaxias longifundus</i> (West Gippsland Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 24 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 14 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with few projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Galaxias mcdowalli</i> (McDowall's Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological communities Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• There are 22 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Galaxias mungadhan</i> (Dargo Galaxias)	Vic	Addition as Critically Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological communities Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• This species occurs within National Heritage listed place Australian Alps National Parks and Reserves.</li> <li>• There are 24 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs upstream of 8 wetlands of international importance including Gippsland lakes.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional and national Landcare funding.</li> <li>• This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<i>Galaxias supremus</i> (Kosciuszko Galaxias)	NSW	Addition as Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The distribution of species overlaps with the listed ecological communities Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens.</li> <li>• There are 26 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 13 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional and national Landcare funding.</li> </ul>
<i>Melanotaenia</i> sp. (Malanda Rainbowfish)	Qld	Addition as Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This species have a very small distribution on the Atherton Tablelands that could to occur across heritage listed places, wetlands, ecological communities, projects that are currently under assessment and projects that have received regional funding such as 20 million trees and Green army.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Milyeringa justitia</i> (Barrow Cave Gudgeon)	WA	Addition as Critically Endangered  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are 31 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• There are 42 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas with several projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>• This species occurs in areas that are subject to regional and national Landcare funding.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Prototroctes maraena</i> (Australian Grayling)	Tas, NSW, Vic	Transfer from Vulnerable to Endangered  NSW - Endangered  Tas - Vulnerable  Vic - Threatened (Vulnerable)  IUCN - Near Threatened	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The distribution of species overlaps with 15 listed ecological communities including the Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia and <i>Posidonia australis</i> seagrass meadows of the Manning-Hawkesbury ecoregion.</li> <li>This species occurs within 8 National and World Heritage listed places.</li> <li>There are 381 listed threatened species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs within 12 wetlands of international importance including Gippsland Lakes.</li> <li>There are 92 listed migratory species that may occur where this species is likely to occur.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas with many projects that have been referred under the EPBC Act that are under assessment.</li> <li>This species occurs in areas that are subject to funding under 20 Million Trees, Green Army and Regional Funding including \$155,974 (ex GST) from the Whale and Dolphin Protection Plan to support the project: Cetacean Strandings and Entanglement Hotspots and Mitigation Research.</li> <li>This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.</li> </ul>
<b>Bird</b>			
<i>Falco hypoleucos</i> (Grey Falcon)	Australia- wide except Tasmania	Addition as Endangered  Vic - Threatened (Critically Endangered)  IUCN - Not yet assessed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grey Falcons are a widespread but sparsely distributed species that is likely to occur across a number heritage listed place, wetlands, ecological communities, projects that are currently under assessment and projects that have received regional funding such as 20 million trees and Green army.</li> </ul>

Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<b>Mammals</b>			
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> (Humpback Whale)	Coastal Waters	Remove from the list  Qld - Vulnerable  NSW - Vulnerable  Vic - Threatened (Vulnerable)  SA - Vulnerable  Tas- Endangered  WA - Conservation Dependent  Action Plan for Mammals - Least Concern  IUCN - Least Concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species occurs in coastal waters and seen a greater than 10% percent increase in numbers each year.</li> <li>• De-listing the species would have little impact on the regulatory burden associated with it due to its status as a listed Migratory species (Part 13, Division 2) and a cetacean (Part 13, Division 3) under the EPBC Act.</li> <li>• An EPBC Act delisting may be interpreted as grounds for exploration of a “sustainable harvest” by pro-whaling countries in the IWC.</li> <li>• \$73,028 (ex GST) of funding from the Whale and Dolphin Protection Plan to support the project: Development of a cost-effective entanglement tracking buoy to improve disentanglement rates of large cetaceans.</li> <li>• \$155,974 (ex GST) funding from the Whale and Dolphin Protection Plan to support the project: Cetacean Strandings and Entanglement Hotspots and Mitigation Research.</li> <li>• Heritage Reef and Marine Division have indicated that their position within the International Whaling Commission would be to support solid evidentiary science which indicates that within Australian waters the Humpback Whale population is healthy and increasing on the eastern and western seaboard.</li> </ul>



Species nominated Common name	Location	Proposed assessment and other listing status	Sensitivities/ Departmental & other activities
<i>Perameles bougainville fasciata</i> (Liverpool Plains Striped Bandicoot)	NSW	Addition as Extinct  IUCN - Not yet assessed Mammal Action Plan - Extinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species listed in the Extinct category are not a matter of MNES, see section 18A(4)(a)(i) of the Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Perameles bougainville myosurus</i> (Marl)	WA	Addition as Extinct  IUCN - Not yet assessed Mammal Action Plan - Extinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species listed in the Extinct category are not a matter of MNES, see section 18A(4)(a)(i) of the Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Perameles bougainville notina</i> (South-eastern Striped Bandicoot)	SA, Vic	Addition as Extinct  IUCN - Not yet assessed Mammal Action Plan - Extinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species listed in the Extinct category are not a matter of MNES, see section 18A(4)(a)(i) of the Act.</li> </ul>
<i>Perameles bougainville papillon</i> (Nullarbor Barred Bandicoot)	SA, WA	Addition as Extinct  IUCN - Not yet assessed Mammal Action Plan - Extinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Species listed in the Extinct category are not a matter of MNES, see section 18A(4)(a)(i) of the Act.</li> </ul>



**ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES**

<b>Nominated Ecological Community</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposed assessment and other listing status</b>	<b>Sensitivities/ Departmental &amp; other activities</b>
Drooping Sheoak ( <i>Allocasuarina verticillata</i> ) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion	SA	Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Almost \$1M was provided through the 20 Million Trees Program to support a project: <i>Restoring Drooping Sheoak Low Woodlands to provide habitat for EPBC listed species</i> on the Eyre Peninsula, which will contribute to the conservation and recovery of the nominated ecological community.</li> <li>• This community may be relevant to development projects requiring referral, assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.</li> </ul>
Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs	Qld, NSW, Vic, Tas	Critically Endangered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This ecological community may occur in areas adjacent to areas likely to be included in the strategic assessment area for South East Queensland (proposed strategic assessment under Part 10 in early scoping phase).</li> <li>• This community may be also be relevant to other marine and onshore, as well as fisheries, development projects requiring referral, assessment and approval under the EPBC Act.</li> </ul>

Species	Distribution	Current EPBC status	Proposed Status	Departmental Sensitivities & other activities
<b>NSW Species</b>				
<i>Fontainea oraria</i> (Coastal Fontainea)	NSW	Endangered	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Homoranthus bebo</i>	NSW	Not listed	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Gentiana bredboensis</i>	NSW	Vulnerable	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Phebalium speciosum</i>	NSW	Not listed	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Pimelea axiflora</i> subsp. <i>pubescens</i>	NSW	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Philothea ericifolia</i>	NSW	Vulnerable	Not listed	
<i>Hypsela sessiliflora</i>	NSW	Extinct	Not listed	
<b>Northern Territory Species</b>				
<i>Clausena excavata</i>	NT	Not listed	Critically Endangered	

ATTACHMENT G2 - Considerations relevant to Common Assessment Method Legacy endemic species

Species	Distribution	Current EPBC status	Proposed Status	Departmental Sensitivities & other activities
<b>Western Australian species</b>				
<i>Androcalva adenothalia</i>	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	
<i>Acacia woodmaniorum</i> (Woodman's Wattle)	WA	Not listed	Endangered	
<i>Androcalva perlaria</i> (Pearl-like Androcalva)	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Aprasia rostrata rostrate</i> (Monte Bello Worm-lizard)	WA	Vulnerable	Not listed	
<i>Bossiaea</i> sp. Frankland (E.M. Sandiford EMS 896)	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<i>Caladenia graniticola</i> (Pingaring Spider-orchid)	WA	Not listed	Endangered	
<i>Ctenotus angusticeps</i> Northwestern Coastal Ctenotus	WA	Vulnerable	Not listed	
<i>Eremophila glabra</i> subsp. Scaddan (C. Turley s.n. 10/11/2005)	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.



ATTACHMENT G2 - Considerations relevant to Common Assessment Method Legacy endemic species

Species	Distribution	Current EPBC status	Proposed Status	Departmental Sensitivities & other activities
<b><i>Galaxias truttaceus</i></b> <b>(Western Australian population)</b>  Currently listed as <b><i>Galaxias truttaceus hesperius</i></b> <b>(Western Spotted Galaxias)</b>	WA	Critically Endangered	Endangered	This population is currently listed as a subspecies. See Attachment I for statutory decisions.
<b><i>Grevillea acropogon</i></b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Hesperocolletes douglasi</i></b> <b>(Douglas' Broad-headed Bee)</b>	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	
<b><i>Hibbertia</i> sp. Toolbrunup</b> <b>(J.R.Wheeler 2504)</b>	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	
<b><i>Hypocalymma angustifolium</i> subsp. Hutt River</b> <b>(S.Patrick 2982)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Hypocalymma</i> sp. Cascade</b> <b>(R. Bruhn 20896)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	
<b><i>Lasiopetalum moullean</i></b>	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	



ATTACHMENT G2 - Considerations relevant to Common Assessment Method Legacy endemic species

Species	Distribution	Current EPBC status	Proposed Status	Departmental Sensitivities & other activities
<b><i>Melaleuca</i> sp. Wanneroo (G.J. Keighery 16705)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Myriocephalus nudus</i></b>	WA	Not listed	Extinct	
<b><i>Nannoperca pygmaea</i> (Little Pygmy Perch)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Spicospina flammocaerulea</i> (Sunset Frog)</b>	WA	Endangered	Vulnerable	
<b><i>Stylidium amabile</i></b>	WA	Not listed	Critically Endangered	
<b><i>Stylidium asymmetricum</i> (Aymmetric Triggerplant)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)</b>	WA	Endangered	Not listed	
<b><i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> subsp. <i>amblyphyllum</i></b>	WA	Maybe listed at species level	Critically Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.

ATTACHMENT G2 - Considerations relevant to Common Assessment Method Legacy endemic species

Species	Distribution	Current EPBC status	Proposed Status	Departmental Sensitivities & other activities
<b><i>Stylidium coroniforme</i> subsp. <i>coroniforme</i> (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)</b>	WA	Maybe listed at species level	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.
<b><i>Trioza barrettae</i> (Banksia Brownii Plant-louse)</b>	WA	Not listed	Endangered	This species may be located or partly located within a Regional Forest Agreement region. Where this is the case, the State Government will need to consider how their forest management system will prevent potential impacts.



**Determining a distinct population to be a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act and amending the list to update the name of a listed threatened species**

1. At TSSC72 in June 2018, the Committee agreed to recommend that you amend the threatened species list to reflect a change in the taxonomic understanding of a listed threatened fish subspecies *Galaxias truttaceus hesperius*.
2. This subspecies is no longer accepted as a valid taxon, and is now considered a discrete population of the more widespread species *Galaxias truttaceus*. This change was accepted by the national taxonomic authorities and included in the Australian Fauna Directory in 2018.
3. The Western Australian population has a unique breeding ecology, which is a signal of evolutionary divergence and regional adaptation and, as such, the Western Australian population is considered to be discrete.
4. The Committee therefore recommends that you to determine the *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) to be a species for the purposes of the Act under section 517 by signing the legislative instrument at **Attachment J** and amend its name in the threatened species list from *Galaxias truttaceus hesperius* to *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) under section 184(d) by signing the legislative instrument at **Attachment L**. Both instruments are accompanied by explanatory statements, at **Attachment K and M** for your approval, which are disallowable under section 46A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.
5. The Western Australian Government has provided a current assessment of *G. truttaceus* (Western Australian population) through the Common Assessment Method Memorandum of Understanding. The Committee has included in the taxon in the 2018 proposed assessment list for reassessment under the EPBC Act to align the WA and national listing status.

**Statutory decision for determining a population to be a species:**

- i. Agree under section 517 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, to determine that the following population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of that Act:

*Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

Agreed / Not agreed

- ii. Sign the legislative instrument at **Attachment J** and approve the explanatory statement at **Attachment K**.

Signed and approved / Not Signed and approved

**Statutory decision for amending the list of threatened species to correct an inaccuracy:**

- iii. Agree under section 184(d) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) to amend the list referred to in section 178 of that Act by updating the name of the listed threatened species:

From *Galaxias truttaceus hesperius* to *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

**Agreed / Not agreed**

- iv. Sign the legislative instrument at **Attachment L** and approve the explanatory statement at **Attachment M**.

**Signed and approved / Not Signed and approved**





**Commonwealth of Australia**

Determination that a distinct population of biological entities is a species under section 517 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (208)*

I, MELISSA PRICE, Assistant Minister for the Environment, under section 517 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, determine that the following population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of that Act:

*Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

  
.....

Assistant Minister for the Environment

Dated this..... 8 / 8 / ..... 2018

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

(Issued under the Authority of the Assistant Minister for the Environment)

*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*

### Instrument under section 517(1)

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* (the Act) provides for the protection of the environment, especially matters of national environmental significance, and conservation of biodiversity, including the protection and conservation of threatened species.

Section 517(1) of the Act provides that the Minister may, by legislative instrument, determine that a population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of that Act.

The purpose of this Instrument is determine that the following population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of that Act as set out below:

*Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

### Background

The Western Australian population of *Galaxias truttaceus* is geographically isolated to the south coast of Western Australia. The species also occurs as a disjunct population in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. Western populations have a unique ecology (potamodromous life cycle) compared to eastern populations (diadromous life cycle) which is a signal of evolutionary divergence and regional adaptation and, as such, western populations are considered a discrete population.

### Consultation

Advice from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee was sought and considered prior to the making of the Instrument. The Committee recommended that *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) be declared a species for the purposes of the Act the as set out above.

Advice was also provided by the Australian Biological Resources Study.

Section 17(1)(a) of the *Legislation Act 2003* states that before the legislative instrument is made, the rule-maker must be satisfied that there has been undertaken any consultation that is considered by the rule-maker to be appropriate. As this Instrument only determines a population of biological entities as a species for the purposes of the Act, public consultation was not undertaken.

The Instrument is a legislative instrument for the purposes of the *Legislation Act 2003 (Cth)*.

The Instrument commenced on the day after it was registered on the Federal Register of Legislation.

Authority: Section 517(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*.

## **Statement of Compatibility with Human Rights**

*Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the  
Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*

### **Determination that a distinct population of biological entities is a species under section 517 of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (208)**

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with the human rights and freedoms recognised or declared in the international instruments listed in section 3 of the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*.

#### **Overview of the Legislative Instrument**

The purpose of this Legislative Instrument is to determine that the population of biological entities; *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) is a species for the purposes of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act) under section 517(1).

The Western Australian population of *Galaxias truttaceus* is geographically isolated to the south coast of Western Australia. The species also occurs as a disjunct population in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. Western populations have a unique ecology (potamodromous life cycle) compared to eastern populations (diadromous life cycle) which is a signal of evolutionary divergence and regional adaptation and, as such, western populations are considered discrete population.

#### **Human rights implications**

This Legislative Instrument does not engage any of the applicable rights or freedoms.

#### **Conclusion**

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with human rights as it does not raise any human rights issues.

**Melissa Price**

**Assistant Minister for the Environment**



**Commonwealth of Australia**

Amendment to the lists of threatened species, threatened ecological communities and key threatening processes under sections 178, 181 and 183 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (209)*

I, MELISSA PRICE, delegate for the Minister for the Environment, under section 184(d) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*, amend the list referred to in section 178 of that Act by updating the name of the listed threatened species:

*Galaxias truttaceus hesperius* to *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

Assistant Minister for the Environment

Dated this..... 8 / 8 / ..... 2018



## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

(Issued under the Authority of the Assistant Minister for the Environment)

*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*

### Instrument under section 184(d)

The *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* (the Act) provides for the protection of the environment, especially matters of national environmental significance, and conservation of biodiversity, including the protection and conservation of threatened species.

Section 178 of the Act provides for a list of threatened species (the **List**) separated into particular categories being, extinct, extinct in the wild, critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable and conservation dependent.

Section 184(d) of the Act provides that the Minister or delegate may, by legislative instrument, amend the List to correct an inaccuracy or update the name of a listed threatened species.

The purpose of this Instrument is to amend the List by correcting and updating the scientific name of a threatened species included in the List as set out below:

- *Galaxias truttaceus hesperius* to *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population)

### Background

The name change for *Galaxias truttaceus hesperius* to *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) results from a procedural decision that has not altered the concept or description of the species.

### Consultation

Section 189(1) of the EPBC Act requires the rule-maker, when deciding whether to amend the List under section 184(d) of the Act, to obtain and consider advice from the Threatened Species Scientific Committee on the proposed amendment. That advice was sought and considered prior to the making of the Instrument. The Committee recommended the name change as set out above.

Section 17(1)(a) of the *Legislation Act 2003* states that before the legislative instrument is made, the rule-maker must be satisfied that there has been undertaken any consultation that is considered by the rule-maker to be appropriate. As this Instrument only corrects an inaccuracy in the List and does not make any substantial changes to the List, public consultation was not undertaken.

The Instrument is a legislative instrument for the purposes of the *Legislation Act 2003 (Cth)*.

The Instrument commenced on the day after it was registered on the Federal Register of Legislation.

Authority: Section 184(d) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)*.

## **Statement of Compatibility with Human Rights**

*Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the  
Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*

### **Amendment to the lists of threatened species, threatened ecological communities and key threatening processes under sections 178, 181 and 183 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* (209)**

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with the human rights and freedoms recognised or declared in the international instruments listed in section 3 of the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*.

#### **Overview of the Legislative Instrument**

The purpose of this Legislative Instrument is to amend the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth)* (EPBC Act) list of threatened species by updating the name of one fauna species under section 184(d) of the EPBC Act. This name change is to update the name of a listed threatened species.

#### **Human rights implications**

This Legislative Instrument does not engage any of the applicable rights or freedoms.

#### **Conclusion**

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with human rights as it does not raise any human rights issues.

**Melissa Price**

**Assistant Minister for the Environment**

### **Background on extending the completion timeframe for an assessment**

1. Part of the Committee's consideration during the preparation of the proposed list is a review of the assessments currently underway to ensure that the previously determined assessment timeframes can be achieved.
2. The Committee has determined that it cannot meet the assessment completion timeframe for *Myoporum turbinatum* (Salt Myoporum), which is being assessed in collaboration with the Western Australian government under the common assessment method, because this species is only found in that state. Further time is required to work with the Western Australian government to resolve technical points relating to the assessment.
3. The Committee requests an extension of the assessment completion time for *Myoporum turbinatum* from 30 September 2018 until 30 September 2019, as provided for by s194P(2) of the EPBC Act. The Department supports the Committee's request to extend this timeframe.
4. Section 194P of the EPBC Act allows the Committee to request that you extend an assessment completion timeframe. You may extend the assessment completion time up to a maximum of five years (relevant sections of the EPBC Act are at **Attachment O**). This species was previously extended by Minister Frydenberg in MS17-000836, but has not exceeded the five years provided under s194P(3). If you agree to the extension, reason for the extensions will be published on the Department's website as is the standard practice.

**EPBC Act Sections relevant to the Proposed and Final Priority Assessment List, extension of the assessment completion timeframes, determining a population of biological entities as species for the purposes of this Act and amending the list of threatened species**

**178 Listing of threatened species**

- (1) The Minister must, by instrument published in the *Gazette*, establish a list of threatened species divided into the following categories:
  - (a) extinct;
  - (b) extinct in the wild;
  - (c) critically endangered;
  - (d) endangered;
  - (e) vulnerable;
  - (f) conservation dependent.
- (2) The list, as first established, must contain only the species contained in Schedule 1 to the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992*, as in force immediately before the commencement of this Act.
- (3) The Minister must include:
  - (a) in the extinct category of the list, as first established, only the species mentioned in subsection (2) that were listed as presumed extinct; and
  - (b) in the endangered category of the list, as first established, only the native species mentioned in subsection (2) that were listed as endangered; and
  - (c) in the vulnerable category of the list, as first established, only the species mentioned in subsection (2) that were listed as vulnerable.
- (4) If the Minister is satisfied that a species included in the list, as first established, in:
  - (a) the extinct category; or
  - (b) the endangered category; or
  - (c) the vulnerable category;is not eligible to be included in that or any other category, or is eligible to be, or under subsection 186(3), (4) or (5) can be, included in another category, the Minister must, within 6 months after the commencement of this Act, amend the list accordingly in accordance with this Subdivision.

**184 Minister may amend lists**

Subject to this Subdivision, the **Minister** may, by legislative instrument, amend a list referred to in section 178, 181 or 183 by:

- (a) including items in the list in accordance with Subdivision AA; or
- (aa) including items in the list in accordance with subsection 186(3), (4) or (5); or
- (b) deleting items from the list; or
- (c) in the case of the list referred to in section 178 or 181—transferring items from one category in the list to another category in the list in accordance with Subdivision AA; or
- (d) correcting an inaccuracy or updating the name of a listed threatened species or listed threatened ecological community.

Note: Part 4 of Chapter 3 (sunsetting) of the *Legislation Act 2003* does not apply to the instrument. See regulations made for the purposes of paragraph 54(2)(b) of that Act.



**189 Minister must consider advice from Scientific Committee**

- (1) In deciding whether to make an amendment covered by paragraph 184(1)(aa), (b) or (d), the Minister must, in accordance with the regulations (if any), obtain and consider advice from the Scientific Committee on the proposed amendment.
- (1A) Subsection (1) has effect subject to section 192.
- (1B) If advice from the Scientific Committee for the purposes of subsection (1) is to the effect that a particular native species, or a particular ecological community, is eligible to be included in the relevant list in a particular category, the advice must also contain:
- (a) a statement that sets out:
    - (i) the grounds on which the species or community is eligible to be included in the category; and
    - (ii) the main factors that are the cause of it being so eligible; and
  - (b) either:
    - (i) information about what could appropriately be done to stop the decline of, or support the recovery of, the species or community; or
    - (ii) a statement to the effect that there is nothing that could appropriately be done to stop the decline of, or support the recovery of, the species or community; and
  - (c) a recommendation on the question whether there should be a recovery plan for the species or community.
- (2) In preparing advice under subsection (1), the Scientific Committee may obtain advice from a person with expertise relevant to the subject matter of the proposed amendment.
- (3) In preparing advice for a proposed amendment to delete an item:
- (a) included in a category of a list referred to in section 178 or 181; and
  - (b) that had not been included in that category in accordance with subsection 186(3), (4) or (5);
- the only matters the Scientific Committee may consider are matters relating to:
- (c) the survival of the native species or ecological community concerned; or
  - (d) the effect that the inclusion in the list of the native species or ecological community concerned is having, or could have, on the survival of that native species or ecological community.

**194G Scientific Committee to prepare proposed priority assessment list**

- (1) Within 40 business days after the Scientific Committee receives the nominations as required by subsection 194F(1) in relation to an assessment period for a Subdivision A List, the Committee must prepare and give to the Minister a list (the proposed priority assessment list) for the assessment period for the Subdivision A List.
- (2) The proposed priority assessment list for the Subdivision A List is to consist of such of the items that are eligible for assessment consideration in relation to the assessment period for the Subdivision A List as the Scientific Committee considers it appropriate to include in the proposed priority assessment list, having regard to:
- (a) any conservation themes determined by the Minister under section 194D in relation to the assessment period for the Subdivision A List; and
  - (b) the Committee's own views about what should be given priority in relation to the assessment period for the Subdivision A List; and

- (c) the Committee's capacity to make assessments under this Division while still performing its other functions; and
  - (d) any other matters that the Committee considers appropriate.
- (3) An item is eligible for assessment consideration in relation to the assessment period for a Subdivision A List if:
- (a) the item has been nominated by a nomination referred to in subsection (1); or
  - (b) the Committee itself wishes to nominate the item for inclusion in the Subdivision A List; or
  - (c) the item was eligible for assessment consideration, otherwise than because of this paragraph, in relation to the immediately preceding assessment period (if any) for the Subdivision A List but was not included in the finalised priority assessment list for that assessment period for the Subdivision A List.
- (4) Without limiting the generality of the Scientific Committee's discretion under subsection (2), the Committee does not have to include in the proposed priority assessment list an item that has been nominated if the Committee considers that:
- (a) if the item is not on the Subdivision A List concerned—it is unlikely that the item is eligible to be included in the Subdivision A List; or
  - (b) if the nomination is for the transfer of the item to another category in the Subdivision A List concerned—it is unlikely that the item is eligible to be included in that other category of the Subdivision A List.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4), the Committee is not required to have regard to any information beyond the information that was included in the nomination.
- (6) The proposed priority assessment list is not a legislative instrument.

#### **194H Matters to be included in proposed priority assessment list**

- (1) The proposed priority assessment list for an assessment period for a Subdivision A List is to include, for each item in the proposed priority assessment list:
- (a) a description of the item; and
  - (b) an assessment completion time; and
  - (c) any other information required by the regulations.
- (2) The assessment completion time for an item must be either:
- (a) a time that is at or before the end of the assessment period for the proposed priority assessment list; or
  - (b) if the Scientific Committee considers it likely that making an assessment in relation to the item will take a period that is longer than 12 months—the end of that longer period (calculated from the start of the assessment period for the proposed priority assessment list).

#### **194J Statement to be given to Minister with proposed priority assessment list**

- (1) When the Scientific Committee gives the Minister the proposed priority assessment list for an assessment period for a Subdivision A List, the Committee must also give the Minister a statement setting out such information as the Committee considers appropriate relating to:

- (a) for each item that is included in the proposed priority assessment list—why the Committee included the item in the list; and
  - (b) for each item that is not included in the proposed priority assessment list but that was eligible for assessment consideration because of paragraph 194G(3)(a) or (c)—why the Committee did not include the item in the proposed priority assessment list.
- (2) The statement must also identify, as items nominated by the Scientific Committee, any items that are included in the proposed priority assessment list because the Committee itself wishes to nominate them (see paragraph 194G(3)(b)).

#### **194K The finalised priority assessment list**

- (1) Within 20 business days after the Minister, under section 194G, receives the proposed priority assessment list for an assessment period for a Subdivision A List, the Minister may, in writing, make changes to the proposed priority assessment list as mentioned in subsection (2).
- (2) The changes the Minister may make are as follows:
  - (a) including an item in the proposed priority assessment list (and also including the matters referred to in subsection 194H(1));
  - (b) omitting an item from the proposed priority assessment list (and also omitting the matters referred to in subsection 194H(1));
  - (c) changing the assessment completion time for an item in the proposed priority assessment list;
  - (d) any other changes of a kind permitted by the regulations.
- (3) In exercising the power to make changes, the Minister may have regard to any matters that the Minister considers appropriate.
- (4) At the end of the period of 20 business days referred to in subsection (1), the proposed priority assessment list, as changed (if at all) by the Minister, becomes the finalised priority assessment list for the assessment period for the Subdivision A List.
- (5) The Minister must notify the Scientific Committee of all changes that the Minister makes to the proposed priority assessment list.
- (6) The finalised priority assessment list is not a legislative instrument.

#### **194P Time by which assessments to be provided to Minister**

- (1) Subsection 194N(1) must be complied with, in relation to an item included in the finalised priority assessment list for an assessment period for a Subdivision A List, by the assessment completion time specified in the finalised priority assessment list for the item, or by that time as extended under this section.
- (2) The Scientific Committee may request the Minister to extend the assessment completion time (or that time as previously extended) if the Committee considers that it needs more time to make the assessment.
- (3) The Minister may, in response to a request under subsection (2), extend the assessment completion time (or that time as previously extended) by such period (if any) as the Minister considers appropriate. However, the total length of all extensions of the assessment completion time must not be more than 5 years.
- (4) An extension under subsection (3) must be made in writing.

- (5) If the Minister grants an extension under this section, the Minister must publish particulars of the extension in a way that the Minister considers appropriate.

**517 Determinations of species**

- (1) The Minister may, by legislative instrument, determine that a distinct population of biological entities is a species for the purposes of this Act.
- (3) A determination does not apply for the purposes of:
  - (a) Part 13A; or
  - (b) the definitions of CITES I species, CITES II species and CITES III species in section 528.
- (4) Subsection (3) does not affect the meaning of the expression listed threatened species when used in Part 13A.





**THE HON MELISSA PRICE MP  
ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

MS18- 0000872

Professor Helene Marsh  
Chair  
Threatened Species Scientific Committee  
c/- Secretariat, Species Information and Policy Section  
Department of the Environment  
GPO Box 787  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

**13 AUG 2018**

Dear Professor Marsh

Thank you for the Threatened Species Scientific Committee's Proposed Priority Assessment list of species, ecological communities and key threatening processes under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

I note the Committee's reasoning behind the inclusion and exclusion of species, ecological communities and key threatening processes on the proposed list. I have accepted the Committee's recommendations on the species and ecological communities to be included on the Finalised Priority Assessment List for the assessment period commencing 1 October 2018.

I have also agreed to the Committee's request for an extension of the timeframe for the assessment of *Myoporum turbinatum*, from 30 September 2018 until 30 September 2019. I have determined *Galaxias truttaceus* (Western Australian population) to be a species for the purposes of the EPBC Act and reflected this in a name change on the list of threatened species.

I look forward to receiving your advice on these assessments in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Melissa Price'.

MELISSA PRICE

THREATENED SPECIES SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Meeting 72

5 – 7 June 2018, Canberra

Draft **MINUTES**

**Committee attendance:** Professor Helene Marsh, Dr Hamish Campbell, Professor Kingsley Dixon, Ms Louise Gilfedder, Dr David Kendal, Dr Sarah Legge, Dr Nicola Mitchell

Meeting opened at 9.30 am

**1. OPENING REMARKS**

**1.1 Welcome to members and Chair's opening remarks**

s22 - material irrelevant to scope

s22 - material irrelevant to scope

s22 - material irrelevant to scope



s22 - material irrelevant to scope

s22 - material irrelevant to scope

# s22 - material irrelevant to scope

## 6. STRATEGIC ISSUES/POLICY ITEMS

### 6.1 Proposed Priority Assessment List (PPAL) 2018

#### Species PPAL discussion and decision

- Members discussed the public nominations received and potential committee nominations.
- Members noted that NSW has completed a final determination for *Uperoleia mahonyi* (Mahony's Toadlet) and will provide the assessment through the CAM.
- Members noted NSW have deemed *Centroberyx affinis* (Redfish) to be significantly overfished, meaning it is not a targeted species in NSW. NSW questioned the benefit of assessing this species for CD listing given that a rebuilding strategy is in place. Members noted that in mid-2016 the Committee wrote to AFMA expressing concern about the species and that the rebuilding strategy came into effect later that year (and remains in place until 2021). AFMA believe the stocks won't be rebuilt to 20% of pre-exploitation levels before 2024. Members noted that the species is managed across a number of jurisdictions and is taken by recreational fishing. Members agreed this species should be included in the PPAL.
- In discussing *Bidyanus bidyanus* (Silver Perch), members disagreed that this species was on the path to recovery, noting mapping data alone indicates it has undergone a severe (over 80%) decline, and that there is no indication of recruitment. Members noted this species is only listed in some jurisdictions, and agreed to include it on the PPAL for reassessment to allow consistent listing of the species across its range.

The Committee:

- **discussed** the nominations, supporting data, decision support tools and the Committee and Department's capacity to make assessments while still performing other functions;
- **agreed** to include the following species on the 2018 PPAL:

#### Public nominations

- *Uperoleia mahonyi* (Mahony's Toadlet)
- *Tiliqua scincoides intermedia* (Northern Blue-tongued Skink)

#### Committee nominations

Imperilled species

- *Rhodomyrtus psidioides* (Native Guava) (with a completion timeframe of 30 September 2019)
- *Rhodamnia rubescens* (Scrub Turpentine) (with a completion timeframe of 30 September 2019)
- *Prototroctes maraena* (Australian Grayling) (with a completion timeframe of 30 Sept 2020)
- *Centroberyx affinis* (Redfish) (with a completion timeframe of 30 Sept 2021)

Squamate SEAP species (with a completion timeframe for all species of 30 Sept 2020)

- *Varanus mertensi* (Mertens's Water Monitor)
- *Varanus mitchelli* (Mitchell's Water Monitor)

Mammal Action Plan species (with a completion timeframe for all species of 30 Sept 2021)

- *Perameles papillon* (Nullarbor Barred Bandicoot)
- *Perameles fasciata* (Liverpool Plains Striped Bandicoot)
- *Perameles myosurus* (Marl Bandicoot)
- *Perameles notina* (South-eastern Striped Bandicoot)

CAM Endemic legacy species (with a completion timeframe for all species of 30 Sept 2019)

- *Androcalva adenothealia*
- *Androcalva perlaria*
- *Caladenia graniticola* (Pingaring Spider-orchid)
- *Grevillea acropogon*
- *Hypocalymma angustifolium* subsp. *Hutt River* (S.Patrick 2982)
- *Hypocalymma* sp. *Cascade* (R. Bruhn 20896)
- *Stylidium amabile*
- *Stylidium coroniforme* subsp. *amblyphyllum*
- *Stylidium coroniforme* subsp. *coroniforme* (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)
- *Stylidium coroniforme* (Wongan Hills Triggerplant)
- *Fontainea oraria* (Coastal Fontainea)
- *Homoranthus bebo*
- *Acacia woodmaniorum* (Woodman's Wattle)
- *Bossiaea* sp. *Frankland* (E.M. Sandiford EMS 896)
- *Ctenotus angusticeps* (Northwestern Coastal Ctenotus)
- *Eremophila glabra* subsp. *scaddan* (C. Turley s.n. 10/11/2005)
- *Hibbertia* sp. *Toolbrunup* (J.R.Wheeler 2504)



- *Lasiopetalum moulllean*
- *Melaleuca sp. Wanneroo* (G.J. Keighery 16705)
- *Myriocephalus nudus*
- *Spicospina flammocaerulea* (Sunset Frog)
- *Stylidium asymmetricum* (Aymmetric Triggerplant)
- *Trioza barrettae* (Banksia brownii Plant-louse)
- *Gentiana bredboensis*
- *Phebalium speciosum*
- *Philotheca ericifolia*
- *Pimelea axiflora* subsp. *pubescens*
- *Clausena excavata*
- *Hypsela sessiliflora*
- *Aprasia rostrata rostrata* (Monte Bello Worm-lizard)
- *Nannoperca pygmaea* (Little Pygmy Perch)

Frog SEAP (with a completion timeframe for all species of 30 Sept 2021)

- *Cophixalus aenigma* (Tapping Nursery-frog)
- *Cophixalus concinnus* (Elegant Frog)
- *Cophixalus hosmeri* (Rattling Nursery-frog)
- *Cophixalus mcdonaldi* (Mount Elliot Nursery-frog)
- *Cophixalus monticola* (Mountain-top Nursery-frog)
- *Cophixalus neglectus* (Bellenden Ker Nursery-frog)
- *Heleioporus australiacus* (Giant Burrowing Frog)
- *Litoria booroolongensis* (Booroolong Frog)
- *Litoria littlejohni* (Heath Frog)
- *Litoria spenceri* (Spotted Tree Frog)
- *Mixophyes fleayi* (Fleay's Frog)
- *Mixophyes iterates* (Southern Barred Frog)
- *Phyloria kundagungan* (Mountain Frog)
- *Phyloria richmondensis* (Richmond Range Sphagnum Frog)
- *Taudactylus rheophilus* (Tinkling Frog)
- *Uperoleia daviesae* (Howard River Toadlet)

Fish SEAP (with a completion timeframe for all species of 30 Sept 2021)

- *Galaxias gunaikurnai* (Shaw Galaxias)
- *Galaxias longifundus* (West Gippsland Galaxias)
- *Galaxias lanceolatus* (Tapered Galaxias)
- *Galaxias mungadhan* (Dargo Galaxias)
- *Galaxias mcdowalli* (McDowall's Galaxias)
- *Melanotaenia sp.* (Malanda Rainbowfish)
- *Galaxias supremus* (Kosciuszko Galaxias)
- *Galaxias aequipinnis* (East Gippsland Galaxias)

- *Milyeringa justitia* (Barrow Cave Gudgeon)
- *Galaxias brevissimus* (Short-tail Galaxias)

#### CAM Cross-jurisdictional species

- *Bidyanus bidyanus* (Silver Perch) (with a completion timeframe of 30 Sept 2021)
- *Falco hypoleucos* (Grey Falcon) (with a completion timeframe of 30 Sept 2021)
- *Megaptera novaeangliae* (Humpback whale) (with a completion timeframe of 30 Sept 2020)

➤ **agreed** not to include the following species on the 2018 PPAL:

#### Public nominations

- *Litoria raniformis* (Growling Grass Frog)
- *Tylophora linearis* (a plant)

#### Frog SEAP

- *Litoria burrowsae* (Tasmanian Tree Frog)

#### Fish SEAP

- *Galaxias* sp. (Morwell Galaxias)
- *Galaxias* sp. (Yalmy Galaxias)
- *Galaxias* sp. (Hunter Galaxias)
- *Galaxias* sp. (Moroka Galaxias)
- *Melanotaenia* sp. (Running River Rainbowfish)
- *Gadopsis* sp. (SW Victoria River Blackfish)
- *Cairnsichthys* sp. (Daintree Rainbowfish)
- *Guyu wujalwujalensis* (Bloomfield Cod)

#### CAM Cross-jurisdictional species

- *Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami* (Glossy-black Cockatoo)
- *Leucochrysum albicans* subsp. *tricolor* (Hoary Sunray)
- *Lophochroa leadbeateri leadbeateri* (Major Mitchell's Cockatoo)
- *Maccullochella peelii* (Murray Cod)
- *Potorous tridactylus tridactylus* (Long-nosed Potoroo)
- *Synemon plana* (Golden Sun Moth)

### **Ecological Communities discussion and decision**

#### 2018 Public nominations

- The members noted that all of the nominated ecological communities are worthy of further investigation and proposed a workshop to identify mechanisms to streamline assessment for ecological communities in the future.
- **Drooping She-oak *Allocasuarina verticillata* Grassy Woodlands on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion**
  - Members noted that SA does not list Ecological Communities and has no legislative provisions to do so. Members agreed to include this Ecological Community in the PPAL.

- **Native flat oyster and Sydney rock oyster ecosystems of temperate Australian marine and estuarine waters**
  - Members advised the Department that there is a publication on the IUCN website by Melanie Bishop (Macquarie University) on shellfish reefs in America which would be a useful reference.
  - Members note that Indigenous engagement would be required and suggested s47F [redacted] and s47F [redacted] as relevant contacts. Members agreed to include this Ecological Community in the PPAL.
- **Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub of the Sydney Region**
  - Members noted that the Department revised the decision support tool score based on Professor Keith's advice. Members expressed concerns regarding the increasing impact of fire and recreation on this ecological community, noting that reserve status is not fully protecting the community in Botany Bay National Park, Anzac Head and Royal NP. Members agreed that reassessment of this ecological community would be relatively straight forward, but noted limited capacity to undertake the assessment. Members asked the Department to discuss a potential future assessment with NSW, with the possibility of addressing it through the "any other ecological community" item if resources allow.
- **Kwongkan shrubland thickets of Western Australia's Avon Wheatbelt**
  - Members noted that further work is required to accurately determine the extent of the community. Members agreed that the ecological community should be assessed, but noted the limited departmental and Committee capacity to undertake the assessment. Members noted that vegetation clearance was less extensive at present compared to the past. Members asked that the ecological community be reconsidered in the 2019 PPAL process.

#### 2017 Public Nominations for reconsideration

- **Darwin sandsheet heath (first nominated in 2016, with revised nomination submitted in 2017)**
  - The Committee noted that despite the best efforts of the Department, the further survey work required to consider this ecological community was yet to be undertaken.
- ***Empodisma gracillimum* based peatland communities of the high rainfall zones of South-West Western Australia**
  - Members noted that it is possible that the community is much narrower than shown on the distribution map.
  - The most pressing threats to the community are climate change, fire and feral pigs. The Department agreed that more work was needed to identify the location and the extent of threats. Professors Kingsley and Keith agreed to help with collating this information. Suggestions were made about external expertise including s47F [redacted] at Curtin University and s47F [redacted] (Tauss and Associates Biodiversity Consultants).
  - Members suggested that this community could be readily mapped and exploring this option should be considered a priority. Mapping based on remote sensing will require ground-truthing. In response to a suggestion that Citizen Science groups may be able to assist with this, members were advised that these groups have been doing this work, however do not have the capacity beyond the small area they are operating within.
  - The Chair asked Dr Mitchell, Prof Dixon and Prof Keith to consider ways to gather the required data to enable an assessment. Further evidence is required, across the full range, regarding current extent and loss of area and/or integrity to demonstrate that the ecological community is likely to be eligible for listing.
- **Temperate and Sub-tropical Woodland Bird Community**
  - Members noted that there are habitats where birds are declining, and that declines in these habitats are not always reflected by vegetation-based ecological community listings. Members support assessment of faunal ecological communities noting that this is more

challenging because of the mobility of the species, which make up the community and difficulties in defining how fauna relate to different vegetation assemblages.

- The Committee suggested that s47F (Tasmanian Land Conservancy) should be included as a contributor.
- The Committee discussed the potential application of faunal ecological communities to other taxa such as alpine frogs, and noted that this approach could be considered as an alternative to individual species listings.

#### Potential 2018 Committee Nominations

- **Woodland bird communities of north and east Tasmania**
- **Woodland bird communities of temperate South Australia**
  - The Committee endorsed the Department's suggestion of focusing on one or two sub-regions as an alternative to the broader bird community nominated in 2017, but agreed these two potential Committee nominations are not priorities at this stage.
  - The Committee agrees with the Department's suggestion to explore different regional options, including possibly a Mulga bird community, to be brought forward again in 2019.

The Committee:

- **discussed** the nominations, supporting data, decision support tools and the Committee and Department's capacity to make assessments while still performing other functions
- **noted** that all of the nominated ecological communities are worthy of consideration and the Committee plans a workshop to identify mechanisms to enhance delivery of ecological community listing assessments in the future.
- **agreed** to include two ecological communities in the 2018 Proposed Priority Assessment List:
  - Drooping Sheoak (*Allocasuarina verticillata*) Grassy Woodland on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion (nominated as Drooping Sheoak *Allocasuarina verticillata* Grassy Woodlands on Calcrete of the Eyre Yorke Block Bioregion (IBRA 7.0))
  - Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs (nominated as Native flat oyster and Sydney rock oyster ecosystems of temperate Australian marine and estuarine waters).
- **agreed** to inclusion statements for Drooping Sheoak and Native Flat oyster and Sydney Rock oyster ecosystems of temperate Australian marine and estuarine waters (Temperate coastal oyster beds and reefs),
- **agreed** to exclusion statements for Peatland systems in southwest WA, Darwin Sandsheet Heath, Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub, Kwongkan shrubland thickets on WA's Avon wheatbelt, and Woodland Birds.

#### **Key Threatening Process discussion and decision**

##### **Fire KTP**

- Members noted that the "Contemporary fire regimes resulting in the loss of vegetation heterogeneity and biodiversity throughout Australia" key threatening process was prioritised for assessment in 2008. The current draft assessment under the revised title of "Fire regimes that cause biodiversity decline" was prepared by the then TSSC chair (Bob Beaton) and provided to a previous Minister but no decision was made.
- Members agreed that the assessment required revision to incorporate new literature and that this revision was a high priority. Members discussed the best approach to the revision and requested that the Department work with Dr Legge, Dr Kendal, and Prof Keith to develop a plan for consideration at TSSC73 (Sept 18).
- Members noted related work underway in the states and territories. NSW is currently revising their Fire KTP assessment (s47F at NSW OEH is a valuable contact). The Tasmanian fire service is looking at the impact on biodiversity of fuel reduction burning.



### **The impact of sarcoptic mange (*Sarcoptes scabiei*) on *Lasiorhinus* spp. (2018 nomination)**

- Members discussed the extent and severity of the threatening process, and agreed not to prioritise it for assessment in the 2018 Proposed Priority Assessment List.

### **Shark Death or injury to marine species following capture in the lethal shark control programs (nets and drumlines) on ocean beaches (2017 nomination)**

- Members noted that the nominator has addressed many of the concerns raised in the 2017 exclusion statement in revising the nomination. The Committee considers that if assessed, the nomination may be eligible for listing.

### **The loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes (2017 nomination)**

- The members noted their continued support for assessment of the nomination. However, in light of the Minister's request to focus on the prioritisation of species and ecological communities for assessment, and the committee's imperative to progress the fire KTP assessment, the Committee agreed not to include any further threatening processes for assessment in the 2018 Proposed Priority Assessment List.

The Committee:

- **discussed** the nominations, supporting data, decision support tools and the Committee and Department's capacity to make assessments while still performing other functions.
- **agreed** that revising the assessment of the 'Fire regimes that cause biodiversity decline' key threatening process is the priority for the coming assessment period.
- **noted** that a working group led by the Department with Professor Dixon, Dr Legge, Dr Kendal and Professor Keith will develop a proposed approach to revise the fire KTP assessment in a realistic timeframe to be discussed at TSSC73 (Sep 2018). The document will include steps to engage with the Ministers regarding communication and decision timeframes.
- The Committee **endorsed** the new KTP DST template
- **agreed not** to include the impact of sarcoptic mange (*Sarcoptes scabiei*) on *Lasiorhinus* spp., noting that it would be automatically eligible for consideration for inclusion on the 2018 PPAL.
- **agreed not** to include the following reconsidered Key Threatening Process nominations on the 2018 PPAL:
  - Death or injury to marine species following capture in the lethal shark control programs (nets and drumlines) on ocean beaches
  - The loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes
- **noted** the Minister's decision to amend the 2017 FPAL to exclude the loss or removal of dingoes from Australian landscapes and the request that the Committee focus on prioritisation of species and ecological communities for assessment.

### **In relation to the 2018 PPAL, the Committee:**

- **agreed** on the 2018 PPAL, assessment timeframes and inclusion statements;
- **agreed** on exclusion statements for public nominations that have not been included on the 2018 PPAL;
- **agreed** that, following the Minister's consideration of the 2018 PPAL, the Department will publish public nominations (with personal details redacted) and exclusion statements for items that have not been included on the 2017 or 2018 Finalised Priority Assessment List (FPAL);
- **noted** that further species will be proposed for addition to the 2018 FPAL at subsequent meetings as assessments of state and territory endemic species are brought forward through the Common Assessment Method.

s22 - material irrelevant to scope

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## CLOSING REMARKS

The Committee:

- **formally thanked** the Departmental officers and members of the TSSC for their work on TSSC72.

The meeting closed at 3pm on Thursday 7 June.

The Committee declares that these minutes are an accurate record of the 72<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Threatened Species Scientific Committee

[Input date when minutes are approved by the Committee]

**Guest and Departmental attendance**

s22 - material irrelevant to scope

