

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

Approved Conservation Advice for
***Pomaderris gilmourii* var. *cana* (Grey Deua Pomaderris)**

This Conservation Advice has been developed based on the best available information at the time this conservation advice was approved.

Description

Pomaderris gilmourii var. *cana*, Family Rhamnaceae, also known as Grey Deua Pomaderris, is a shrub growing to 4 m high with elliptic leaves to about 35 mm long and 13 mm wide. The leaves are hairless on the upper surface, except for a line of minute hairs along the midvein, and dull, greyish-hairy on the lower surface. The small, cream or pale yellow flowers lack petals and are aggregated in clusters mostly 2–5 cm diameter at the ends of branchlets. Flowers have been recorded in November and December (Walsh, 1989; Harden, 2000).

Conservation Status

Grey Deua Pomaderris is listed as **vulnerable**. This subspecies 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). It is also listed as vulnerable under the *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* (NSW).

Distribution and Habitat

Grey Deua Pomaderris is known from a single population in the Deua National Park, near Coondella Trig, about 16 km south-west from Moruya, NSW (DECC, 2005). The site is around 400 m above sea level, and is based on skeletal soils derived from rhyolite, formed in this area as part of the Comerang Volcanic Series. Plants occur in a shrubland or open woodland with associated species including *Eucalyptus stenostoma*, *Hakea dactyloides*, *H. macreana*, *Kunzea ambigua*, *Leptospermum deuaense*, *Philotheca trachyphyla*, *Platysace lanceolata*, *Pomaderris gilmourii* var. *gilmourii*, *Prostanthera porcata* and *Westringia saxicola*. The only known population of Grey Deua Pomaderris occurs within the Southern Rivers (NSW) Natural Resource Management Region.

The distribution of this species overlaps with the “White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely’s Red Gum Grassy Woodland and Derived Native Grassland” EPBC Act-listed threatened ecological community.

Threats

The main identified threats to Grey Deua Pomaderris are fire and stochastic events. Grey Deua Pomaderris is restricted to a single small population, meaning any local calamity could place the population of this plant in danger of extinction, despite its reservation within a national park. While Grey Deua Pomaderris is thought to have seed that will survive and germinate after fire, multiple fires in rapid succession, not allowing time for germinated plants to reach reproductive maturity, could cause further decline or extinction (DECC, 2005).

Research Priorities

Research priorities that would inform future regional and local priority actions include:

- Design and implement a monitoring program.
- Establish the species response to fire (resprouter and/or obligate seeder), and identify the appropriate intensity and interval of fire to promote seed germination.

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- Establish the presence and estimate the size of the soil seed bank.

Regional and Local Priority Actions

The following priority recovery and threat abatement actions can be done to support the recovery of Grey Deua Pomaderris.

Habitat Loss, Disturbance and Modification

- Monitor known population to identify key threats.
- Monitor the progress of recovery, including the effectiveness of management actions and the need to adapt them if necessary.
- Ensure road widening and maintenance activities (or other infrastructure or development) involving substrate or vegetation disturbance do not adversely impact on known populations.
- Undertake survey work in suitable habitat and potential habitat to locate any additional populations/occurrences/remnants.
- Control access routes to suitably constrain public access to known sites on public land.

Fire

- Develop an implement a suitable fire management strategy for Grey Deua Pomaderris.
- Provide maps of known occurrences to local and state Rural Fire Services and seek inclusion of mitigative measures in bush fire risk management plans, risk register and/or operation maps.

Enable Recovery of Additional Sites and/or Populations

- Undertake appropriate seed collection and storage.
- Investigate options for linking, enhancing or establishing additional populations.
- Implement national translocation protocols (Vallee et al., 2004) if establishing additional populations is considered necessary and feasible.

This list does not necessarily encompass all actions that may be of benefit to Grey Deua Pomaderris, but highlights those that are considered to be of highest priority at the time of preparing the conservation advice.

Information Sources:

Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) 2005, *Grey Deua Pomaderris Profile*, Threatened species, populations and ecological communities of New South Wales, viewed 5 May 2008, <<http://www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au/tsprofile/profile.aspx?id=10651>>.

Harden, GJ (Ed.) 2000, *Flora of New South Wales, vol. 1*, UNSW Press, Kensington, New South Wales.

Vallee, L, Hogbin, T, Monks, L, Makinson, B, Matthes, M & Rossetto, M 2004, *Guidelines for the Translocation of Threatened Plants in Australia - Second Edition*, Australian Network for Plant Conservation, Canberra.

Walsh, NG 1989, 'Two new species of *Pomaderris* Labill. (Rhamnaceae) from south-eastern Australia', *Muelleria*, vol. 7, no. 1, pp. 81–7.