

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
NATURE CONSERVATION ACT 1980
ACTION PLANS
INSTRUMENT NO. 244 OF 1999
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The *Nature Conservation Act 1980* (the Act) is the primary ACT legislation for the protection of native plants and animals. A 1994 amendment to the Act established the Flora and Fauna Committee as an expert advisory body to the Minister.

One of the Flora and Fauna Committee's responsibilities is to advise the Minister of ACT species and ecological communities that are threatened with extinction and recommend that they be declared accordingly. A species may be declared as vulnerable or endangered (as an indication of the degree of threat to its continued existence); an ecological community may be declared as endangered.

Section 23 of the Act provides for the Conservator of Flora and Fauna to prepare an Action Plan for each species or community that has been the subject of a declaration. An Action Plan is a management response to a recognised ecological threat. It is required to include proposals for effective conservation of the species or community concerned.

A process of public consultation is provided for.

An Action Plan is a disallowable instrument and public notification in the *Gazette* and a newspaper of availability of an Action Plan is required.

This instrument comprises the Conservator's statutory response to the Minister's declarations of 27 December 1996 (Instrument No. 1 of 1997), 19 May 1997 (Instrument No. 89 of 1997) 6 January 1998 (Instrument No. 7 of 1998), and 7 August 1998 (Instrument No. 192 of 1998).

The Action Plans are for:

Yellow Box/Red Gum Grassy Woodland ecological community

Hooded Robin (*Melanodryas cucullata*)

Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*)

Superb Parrot (*Polytelis swainsonii*)

Brown Treecreeper (*Climacteris picumnus*)

Regent Honeyeater (*Xanthomyza phrygia*)

Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*)

Perunga Grasshopper (*Perunga ochracea*)

Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*)

Smoky Mouse (*Pseudomys fumeus*).

Tuggeranong Lignum (*Muehlenbeckia tuggeranong*)

Public notification requirements have been provided for.

Each Action Plan describes the ecological community/species and its geographic distribution. Conservation issues are discussed and specific threats identified. Corresponding management and protective measures to enhance the well-being of the ecological community/species are proposed. Survey, monitoring and research requirements are outlined. The major conservation objective is to maintain for the long term, a viable, and well represented ecological community and wild populations of each species as components of the indigenous biological resources of the ACT.