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

Consultation on Species Listing Eligibility and Conservation Actions

Olearia suffruticosa (clustered daisy-bush)

You are invited to provide your views and supporting reasons related to:

1) the eligibility of *Olearia suffruticosa* (clustered daisy-bush) for inclusion on the EPBC Act threatened species list in the Endangered category; and

2) the necessary conservation actions for the above species.

The purpose of this consultation document is to elicit additional information to better understand the status of the species and help inform on conservation actions and further planning. As such, the below draft assessment should be considered as **tentative** as it may change following responses to this consultation process.

Evidence provided by experts, stakeholders and the general public are welcome. Responses can be provided by any interested person.

Anyone may nominate a native species, ecological community or threatening process for listing under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) or for a transfer of an item already on the list to a new listing category. The Threatened Species Scientific Committee (the Committee) undertakes the assessment of species to determine eligibility for inclusion in the list of threatened species and provides its recommendation to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water.

Responses are to be provided in writing by email to: species.consultation@dcceew.gov.au . Please include species scientific name in Subject field.

or by mail to:

The Director
Threatened Species Assessments
Biodiversity Division
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
(Attention: species.consultation@dcceew.gov.au)
GPO Box 3090
Canberra ACT 2601

Responses are required to be submitted by 16 July 2025.

General background information about listing threatened species

The Australian Government helps protect species at risk of extinction by listing them as threatened under Part 13 of the EPBC Act. Once listed under the EPBC Act, the species

becomes a Matter of National Environmental Significance (MNES) and must be protected from significant impacts through the assessment and approval provisions of the EPBC Act. More information about threatened species is available on the department's website at: https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened

Public nominations to list threatened species under the EPBC Act are received annually by the department. In order to determine if a species is eligible for listing as threatened under the EPBC Act, the Committee undertakes a rigorous scientific assessment of its status to determine if the species is eligible for listing against a set of criteria. These criteria are available on the department's website at:
Guidelines for assessing the conservation status of native species according to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000* (dcceew.gov.au).

As part of the assessment process, the Committee consults with the public and stakeholders to obtain specific details about the species, as well as advice on what conservation actions might be appropriate. Information provided through the consultation process is considered by the Committee in its assessment. The Committee provides its advice on the assessment (together with comments received) to the Minister regarding the eligibility of the species for listing under a particular category and what conservation actions might be appropriate. The Minister decides to add, or not to add, the species to the list of threatened species under the EPBC Act. More detailed information about the listing process is at: Nominating a species, ecological community or key threatening process under the EPBC Act - DCCEEW.

To promote the recovery of listed threatened species and ecological communities, conservation advices and where required, recovery plans are made or adopted in accordance with Part 13 of the EPBC Act. Conservation advices provide guidance at the time of listing on known threats and priority recovery actions that can be undertaken at a local and regional level. Recovery plans describe key threats and identify specific recovery actions that can be undertaken to enable recovery activities to occur within a planned and logical national framework. Information about recovery plans is available on the department's website at: https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/biodiversity/threatened/recovery-plans

Privacy notice

The department will collect, use, store and disclose the personal information you provide in a manner consistent with the department's obligations under the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) and the department's Privacy Policy. Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

Any personal information that you provide within, or in addition to, your comments in the threatened species assessment process may be used by the department for the purposes of its functions relating to threatened species assessments, including contacting you if we have any questions about your comments in the future.

Further, the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments have agreed to share threatened species assessment documentation (including comments) to ensure that all States and Territories have access to the same documentation when making a decision on the status of a potentially threatened species. This is also known as the 'Common Assessment Method' (CAM). As a result, any personal information that you have provided in connection with your comments may be shared between Commonwealth, State or Territory government entities to assist with their assessment processes.

The department's Privacy Policy contains details about how respondents may access and make corrections to personal information that the department holds about the respondent, how respondents may make a complaint about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle,

and how the department will deal with that complaint. Alternatively, email the department at privacy@dcceew.gov.au. A copy of the department's Privacy Policy is available at: https://www.dcceew.gov.au/about/commitment/privacy

Information about this consultation process

Responses to this consultation can be provided electronically or in hard copy to the contact addresses provided on Page 1. All responses received will be provided in full to the Committee and then to the Australian Government Minister for the Environment and Water.

In providing comments, please provide references to published data where possible. Should the Committee use the information you provide in formulating its advice, the information will be attributed to you and referenced as a 'personal communication' unless you provide references or otherwise attribute this information (please specify if your organisation requires that this information is attributed to your organisation instead of yourself). The final advice by the Committee will be published on the department's website following the listing decision by the Minister.

Information provided through consultation may be subject to freedom of information legislation and court processes. It is also important to note that under the EPBC Act, the deliberations and recommendations of the Committee are confidential until the Minister has made a final decision on the nomination, unless otherwise determined by the Minister.

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

SECTION A - GENERAL

1. Is the information used to assess the nationally threatened status of the species robust? Have all the underlying assumptions been made explicit? Please provide justification for your response.

2. Can you provide additional data or information relevant to this assessment?

PART 1 – INFORMATION TO ASSIST LISTING ASSESSMENT

SECTION B DO YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE ECOLOGY OR BIOLOGY OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section C)

Biological information

3. Can you provide any additional or alternative references, information or estimates on longevity, average life span and generation length?

4. Do you have any additional information on the taxonomy (i.e., for the occurrences in NSW), ecology or biology of the species not in the current advice?

SECTION C ARE YOU AWARE OF THE STATUS OF THE TOTAL NATIONAL POPULATION OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section D)

Population size

5. Has the survey effort for this taxon been adequate to determine the population size of mature individuals? If not, please provide justification for your response.

6. Do you consider the way the population size has been derived to be appropriate? Do you accept the estimate of the total population size of the species? If not, please provide justification for your response.

7. Can you provide a further/alternative estimate of the current population size of mature individuals of the species (national extent)? Please provide supporting justification or other information.

   If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide a single number, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of possible species numbers, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimate:

   Number of mature individuals is estimated to be in the range of:

   ☐ 1–50 ☐ 51–250 ☐ 251–1000 ☐ >1000 ☐ >5000

   Level of your confidence in this estimate:

   ☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much information to go on

   ☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

   ☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, information suggests this range

   ☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, information indicates quantity within this range

   ☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data are accurate within this range

SECTION D ARE YOU AWARE OF TRENDS IN THE OVERALL POPULATION OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section E)

8. Does the current and predicted rate of decline, particularly for number of mature individuals, used in the assessment seem reasonable? Do you consider that the way this estimate has been derived is appropriate? If not, please provide justification of your response.

Evidence of total population size change

9. Are you able to provide an estimate of the total population size over the last 30 years (or approximately the last three generations)? Please provide justification for your response.

   If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide a single number, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of possible species numbers, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimate.

   Number of mature individuals is estimated to be in the range of:

   ☐ 1–50 ☐ 51–250 ☐ 251–1000 ☐ >1000 ☐ >10 000

   Level of your confidence in this estimate:

   ☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much information to go on

   ☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

   ☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, information suggests this range

   ☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, information indicates quantity within this range

   ☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data are accurate within this range

10. Are you able to comment on the extent of decline in the species' total population size over the last 30 years (or approximately three generations)? Please provide justification for your response.

    If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide an estimate of decline, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of ranges of decline, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimated range.

    Decline estimated to be in the range of:

    ☐ 1–30% ☐31–50% ☐51–80% ☐81–100% ☐90–100%

    Level of your confidence in this estimated decline:

    ☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much information to go on

    ☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

    ☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, suggests this range of decline

    ☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, information indicates a decline within this range

☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data are accurate within this range

11. Please provide (if known) any additional evidence which shows the population is stable, increasing or declining.

SECTION E ARE YOU AWARE OF INFORMATION ON THE TOTAL RANGE OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section F)

Current Distribution/range/extent of occurrence, area of occupancy

12. Does the assessment consider the entire geographic extent and national extent of the species? If not, please provide justification for your response.

13. Has the survey effort for this species been adequate to determine its national distribution? If not, please provide justification for your response.

14. Is the distribution described in the assessment accurate? If not, please provide justification for your response and provide alternative information.

15. Do you agree that the way the current extent of occurrence and/or area of occupancy have been estimated is appropriate? Please provide justification for your response.

16. Can you provide estimates (or if you disagree with the estimates provided, alternative estimates) of the extent of occurrence and/or area of occupancy.

    If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide an estimate of extent of occurrence, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of ranges of extent of occurrence, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimated range.

    Current extent of occurrence is estimated to be in the range of:

    ☐ <100 km^2 ☐ 100 – 5 000 km^2 ☐ 5 001 – 20 000 km^2 ☐ >20 000 km^2

    Level of your confidence in this estimated extent of occurrence

    ☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much data to go on

    ☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

    ☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, data suggests this range of decline

    ☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, data indicates a decline within this range

☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data is accurate within this range

If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide an estimate of area of occupancy, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of ranges of area of occupancy, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimated range.

Current area of occupancy is estimated to be in the range of:

☐ <10 km^2 ☐ 11 – 500 km^2 ☐ 501 – 2000 km^2 ☐ >2000 km^2

Level of your confidence in this estimated extent of occurrence:

☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much data to go on

☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, data suggests this range of decline

☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, data indicates a decline within this range

☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data is accurate within this range

SECTION F ARE YOU AWARE OF TRENDS IN THE TOTAL RANGE OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section G)

Past Distribution/range/extent of occurrence, area of occupancy

17. Do you consider that the way the historic distribution has been estimated is appropriate? Please provide justification for your response.

18. Can you provide estimates (or if you disagree with the estimates provided, alternative estimates) of the former extent of occurrence and/or area of occupancy.

    If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide an estimate of past extent of occurrence, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of ranges of past extent of occurrence, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimated range.

Past extent of occurrence is estimated to be in the range of:

☐ <100 km^2 ☐ 100 – 5 000 km^2 ☐ 5 001 – 20 000 km^2 ☐ >20 000 km^2

Level of your confidence in this estimated extent of occurrence

☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much data to go on

☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, data suggests this range of decline

☐ 95–100% - high level of certainty, data indicates a decline within this range

☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data is accurate within this range

If, because of uncertainty, you are unable to provide an estimate of past area of occupancy, you may wish to provide an estimated range. If so, please choose one of the ranges suggested in the table below of ranges of past area of occupancy, and also choose the level of confidence you have in this estimated range:

Past area of occupancy is estimated to be in the range of:

☐ <10 km^2 ☐ 11 – 500 km^2 ☐ 501 – 2000 km^2 ☐ >2000 km^2

Level of your confidence in this estimated extent of occurrence:

☐ 0–30% - low level of certainty/ a bit of a guess/ not much data to go on

☐ 31–50% - more than a guess, some level of supporting evidence

☐ 51–95% - reasonably certain, data suggests this range of decline

☐ 95–100% -high level of certainty, data indicates a decline within this range

☐ 99–100% - very high level of certainty, data is accurate within this range

PART 2 – INFORMATION FOR CONSERVATION ADVICE ON THREATS AND CONSERVATION ACTIONS

SECTION G DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON THREATS TO THE SURVIVAL OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section H)

19. Do you consider that all major threats have been identified and described adequately?

20. To what degree are the identified threats likely to impact on the species in the future?

21. Are the threats impacting on different populations equally, or do the threats vary across different populations?

22. Can you provide additional or alternative information on past, current or potential threats that may adversely affect the species at any stage of its life cycle?

23. Can you provide supporting data/justification or other information for your responses to these questions about threats?

SECTION H DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON CURRENT OR FUTURE MANAGEMENT FOR THE RECOVERY OF THE SPECIES? (If no, skip to section I)

24. Are there any planning, management and recovery actions currently in place supporting protection and recovery of the species? To what extent have they been effective?

25. Can you recommend any additional or alternative specific threat abatement or conservation actions that would aid the protection and recovery of the species?

26. Would you recommend translocation (outside of or within the species' historic range) as a viable option as a conservation action for this species?

SECTION I DO YOU HAVE INFORMATION ON STAKEHOLDERS IN THE RECOVERY OF THE SPECIES?

27. Are you aware of other knowledge (e.g. traditional ecological knowledge) or individuals/groups with knowledge that may help better understand population trends/fluctuations, or critical areas of habitat?

28. Are you aware of any cultural or social importance or use that the species has?

29. What individuals or organisations are currently, or potentially could be, involved in management and recovery of the species?

30. How aware of this species are land managers where the species is found?

31. What level of awareness is there with individuals or organisations around the issues affecting the species?

    a. Where there is awareness, what are these interests of these individuals/organisations?

    b. Are there populations or areas of habitat that are particularly important to the community?

PART 3 – ANY OTHER INFORMATION

32. Do you have comments on any other matters relevant to the assessment of this species?