

A statement for the purposes of approved conservation advice
(s266B of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*)

Approved Conservation Advice for
***Chionohebe ciliolata* (Ciliolate Hebe)**

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

Description

The Ciliolate Hebe forms dense, compact cushions up to 30–40 cm in diameter, with small white flowers set amongst light green foliage. Its leaves are up to 4 mm long and with a small tuft of hair at the end.

Conservation Status

The Ciliolate Hebe is listed as **vulnerable**.

This species is eligible for listing as **vulnerable** under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) because it has a geographic distribution that is judged to be limited and precarious for its survival.

The species is also listed as endangered under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995*.

Distribution and Habitat

In Australia, The Ciliolate Hebe is restricted to north-eastern Tasmania, where it is known from a single location at Hamilton Crags in Ben Lomond National Park. The species occurs within low open alpine shrubland at altitudes 1470–1530 m above sea level. The species grows on skeletal soils, in rock crevices and between boulders where no obvious soil exists. The species also occurs in New Zealand, where it is not considered to be under threat.

This species occurs within the North Tasmania Natural Resource Management Region.

Threats

The very restricted distribution of the Ciliolate Hebe means that it is vulnerable to human effects or catastrophic events. The main potential threats to the Ciliolate Hebe include climate change, expansion to the skifield area or inappropriate development of the Ben Lomond plateau.

Research Priorities

Research priorities that would inform future local priority actions include:

- Formal monitoring to determine population trends and the species' life history attributes

Local Priority Actions

The local priority recovery and threat abatement actions for the Ciliolate Hebe are identified below:

- Careful management of recreational activities in the species' habitat such as skiing and bushwalking
- Avoiding development or disturbance in the species' habitat

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

Information Sources:

Allan, H. H. (1982). *Flora of New Zealand*. Volume 1. Government Printer, Wellington, New Zealand.

Davies, J. B. & Davies, M. J. (1989). *Plant Communities of the Ben Lomond Plateau*. Occasional paper number 1, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania.

Davies, J. B. & Davies, M. J. (1990). *Plant communities of Mt Barrow and Mt Barrow Falls*. Occasional Paper Number 2, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston, Tasmania.

Hitchmough, R. (2002). *New Zealand Threat Classification System Lists — 2002*. Threatened Species Occasional Publication 23. Biodiversity Recovery Unit, Department of Conservation, Wellington, New Zealand.

Parks and Wildlife Service (1998). *Ben Lomond National Park Management Plan*. Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Hobart.

Ratkowsky, D. & Ratkowsky, A. (1974). New plant discoveries in Tasmania. *Australian Plants* **7**: 384–386.

Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water & Environment (2005). Unpublished survey data for *Chionohebe ciliolata*.

Wagstaff, S. J. & Garnock-Jones, P. J. (2000). Patterns of diversification in *Chionohebe* and *Parahebe* (Scrophulariaceae) inferred from ITS sequences. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* **38**: 389–407.