

Commentary

The 2018 Fitz-Stirling Landscape Plan evaluation covers the following reserves: Beringa, Chereninup Creek, Chingarrup Sanctuary, Monjebup, Monjebup North, Nowanup, Peniup, Red Moort, Yarrabee and Yarroweyah Falls. Together these properties cover 10,200 ha, which includes around 5,250 ha of undisturbed bushland.

As a consequence of the work that Bush Heritage and its partners have undertaken the extent of restored mallee heath has increased from 60 to 2,624 hectares and undisturbed mallee heath vegetation is in very good condition. The vegetation that has been established on cleared farmland is developing well and bird monitoring shows that our restored areas are providing increasingly suitable bird habitat, and ground dwelling fauna species richness has increased. Black-gloved Wallaby distribution is also increasing. Fire remains a key area requiring focus.

The goal of increasing the extent of mallet and moort by 100ha has been exceeded but Tammar occupancy has decreased from 50% in 2011 to 39% in 2017. The reason for this is unknown and requires further research. We are approaching our goal of restoring 2,000ha of yate by 2023. Further monitoring is required to establish the normal range of variation for Yate recruitment and crown condition.

We are approaching our goal of restoring perennial vegetation in the Monjebup and Corackerup catchments

Further monitoring of water quality in creek pools will establish the normal variations in these systems. Fresh water systems have proved difficult to define, describe and locate, and thus no progress has been made on this target.

Scorecard Description

Key Conservation Targets are the ecological entities: communities, species, or cultural factors, within the project area which Bush Heritage has chosen to value most highly to help focus our work. Targets are the basis for setting goals, carrying out conservation actions, and measuring conservation impact. Each property usually has around 4-6 Targets. The Targets allow prioritisation of effort and resources. The scorecard shows the latest Status and recent Trend in the health – or Viability - of each Target. The ratings are derived from measures against a number of Indicators which define the key attributes of the Target. Further details of the key attributes, Indicators and measures can be found in the Target Viability Table within Miradi. The Status and Trend symbols are defined below. The Confidence rating is a judgement call by project staff and gives an indication of the extent of data available from which the ratings are derived.

Status Rating	Trend indicator	Confidence Level
 Very Good	 Strong increase / improvement	 Very high
 Good	 Mild increase / improvement	 High
 Fair	 Flat	 Moderate
 Poor	 Mild decrease / degrading	 Low
 Uncertain	 Strong decrease / rapidly degrading	 Very low
	 Unknown / uncertain	

Key Threats are identified for each target; these become the focus of management actions. A rating system is used to assess each threat in terms of its scope, severity and permanence to derive an overall Status rating. The Trend rating is a judgement on the degree of change since the last Status rating. Three threats (Fire, feral animals, and weeds) occur on almost all properties and the ratings are therefore comparable across properties. In addition, a few other key threats are listed for each property, along with any major threats that have been removed or controlled through Bush Heritage's actions. The Persistence rating a judgement call by project staff and gives an indication of the on-going effort required to manage the threat.

Status Rating	Trend indicator	Persistence Level
 Low	 Strong increase / improvement	 Permanently removed
 Medium	 Mild increase / improvement	 Ongoing vigilance required
 High	 Flat	 Ongoing investment required
 Very High	 Mild decrease / degrading	
 Uncertain	 Strong decrease / rapidly degrading	
	 Unknown / uncertain	