

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

**Approved Conservation Advice for**  
***Eucalyptus paedoglauca***

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**

*Eucalyptus paedoglauca*, Family Myrtaceae, is a medium sized tree to 15 m. Bark is rough throughout, furrowed, very hard and dark grey in colour. Adult leaves are stalked, lance-shaped or sickle-shaped, 1.2–3 cm wide, dull grey-green on both surfaces. Flowers are in terminal clusters, with 3–7 buds per umbel. Flower buds are 6–8 mm long when mature, on stalks 2–4 mm long. The fruit is cup shaped, 6–7 mm long and 5–6 mm wide, with 4 or 5 valves that are shortly exerted.

*Eucalyptus paedoglauca* is distinguished from *E. drepanophylla* by the egg-shaped juvenile leaves which are white and waxy, and the larger buds and fruits (Hill & Johnson, 1991). Flowering occurs April and May.

**Conservation Status**

*Eucalyptus paedoglauca* 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). *Eucalyptus paedoglauca* is also listed as vulnerable under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (Queensland).

**Distribution and Habitat**

*Eucalyptus paedoglauca* occurs only in the Townsville area of north-east Queensland. The extent of occurrence is about 400 km<sup>2</sup> (Queensland Herbarium, 2008). The area of occupancy and total population size are unknown, but there are estimated to be thousands of trees (AR Bean, 2008, pers. comm.). This species occurs within the Burdekin (Queensland) Natural Resource Management Region.

*Eucalyptus paedoglauca* occurs on ridges or hill slopes on shallow sandy-loam soil (Queensland Herbarium, 2008). All populations occur in areas of remnant vegetation (Environmental Protection Agency, 2008) as defined under the *Vegetation Management Act 1999* (Queensland) and are therefore protected from broad-scale clearing.

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

**Threats**

The main potential threat to *E. paedoglauca* is road widening and realignment, as the species occurs on both sides of the public access road to a lookout and to the communication towers on top of Mount Stuart (AR Bean, 2008, pers. comm.). This species is also potentially threatened by altered fire regimes (Calvert et al., 2005).

### **Research Priorities**

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

- More precisely assess population size, distribution, ecological requirements and the relative impacts of threatening processes.
- Determine fire regime requirements for *E. paedoglauca* and its habitat.
- Undertake survey work in suitable habitat and potential habitat to locate any additional populations/occurrences/remnants.

### **Regional and Local Priority Actions**

The following regional and local priority recovery and threat abatement actions can be done to support the recovery of *E. paedoglauca*.

#### **Habitat Loss, Disturbance and Modification**

- Monitor known populations to identify key threats.
- Identify populations of high conservation priority.
- Control access routes to suitably constrain public access to known sites on public land.
- Ensure road widening and maintenance, infrastructure and development activities involving substrate or vegetation disturbance in areas along roads where *E. paedoglauca* occurs do not adversely impact on known populations.
- Investigate formal conservation arrangements, management agreements and covenants on private land, and for crown and private land investigate inclusion in reserve tenure if possible.
- Manage any other known, potential or emerging threats.

#### **Conservation Information**

- Raise awareness of *E. paedoglauca* within the local community.

#### **Fire**

- Implement an appropriate fire management regime for local populations.
- 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**

- If necessary, 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 *E. paedoglauca*, but highlights those that are considered to be of highest priority at the time of preparing the conservation advice.

### **Information Sources:**

Bean, AR (Queensland Herbarium, Environmental Protection Agency), Personal communication, 27 June 2008.

Calvert, GA, Lokkers, C & Cumming, R 2005, *Rare Plants of Townsville Thuringowa*, Coastal Dry Tropics Landcare Inc, Townsville.

Environmental Protection Agency 2008, *Copy of the certified Regional Ecosystem map for the purpose of the Vegetation Management Act 1999*, online RE maps, Environmental Protection Agency, Brisbane, viewed 25 June 2008, <<http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/REMAP>>.

Hill, KD & Johnson, LAS 1991, 'Systematic studies in the eucalypts - 3. New taxa in *Eucalyptus* (Myrtaceae)', *Telopea*, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 223–267.

Queensland Herbarium 2008, specimen label information, viewed 25 June 2008.

Vallee, L, Hogbin, T, Monks, L, Makinson, B, Matthes, M & Rossetto, M 2004, *Guidelines for the Translocation of Threatened Plants in Australia* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.), Australian Network for Plant Conservation, Canberra.