



AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

NATURE CONSERVATION ACT 1980

DETERMINATION OF CRITERIA

NO. 99 OF 1995

Pursuant to section 18(1) of the Nature Conservation Act 1980 ("the Act"), the Flora and Fauna Committee specify that the criteria in relation to the making of a recommendation that a declaration be made under section 21 of the Act are as set out in the Schedule

Dated this *11th* day of July 1995

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jill Landsberg'.

Dr Jill Landsberg
Chairperson
Flora and Fauna Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Boden'.

Dr Robert Boden
Deputy Chairperson
Flora and Fauna Committee

1 CRITERIA FOR DECLARING AN ENDANGERED* SPECIES

To be recommended for declaration a species* must meet at least one of these criteria:

1.1 Species is known or suspected to occur in the ACT region* and is already recognised as endangered or presumed extinct* in an authoritative international or national listing (such as the threatened Australian Flora and Fauna lists developed under the auspices of the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council).

1.2 Species is observed, estimated, inferred or suspected to be at risk of premature extinction in the ACT region in the near future, as demonstrated by one or more of:

1.2.1 Current severe decline* in population* or distribution* from evidence based on any of:

1.2.1.1 direct observation, including comparison of historical and current records

1.2.1.2 severe decline in rate of reproduction or recruitment; severe increase in mortality; severe disruption of demographic or social structure

1.2.1.3 severe decline in quality or quantity of habitat*

1.2.1.4 very high actual or potential levels of exploitation or persecution

1.2.1.5 severe threats from herbivores, predators, parasites, pathogens or competitors

1.2.1.6 severe threats from hybridisation with exotic or non-local native species, or from hybridisation resulting from recent modification in the environment

1.2.1.7 severe threats from pollutants or toxic substances

1.2.1.8 other indications of severe decline in population or distribution.

1.2.2 Imminent risk of severe decline in population or distribution from evidence based on one or more of 1.2.1.2 to 1.2.1.8 above.

1.2.3 Continuing decline* or unnaturally extreme fluctuations* in population, or distribution, for a species currently occurring over a small range* or having a small area of occupancy* within its range.

1.2.4 Severely fragmented* distribution for a species currently occurring over a small range or having a small area of occupancy within its range.

1.2.5 Continuing decline or severe fragmentation in population, for species with a small current population.

1.2.6 Extremely small population.

1.3 Species is presumed extinct in the ACT region.

Terms defined in the glossary are marked * where they first appear on each page.



2 CRITERIA FOR DECLARING A VULNERABLE* SPECIES

To be recommended for declaration a species* must meet at least one of these criteria:

2.1 Species is known or suspected to occur in the ACT region* and is already recognised as vulnerable in an authoritative international or national listing (such as the threatened Australian Flora and Fauna lists developed under the auspices of the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council).

2.2 Species is observed, estimated, inferred or suspected to be at risk of premature extinction in the ACT region in the medium-term future, as demonstrated by one or more of:

2.2.1 Current serious decline* in population* or distribution* from evidence based on any of:

2.2.1.1 direct observation, including comparison of historical and current records

2.2.1.2 serious decline in rate of reproduction or recruitment; serious increase in mortality; serious disruption of demographic or social structure

2.2.1.3 serious decline in quality and quantity of habitat*

2.2.1.4 high actual or potential levels of exploitation or persecution

2.2.1.5 serious threats from herbivores, predators, parasites, pathogens or competitors

2.2.1.6 serious threats from hybridisation with an exotic or non-local native species, or from hybridisation resulting from recent modification in the environment

2.2.1.7 serious threats from pollutants or toxic substances

2.2.1.8 other indications of serious decline in population or distribution.

2.2.2 Imminent risk of serious decline in population or distribution from evidence based on one or more of 2.2.1.2 to 2.2.1.8 above.

2.2.3 Continuing decline* or unnaturally extreme fluctuations* in population or distribution, for a species currently occurring over a moderately small range or having a moderately small area of occupancy* within its range.

2.2.4 Seriously fragmented distribution for a species currently occurring over a moderately small range or having a moderately small area of occupancy within its range.

2.2.5 Continuing decline or serious fragmentation in population, for species with a moderately small current population.

2.2.6 Small population.

Terms defined in the glossary are marked * where they first appear on each page.

3 CRITERIA FOR DECLARING AN ENDANGERED* COMMUNITY

To be recommended for declaration an ecological community* must meet at least one of these criteria:

- 3.1 Community is presumed extinct*.
- 3.2 Community is subject to current and continuing threats or other processes likely to lead to premature extinction* as demonstrated by one or more of:
 - 3.2.1 Severe decline* in distribution*.
 - 3.2.2 Marked alteration of composition or structure.
 - 3.2.3 Community is approaching non-sustainability.
 - 3.2.4 Loss or decline of species* that play a major role in community function.
 - 3.2.5 Small distribution causing the community to be at risk of premature extinction.
 - 3.2.6 Community processes* being altered to the extent that interaction between the community components will be impeded.

4 CRITERIA FOR DECLARING A THREATENING PROCESS*

To be recommended for declaration a threatening process must meet at least one of these criteria:

- 4.1 Threatening process is clearly shown to be a significant cause for declaration of any species* as vulnerable* or endangered or any ecological community as endangered.
- 4.2 Threatening process is clearly shown to have potential for causing any species to become vulnerable or endangered or any ecological community to become endangered.

