**Wallangarra white gum** Factsheet

The Wallangarra White Gum is a vulnerable plant in the Granite Belt region and an endangered plant northern NSW.

**LOCATION:**

This medium-sized Australian native tree originates from the elevated areas of the Wallangarra area in northern New South Wales and southern Queensland.

**DESCRIPTION:**

A small tree to 15 m tall with smooth, powdery white to pale grey bark. The adult leaves are shiny green, 10 - 15 cm long and 6 - 10 mm wide. The flower buds are oval-shaped with a conical cap, and the small gumnuts are oval-shaped, 4-5 mm long and wide. This canopy is often open and pendulous.

**DISTRIBUTION**

* It is known to exist in only three locations in NSW near Tenterfield including Bald Rock National Park.
* In Queensland, it is equally rare occurring at three sites on the Granite Belt including one population in Girraween National Park.
* Only one Queensland population has more than a dozen trees.



**HABITAT**

* Open eucalypt forest, woodland and heath
* Well drained granite hilltops, slopes and rocky outcrops
* Typically found in high altitudes
* At lower elevations, can occur in less rocky soils in damp situations.
* The exact location of the sites is restricted information due to the sensitive nature of either the species or the site.

**THREATS**

* Clearing and fragmentation of open forest and woodland habitat for agriculture and development.
* The small size of most populations increases the risk of local population loss from random events and may reduce genetic diversity and species fitness.
* Lack of knowledge of the key threats to the species.
* Damage to seedlings plants by bushwalkers going off tracks in the species' habitat.
* Timber collection.
* The impact of fire on the species is unknown, however if mature trees are killed by high intensity fires, it may take significant time to re-establish a viable population.
* Feral browsers and livestock browsing on or trampling saplings.
* Illegal seed collection for horticulture.
* Populations are small and fragmented.
* Lack of information on the distribution/extent/population size of the species.

**National Recovery Plan for the Wallangarra White Gum**

* This species has been assigned to the [Site-managed species](https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/threatened-species/saving-our-species-program/threatened-species-conservation) management stream under the *Saving our Species (SoS)* program.
* The SOS strategy aims to secure the species in the wild for 100 years (to save it from extinction) and maintain its conservation status under the Act.

**ACTIVITIES TO ASSIST THE WALLANGARRA WHITE GUM**

* Support local Landcare groups protect known populations and identify new sites.
* Stay on established tracks when visiting national parks.
* Protect known populations and areas of potential habitat from clearing and timber collection.
* Rehabilitate and protect disturbed areas of habitat.
* Notify the Office of Environment and Heritage of any new records of trees in NSW.
* Undertake surveys for new populations.
* Only buy specimens from licenced growers.
* Undertake research into the ecological requirements, fire ecology and threats to the species.
* Ensure existing seed bank is maintained.

**References**

There is no adopted or made Recovery Plan for this tree.

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=9640>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus_scoparia>

**Other Resources**

NSW Office of Heritage and Environment

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/threatenedspeciesapp/profile.aspx?id=10315>

Australian Government – Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

<http://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/sprat/public/publicspecies.pl?taxon_id=9640>