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Department of Biodiversity,  
Conservation and Attractions

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# Three Springs daviesia

E n d a n g e r e d F l o r a o f W e s t e r n A u s t r a l i a

**If you think you have seen this plant, please call  
CALM Moora District on (08) 9651 1424.**

Commonly known as Three Springs daviesia, *Daviesia bursarioides* ms is a straggly shrub with scattered small oval-shaped phyllodes (flattened leaf stalks that function as leaves). It grows to 2 metres in height and has typical pea flowers, which are yellow and maroon in colour. These occur from July to September.

The species was first collected in 1932 by W.E. Blackall. By 1979 it was known from just one roadside population. More recently Three Springs shire gardener Charles Strahan located several new populations. Most are on narrow, degraded road verges and are exposed to threats associated with weed invasion, agricultural chemical drift, grazing and road maintenance activities.

As its common name suggests, Three Springs daviesia is found growing in the Three Springs area. It is found on shallow sandy-loams containing lateritic gravel, and is often associated with open shrub mallee. It was possibly once scattered throughout the area, but vegetation clearance has significantly reduced available habitat. Biological factors may also be influencing the rarity of the species.

Due to the low number of plants and the threats associated with growing on narrow, degraded road reserves, Three Springs daviesia was declared as Rare Flora in September 1987 and ranked as Critically Endangered in September 1995.

CALM has set up the Moora District Threatened Flora Recovery Team to coordinate recovery actions that address threats to the survival of the species in the wild (see overleaf).

The species is currently known from few populations and CALM is keen to know of any others.

If unable to contact the district office on the above number, please phone CALM's Wildlife Branch on (08) 9334 0422.



The yellow and maroon flowers of Three Springs daviesia. Photo – Sue Patrick



The straggly branchlets of Three Springs daviesia. Photo – Andrew Brown

## Recovery of a Species



CALM is committed to ensuring that Critically Endangered taxa do not become extinct in the wild. This is done through the preparation of a Recovery Plan (RP) or Interim Recovery Plan (IRP), which outlines the recovery actions that are required to urgently address those threatening processes most affecting the ongoing survival of threatened taxa in the wild and begin the recovery process.

IRPs are prepared by CALM and implemented by Regional or District Recovery Teams consisting of representatives from CALM, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, community groups, private landowners, local shires and various government organisations.

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# Three Springs daviesia

**Recovery actions that have been, and will be, progressively implemented to protect the species include:**

**Protection from current threats:** liaison with the shire and landowners regarding gravel extraction near the largest population; the control of weeds; the establishment of rabbit exclusion plots to assess the impact of grazing by rabbits on the establishment of seedlings; conducting further surveys; and regular monitoring of the health of each population.

**Protection from future threats:** the development of both a translocation proposal and a fire management strategy; the maintenance of dieback hygiene; collection and storage of seed at CALM's Threatened Flora Seed Centre; maintenance of live plants away from the wild (in botanical gardens); and researching the biology and ecology of the species. Other actions include ensuring that relevant authorities, landowners and CALM personnel are aware of the species' presence and the need to protect it, and that all are familiar with the threats identified in the Interim Recovery Plan.

IRPs will be deemed a success if the number of individuals within the population and/or the number of populations have increased.

This poster is sponsored by the BankWest **LANDSCOPE** Conservation Visa Card.



The straggly growth form of Three Springs daviesia. Photo – Leonie Monks



Degraded roadside habitat of Three Spring daviesia. Photo – Sue Patrick

