

Approved Conservation Advice for *Acacia grandifolia*

(s266B of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*)

This Conservation Advice has been developed based on the best available information at the time this Conservation Advice was approved; this includes existing plans, records or management prescriptions for this species.

Description

Acacia grandifolia, Family Mimosaceae, is a tree growing to approximately 8 m high. Leaf-like phyllodes are straight, asymmetrically elliptical and covered in fine hair. Flowers are long golden spikes, appearing in September. Seed pods are approximately 60 mm long by 6 mm wide, flat, hairy, and contain shiny black seeds (Leverington et al., 2006).

Conservation Status

Acacia grandifolia is listed as **vulnerable**. This species is eligible for listing as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cwlth) (EPBC Act) as, prior to the commencement of the EPBC Act, it was listed as vulnerable under Schedule 1 of the *Endangered Species Protection Act 1992* (Cwlth). This species was delisted from the rare category of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (Queensland) in 2001.

Distribution and Habitat

Acacia grandifolia is restricted to the Mundubbera area in the Burnett district, south-east Queensland. It has a range of approximately 100 km and encompasses an extent of occurrence approximately 4200 km² (Qld CRA/RFA Steering Committee, 1998). It has been recorded from six State Forests as well as road verges, freehold and leasehold land. It is not recorded in any conservation reserve (Qld CRA/RFA Steering Committee, 1998). The species occurs as large colonies or as scattered individuals, with more than 18 populations recorded. There are estimated to be over 1 million individual plants (Leverington et al., 2006).

The species grows on hilly terrain of varying aspect and slope. The species appears to respond well to disturbance, with good regeneration by seed in disturbed areas and roadsides recorded (Leverington et al., 2006). This species occurs within the Brigalow Belt Bioregion and the Fitzroy Natural Resource Management Region.

The distribution of this species is not known to overlap with any EPBC Act-listed threatened ecological community.

Threats

The main potential threats to *Acacia grandifolia* include habitat modification through timber harvesting, inappropriate fire regimes and inappropriate grazing regimes.

If fires are too frequent, the plants will have insufficient time to build up a soil seedbank to replace individuals that have been killed in the fires, and will suffer population declines (Qld CRA/RFA Steering Committee, 1998).

Regional and Local Priority Actions

The following priority recovery and threat abatement actions can be done to support the recovery of *Acacia grandifolia*.

Habitat Loss, Disturbance and Modification

- Identify populations of high conservation priority.

- Minimise adverse impacts from land use at known sites.
- Monitor the progress of recovery, including the effectiveness of management actions and the need to adapt them if necessary.

Trampling, Browsing or Grazing

- If livestock grazing occurs in the area, ensure land owners/managers use an appropriate management regime and density that does not detrimentally affect this species.

Fire

- Develop and implement a suitable fire management strategy for the habitat of *Acacia grandifolia*.
- Where appropriate provide maps of known occurrences to local and state Rural Fire Services and seek inclusion of mitigative measures in bush fire risk management plan(s), risk register and/or operation maps.
- Implement an appropriate fire management regime for local populations.

This list does not necessarily encompass all actions that may be of benefit to the *Acacia grandifolia*, but highlights those that are considered to be of highest priority at the time of preparing the Conservation Advice.

Information Sources:

Leverington A, Edgar R and Gordon G (2006). Draft Multi-species recovery plan for *Acacia eremophiloides*, *Acacia grandifolia*, *Acacia porcata*, *Bertya granitica* and *Newcastelia velutina*. Report to the Department of Environment and Heritage, Canberra. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service, Brisbane.

Queensland CRA/RFA Steering Committee (1998). Survey of Threatened Plant Species in South East Queensland Biogeographical Region. Available on the Internet at:

<http://www.daff.gov.au/rfa/regions/qld/environment/threatened-plant>