

Kojonup Reserve

Scorecard 2014 - 2022



Bush Heritage Australia

Our vision

We are working with Noongar Traditional Owners and the community to maintain the health of the *Eucalyptus wandoo* woodland and ephemeral wetlands and to prevent further loss of the key fauna and flora species on the reserve.

Kojonup Reserve, on Noongar Country, protects one of the largest areas of Wandoo woodland in the region. Wandoo woodland provides habitat for culturally- important and threatened species including the Red-tailed Phascogale and Black-gloved Wallaby.

Less than 1.5% of the Wheatbelt area is protected; more than three-quarters of these reserves are less than 400 ha with extensive clearing in the region. These dramatic losses of native vegetation mean that large tracts are threatened by salinity, including many areas of remnant vegetation.



Reserve size: 389 hectares
Acquisition year: 1996
Traditional Owners:
Kaneang Noongar people

Our conservation targets

This section summarises the long-term health rating of each target and trend since acquisition. Ratings are based on ecological monitoring data and expert knowledge.



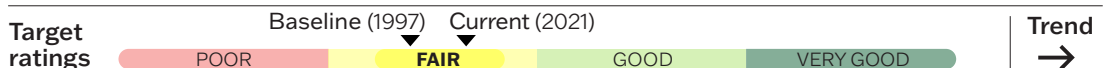
Wandoo woodlands

The Wandoo woodlands are part of the critically endangered Eucalypt Woodlands of the WA Wheatbelt. Most indicators have remained stable, however tree decline has been observed in lower-lying areas of Wandoo-Mallet woodlands due to declining rainfall & secondary salinity associated with land clearing.



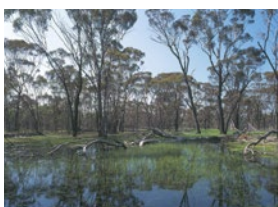
Threatened flora

Kojonup protects several conservation-dependent flora species including the largest known population of the vulnerable Shy Featherflower (*Verticordia fimbrolepis*), a *Conostylis*, and *Brachyloma* species. Threatened flora often have a close relationship with pollinators and provide habitat for insects and spiders.



Threatened fauna

The Red-tailed Phascogale is endemic to Western Australia and listed as vulnerable nationally (EPBC Act). Red-tailed Phascogale translocation objectives were successfully met.



Ephemeral wetlands and creeks

Water places are culturally important and are focal points for biodiversity. The wetlands have remained dry for most years and a visible decline in condition has been observed due to the loss of fringing yate trees.



Managing threats

Threat	Recent rating	Trend	Resource investment	What are we doing?
Secondary salinity	VERY HIGH	→	👤 \$\$	We are investigating solutions to secondary salinity issues and will continue monitoring piezometer bores bi-annually.
Rabbits	LOW	→	👤 \$	Ongoing control of rabbits with annual monitoring of warrens and other signs keeps this threat 'low'.
Inappropriate fire	LOW	↗	👤👤 \$\$	Maintenance of fire tracks and strategic breaks protect large habitat trees from wildfire. We are building our regional fire capacity and working towards reinstating cultural fire on Kojonup with Noongar Traditional Owner guidance.
Feral cats and foxes	MEDIUM	→	👤 \$	Foxes are present on the reserve and our ongoing management has helped to reduce pressures on phascogale populations. Ongoing monitoring is needed to determine feral cat presence.
Weeds	LOW	↘	👤 \$	Ongoing Bridal Creeper control has reduced this threat to 'low', however continued vigilance and appropriate controls will be required to limit future spread.









Strategy highlight:

Red-tailed Phascogale translocation

In 2010 and 2011, 30 Red-tailed Phascogale were translocated to Kojonup Reserve from 4 nature reserves to the north with the aim of a healthy, self-sustaining population. Since 2010, Bush Heritage ecologists have monitored these populations with animals found to be persisting on Kojonup.

Recent research showed the genetic health of the current population is good (de Visser 2022 UWA Honours Thesis *Remnant wild Phascogale calura populations retain genetic connectivity and genetic diversity in a highly fragmented landscape.*), and no supplementary translocations are needed at present.



								
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Threatened fauna species	Threatened flora species	Threatened vegetation community	Bird species	Native mammal species	Reptile species	Amphibian species	BHA supported research projects	Volunteer hours (since 2017)

Bush Heritage acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the places in which we live, work, and play. We recognise the enduring relationships they have with their lands and waters, and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

We are deeply grateful to our partners and supporters who are a core part of our conservation work, including Wagyl Kaip Southern Noongar Aboriginal Corporation, Gnowangerup Aboriginal Corporation, and Angela Sanders for her longstanding contribution as ecologist in the South-west of WA for Bush Heritage.