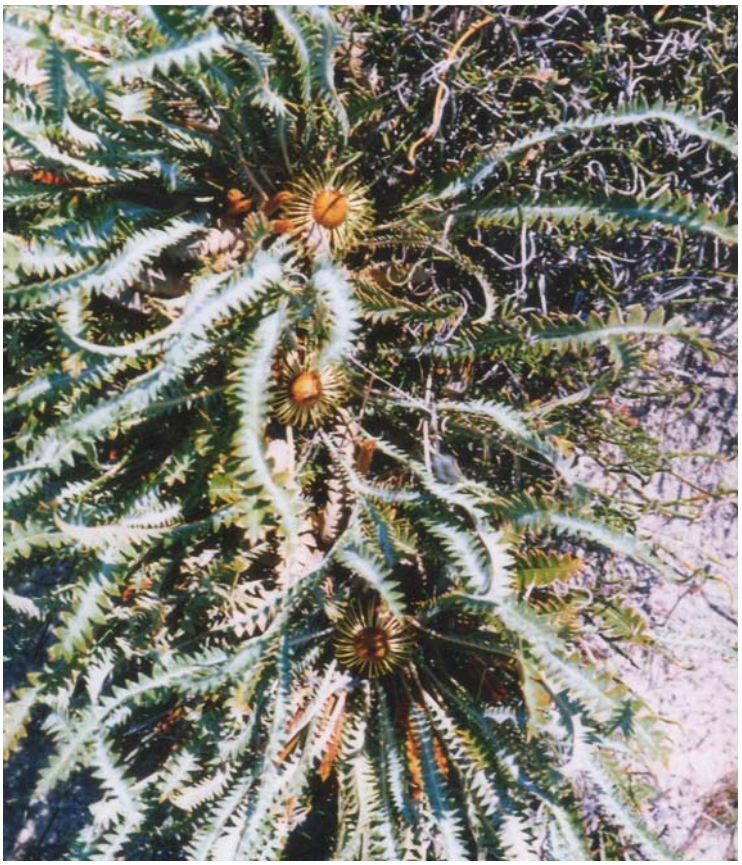
INTERIM RECOVERY PLAN NO. 278

ALDERSYDE DRYANDRA

(*Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*)

INTERIM RECOVERY PLAN

2007-2012



June 2007

Department of Environment and Conservation
Kensington

Natural Heritage Trust
Helping Communities Helping Australia
An Australian Government Initiative

Government of Western Australia

Department of Environment and Conservation

FOREWORD

Interim Recovery Plans (IRPs) are developed within the framework laid down in Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) Policy Statements Nos. 44 and 50. Note: the Department of CALM formally became the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC) in July 2006. DEC will continue to adhere to these Policy Statements until they are revised and reissued.

IRPs outline the recovery actions that are required to urgently address those threatening processes most affecting the ongoing survival of threatened taxa or ecological communities, and begin the recovery process.

DEC is committed to ensuring that Threatened taxa are conserved through the preparation and implementation of Recovery Plans (RPs) or IRPs, and by ensuring that conservation action commences as soon as possible and, in the case of Critically Endangered (CR) taxa, always within one year of endorsement of that rank by the Minister.

This IRP will operate from June 2007 to May 2012 but will remain in force until withdrawn or replaced. It is intended that, if the species is still ranked as CR at the end of the five-year term, this IRP will be reviewed and the need for further recovery actions assessed.

This IRP was given regional approval on 19, August, 2008 and was approved by the Director of Nature Conservation on 12, September, 2008. The provision of funds identified in this IRP is dependent on budgetary and other constraints affecting DEC, as well as the need to address other priorities.

Information in this IRP was accurate at June 2007.

IRP PREPARATION

This IRP was prepared by Craig Douglas[1], Marie Strelein[2] and Amanda Fairs[3]

[1] Project Officer, Species and Communities Branch, DEC, 17 Dick Perry Ave, Technology Park, Western Precinct, Kensington, WA 6151
[2] Flora Conservation Officer, Great Southern District, DEC, PO Box 100, Narrogin, WA, 6312.
[3] Project Officer, Species and Communities Branch, DEC, 17 Dick Perry Ave, Technology Park, Western Precinct, Kensington, WA 6151

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The following people have provided assistance and advice in the preparation of this IRP:

Amanda Shade	Assistant Curator, Nursery, Botanic Gardens Parks Authority
Andrew Brown	Threatened Flora Coordinator, Species and Communities Branch, DEC
Andrew Crawford	Technical Officer, Threatened Flora Seed Centre, DEC
Luke Sweedman	Curator, Western Australian Seed Technology Centre, Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority
Margaret Pieroni	Leader, Australian Society for Growing Australian Plants (ASGAP) Dryandra Study Group, Denmark, WA

Thanks also to the staff of the W.A. Herbarium for providing access to Herbarium databases and specimen information, and DEC's Species and Communities Branch for assistance.

Cover photograph by Margaret Pieroni.

CITATION

This IRP should be cited as:
Department of Environment and Conservation. (2007). *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*, Interim Recovery Plan 2007-2012. Interim Recovery Plan No. 278. Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia.

SUMMARY

Scientific Name	***Dryandra ionthocarpa*** subsp**.** ***chrysophoenix***	**Common Name**	Aldersyde Dryandra
Family	Proteaceae	**Flowering Period**	September - November
DEC Region	Wheatbelt	**DEC District**	Great Southern
Shire	Pingelly, Brookton	**Recovery Team**	Great Southern District Threatened Flora Recovery Team
NRM Region	Avon		

Illustrations and/or further information: George, A.S. (2005). Further new taxa in *Dryandra* R. Br. (Proteaceae: Grevilleoideae). *Nuytsia*. **15(3)**: 337-346; Cavanagh, T. and Pieroni, M. (2006) *The Dryandras*, Wildflower Society of Western Australia, WA and Australian Plants Society (SGAP Victoria); DEC (2007) *Western Australian Herbarium FloraBase 2 – Information on the Western Australian Flora* (Accessed 2007). Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia. http://www.calm.wa.gov.au/science/.

Current status: *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* was declared as Rare Flora in 2004 under the Western Australian *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and ranked as Critically Endangered (CR) under World Conservation Union (IUCN 2001) Red List criterion D, due to there being fewer than 50 mature individuals known at that time. Additional mature plants have since been found and the subspecies no longer meets CR under criterion D. It is therefore proposed in Recovery Action 2 to recommend to the Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) that the ranking of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* be amended from CR D to CR B1ab(iii,v)+2ab(iii,v) based on the extent of occurrence being less than 100 km^2, populations being severely fragmented and one population in decline. The subspecies is not currently listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act 1999), but the species is listed, however, this listing only refers to the subspecies *ionthocarpa*. The main threats are rabbit activity, weed invasion, invasion by *Allocasuarina huegeliana* and road maintenance.

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* is currently known from four populations containing two subpopulations, totalling 852 mature plants located east and south east of Brookton with an extent of occurrence of approximately 57km^2.

Description: *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is a shrub to 40 cm high with underground stems. Leaves are rigid, with straight margins. Floral bracts are approximately 4 mm long, elongating to 6 to 7 mm when in fruit., The purple – red perianth is 52 to 60 mm long including the 6 to 11.5 mm long, flattened golden-orange limb. The pistil is 63 to 65 mm long and the pollen presenter 3 to 5.5 mm long. Follicles (not seen when mature) are obovate, 9 to 11 mm long, covered in a felt-like covering of cottony hairs on the stylar edge, as well as having the prominent apical tuft characteristic of the species (Pieroni 2000, George 2005, Cavanagh and Pieroni 2006).

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* differs from *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *ionthocarpa* in having a fire-tolerant underground stems capable of re-sprouting and straighter leaf lobes (George 2005, Cavanagh and Pieroni, 2006).

Habitat requirements: *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* occurs on sandy loam or sandy clay over laterite or granite in kwongan vegetation.

Habitat critical to the survival of the species, and important populations: Given that *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is ranked as CR, it is considered that all known habitat for wild populations is critical to the survival of the subspecies, and that all wild populations are important populations. Habitat critical to the survival of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* includes the area of occupancy of populations, areas of similar habitat surrounding and linking populations (these providing potential habitat for population expansion and for pollinators), additional occurrences of similar habitat that may contain undiscovered populations of the subspecies or be suitable sites for future translocations and the local catchment for the surface and/or groundwater that maintains the habitat of the subspecies.

Benefits to other species or ecological communities: Recovery actions implemented to improve the quality or security of the habitat of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* will also improve the status of associated native vegetation. One threatened and three priority flora taxa occur in association with *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*, these being listed in the table below.

Conservation-listed flora species occurring in habitat of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*

Species name	Conservation Status (Western Australia)	Conservation Status (EPBC Act 1999)
Verticordia fimbrilepis subsp. *fimbrilepis*	DRF, Vulnerable	Endangered
Dryandra lindleyana subsp. *agricola*	Priority 2	-
Acacia anarthros	Priority 3	-
Calothamnus brevifolius	Priority 4	-

DRF – Declared Rare Flora; for a description of the priority categories see Atkins (2006)

International obligations: This plan is fully consistent with the aims and recommendations of the Convention on Biological Diversity, ratified by Australia in June 1993, and will assist in implementing Australia's responsibilities under that convention. *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is not listed under any specific international treaty however, and this IRP does not affect Australia's obligations under any other international agreements.

Indigenous consultation: Involvement of the Indigenous community is being sought through the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) and the Department of Indigenous Affairs to assist in the identification of cultural values for land occupied by *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*, or groups with a cultural connection to land that is important for the subspecies' conservation and to determine whether there are any issues or interests identified in the plan. A search of the Department of Indigenous Affairs Aboriginal Heritage Sites Register has identified that there are no sites of Aboriginal significance at or near populations of the subspecies. Where no role is identified for the indigenous community associated with this subspecies in the development of the recovery plan, opportunities may exist through cultural interpretation and awareness of the subspecies. Indigenous involvement in the implementation of recovery actions will be encouraged. Continued liaison between DEC and the indigenous community will identify areas in which collaboration will assist implementation of recovery actions.

Social and economic impact: The implementation of this recovery plan is unlikely to cause significant adverse social and economic impacts.

Affected interests: One population occurs in a Shire gravel reserve and two populations occur on Shire road reserves. Their protection may potentially impact on Shire operations.

Evaluation of the plan's performance: The Department of Environment and Conservation, in conjunction with the Great Southern District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (GSDTFRT) will evaluate the performance of this IRP. In addition to annual reporting on progress and evaluation against the criteria for success and failure, the plan will be reviewed following four years of implementation.

Existing Recovery Actions: The following recovery actions have been or are currently being implemented:

1. The Shire of Brookton has been made aware of the threatened nature of this subspecies, its location on land under their management and their legal obligations to protect the subspecies.
2. Staff from DEC's Great Southern District are monitoring all known populations.
3. DRF markers have been installed at Population 2 and replaced at Population 4.
4. The GSDTFRT is overseeing the implementation of this IRP and will include it in its annual report to DEC's Corporate Executive and funding bodies.

IRP objective: The objective of this IRP is to abate identified threats and maintain or enhance viable *in situ* populations to ensure the long-term preservation of the subspecies in the wild.

Recovery criteria

Criteria for success: The number of populations have increased and/or the number of mature individuals in populations have increased by ten percent or more over the term of the plan.

Criteria for failure: The number of populations have decreased and/or the number of mature individuals in populations have decreased by ten percent or more over the term of the plan.

Recovery actions

1. Coordinate recovery actions
2. Propose ranking change
3. Liaise with relevant land managers and Indigenous groups
4. Monitor populations
5. Replace DRF markers
6. Collect seed to preserve genetic diversity
7. Undertake weed control and follow-up with additional control if required
8. Implement rabbit control
9. Obtain biological and ecological information
10. Promote awareness
11. Conduct further surveys
12. Develop and implement a fire management strategy
13. Map habitat critical to the survival of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*
14. Review the Plan and the need for further recovery actions

1. BACKGROUND

History

Dryandra ionthocarpa was first collected near Kamballup by P. Luscombe in 1988 and was formally described by Alex George in 1996 (George 1996, Cavanagh and Pieroni 2006, DEC 2007). The species was thought to be represented by a single population near Albany. However, in 1998 whilst conducting a flora survey in a Nature Reserve east of Pingelly, staff from the Western Australian Herbarium discovered an unusual variant of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* (Obbens *et al*, 2001). As part of a revision by Alex George in 2005 the new taxon was provided subspecies status and named *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* (George 2005).

Alex George described *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* in 2005 as being lignotuberous and apparently clonal. However observations in the field suggest that the species re-sprouts from underground stems following fire and, rather than being clonal, the same plant produces many shoots above ground ([1]Margaret Pieroni pers.comm. 2007).

Surveys of the Nature Reserve where *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* was first collected resulted in the discovery of Subpopulation 1b in 1999 and further surveys of the surrounding areas in 1999 and 2000 resulted in the discovery of three additional populations of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*.

Population 2 was burnt in 1996 but other populations have not been burnt for a long period of time.

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* is currently known from four populations and two subpopulations, totaling 852 mature plants.

Description

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* is a shrub to 40 cm high with underground stems. Leaves are rigid, with straight leaf lobe margins. Floral bracts are approximately 4 mm long, elongating to 6 to 7 mm in fruit. The purple – red perianth is 52 to 60 mm long including the 6 to 11.5 mm long, flattened golden-orange limb. The pistil is 63 to 65 mm long and the pollen presenter 3 to 5.5 mm long. Follicles (not seen when mature) are obovate, 9 to 11 mm long, covered in a felt-like covering of cottony hairs on the stylar edge, as well as having the prominent apical tuft characteristic of the species (Pieroni 2000, George 2005, Cavanagh and Pieroni 2006).

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* differs from *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *ionthocarpa* in having straighter leaf lobes and fire-tolerant underground stems that are capable of re-sprouting (George 2005, Cavanagh and Pieroni, 2006).

Distribution and habitat

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* has a restricted geographic range over approximately 73 km^2 in the Shires of Brookton and Pingelly.

Habitat is sandy loam or sandy clay over laterite or granite in kwongan vegetation, sometimes with an overstorey of *Allocasuarina huegeliana*.

Species associated with *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* include *Hakea incrassata*, *H. trifurcata*, *H. lissocarpha*, *Lepidobolus preissianus*, *Caustis dioica*, *Mesomelaena pseudostygia*, *Acacia stenoptera*, *Allocasuarina microstachya*, *A. huegeliana*, *Calothamnus brevifolius*, *Verticordia fimbrilepis* subsp. *fimbrilepis*, *V. densiflora*, *Loxocarya collina*, *Jacksonia racemosa*, *Synaphea petiolaris* and *Leptospermum erubescens.*

Summary of population land vesting, purpose and management

[1] Margaret Pieroni - Leader, Australian Society for Growing Australian Plants (ASGAP), Dryandra Study Group

Pop. No. & Location	DEC District	Shire	Vesting	Purpose	Manager
1a. SE of Brookton (Nature Reserve)	Great Southern	Pingelly	Conservation Commission of Western Australia	Conservation of Flora and Fauna	DEC
1b. SE of Brookton (Nature Reserve)	Great Southern	Pingelly	Conservation Commission of Western Australia	Conservation of Flora and Fauna	DEC
2. E of Brookton	Great Southern	Brookton	Shire of Brookton	Gravel Reserve	Shire of Brookton
3. E of Brookton	Great Southern	Brookton	Unvested Reserve	Road Reserve	Shire of Brookton
4. E of Brookton	Great Southern	Brookton	Unvested Reserve	Road Reserve	Shire of Brookton

Populations in **bold text** are considered to be important populations

Biology and ecology

Very little is known about the biology and ecology of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*. However, the subspecies has a lignotuber from which it is known to regenerate following fire.

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* flowers from September to November.

Threats

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* was declared as Rare Flora in 2004 under the Western Australian *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950* and ranked as Critically Endangered (CR) under World Conservation Union (IUCN 2001) Red List criterion D, due to there being fewer than 50 mature individuals known at that time. Additional mature plants have since been found and the subspecies no longer meets CR under criterion D. It is therefore proposed in Recovery Action 2 to recommend to the Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) that the ranking of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* be amended from CR D to CR B1ab(iii,v) + 2ab(iii,v) based on the extent of occurrence being less than 100 km^2, populations being severely fragmented and one population in decline. The subspecies is not currently listed under the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act 1999). The species is listed, however, this listing only refers to the subspecies *ionthocarpa*. The main threats are rabbit activity, weed invasion, invasion by *Allocasuarina huegeliana* and road maintenance.

- **Rabbit activity.** Rabbits threaten all populations of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* through soil disturbance, grazing and increased nutrient levels.
- **Weed invasion.** Weed species compete for space, nutrients, water and light. Weed competition is likely to reduce recruitment.
- **Invasion by *Allocasuarina huegeliana.*** *Allocasuarina huegeliana* has been observed to dominate associated vegetation at population 4 and is competing for space and shading out *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*.
- **Road maintenance**. Populations 3 and 4 are threatened by herbicide spraying and road verge grading.

Summary of population information and threats

Pop. No. & Location	Land Status	Year	No. plants	Current Condition	Threats
1a. SE of Brookton	Nature Reserve	2001	299*	Healthy	Weeds, rabbit activity
1b. SE of Brookton	Nature Reserve	2001	299*	-	Weeds, rabbit activity
2. E of Brookton	Gravel Reserve	1999	215	Moderate	Weeds, rabbit activity
		2001	370 [3]		
		2005	425		
3. E of Brookton	Road Reserve	2000	17 (3)	Moderate	Weeds, rabbit activity, road maintenance
		2001	22 (2) [1]		
		2005	31		
4. E of Brookton	Road Reserve	2000	282 [58]	Poor	Weeds, rabbit activity, road maintenance, invasion by *Allocasuarina huegeliana*
		2001	250 [92]		
		2005	97		

Populations in **bold text** are considered to be important populations; Note: * = subpopulations combined, ( ) = number of seedlings, [ ] = number dead

Guide for decision-makers

Section 1 provides details of current and possible future threats. Developments and/or land clearing in the immediate vicinity of any *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* populations require assessment. No developments or clearing should be approved unless the proponents can demonstrate that their actions will not have a significant impact on the subspecies, its habitat or potential habitat or on the local surface hydrology, such that drainage in the habitat of the subspecies would be altered.

Habitat critical to the survival of the species, and important populations

Given that *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is ranked as CR, it is considered that all known habitat for wild populations is critical to the survival of the subspecies, and that all wild populations are important populations. Habitat critical to the survival of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* includes the area of occupancy of populations, areas of similar habitat surrounding and linking populations (these providing potential habitat for population expansion and for pollinators), additional occurrences of similar habitat that may contain undiscovered populations of the subspecies or be suitable sites for future translocations and the local catchment for the surface and/or groundwater that maintains the habitat of the subspecies.

Benefits to other species or ecological communities

Recovery actions implemented to improve the quality or security of the habitat of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* will also improve the status of associated native vegetation.

One threatened and three priority flora taxa occur in association with *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *Chrysophoenix*. These taxa are listed in the table below:

Conservation-listed flora taxa occurring in habitat of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*

Species name	Conservation Status (Western Australia)	Conservation Status (EPBC Act 1999)
Verticordia fimbrilepis subsp. *fimbrilepis*	DRF, Vulnerable	Endangered
Dryandra lindleyana subsp. *agricola*	Priority 2	-
Acacia anarthros	Priority 3	-
Calothamnus brevifolius	Priority 4	-

DRF – Declared Rare Flora; for a description of the priority categories see Atkins (2006)

International obligations

This plan is fully consistent with the aims and recommendations of the Convention on Biological Diversity, ratified by Australia in June 1993, and will assist in implementing Australia's responsibilities under that convention. *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is not listed under any specific international treaty however, and this IRP does not affect Australia's obligations under any other international agreements.

Indigenous consultation

Involvement of the Indigenous community is being sought through the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) and the Department of Indigenous Affairs to assist in the identification of cultural values for land occupied by *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*, or groups with a cultural connection to land that is important for the subspecies' conservation and to determine whether there are any issues or interests identified in the plan. A search of the Department of Indigenous Affairs Aboriginal Heritage Sites Register has identified that there are no sites of Aboriginal significance at or near populations of the subspecies. Where no role is identified for the indigenous community associated with this subspecies in the development of the recovery plan, opportunities may exist through cultural interpretation and awareness of the subspecies. Indigenous involvement in the implementation of recovery actions will be encouraged.

Continued liaison between DEC and the indigenous community will identify areas in which collaboration will assist implementation of recovery actions.

Social and economic impact

The implementation of this recovery plan is unlikely to cause significant adverse social and economic impacts.

Affected interests

One population occurs in a Shire gravel reserve and two populations occur on Shire road reserves. Their protection may potentially impact on Shire operations.

Evaluation of the plan's performance

The Department of Environment and Conservation, in conjunction with the Great Southern District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (GSDTFRT) will evaluate the performance of this IRP. In addition to annual reporting on progress and evaluation against the criteria for success and failure, the plan will be reviewed following four years of implementation.

2. RECOVERY OBJECTIVE AND CRITERIA

Objective

The objective of this IRP is to abate identified threats and maintain or enhance viable *in situ* populations to ensure the long-term preservation of the subspecies in the wild.

Criteria for success: The number of populations have increased and/or the number of mature individuals have increased by ten percent or more over the term of the plan.
Criteria for failure: The number of populations have decreased and/or the number of mature individuals have decreased by ten percent or more over the term of the plan.

3. RECOVERY ACTIONS

Existing recovery actions

The Shire of Brookton has been made aware of the threatened nature of this subspecies, its location on land under their management and their legal obligations to protect the subspecies.

Staff from DEC's Great Southern District are monitoring all known populations.

DRF markers have been installed at Population 2 and replaced at Population 4.

The GSDTFRT is overseeing the implementation of this IRP and will include it in its annual report to DEC's Corporate Executive and funding bodies.

Future recovery actions

Where recovery actions are implemented on lands other than those managed by DEC, permission has been or will be sought from the appropriate land managers prior to actions being undertaken. The following recovery actions are roughly in order of descending priority, influenced by their timing over the term of the plan. However this should not constrain addressing any recovery action if funding is available and other opportunities arise.

1. Coordinate recovery actions

The Great Southern District Threatened Flora Recovery Team (GSDTFRT) will coordinate recovery actions for *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* and other Declared Rare Flora in their District. They will include information on progress in their annual report to DEC's Corporate Executive and funding bodies.

Action: Coordinate recovery actions
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District), through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,500 annually.

2. Propose ranking change

Propose to the next meeting of the Threatened Species Scientific Committee (TSSC) that the ranking of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* be amended from CR D to CR B1ab(iii,v)+2ab(iii,v). The subspecies no longer meets Criteria for CR D as there are now more than 50 plants known.

Action: Propose ranking change
Responsibility: DEC (Species and Communities Branch and Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,000 in year 1.

3. Liaise with relevant land managers and Indigenous groups

Staff from DEC's Great Southern District will liaise with appropriate land managers to ensure that populations are not accidentally damaged or destroyed. Input and involvement will also be sought from indigenous groups that have an active interest in areas that are habitat for *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*.

Action: Liaise with relevant land managers and Indigenous groups
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District), through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,500 annually.

4. Monitor populations

Annual monitoring of factors such as habitat degradation (including the effects of roadside grading and spraying, weed invasion, invasion by *Allocasuarina huegeliana* and rabbit activity), population stability (expansion or decline), pollination activity, seed production, recruitment, longevity and predation is essential and will be met under this action.

Action: Monitor populations
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,000 annually.

5. Replace DRF markers

Declared Rare Flora (DRF) markers need replacing at Population 3.

Action: Replace DRF markers
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $500 in year 1.

6. Collect seed to preserve genetic diversity

Preservation of genetic material is essential to guard against extinction of the subspecies if wild populations are lost. It is therefore recommended that seed be collected and stored. Collections should aim to sample and preserve the maximum range of genetic diversity possible from all populations (determined by an appropriate molecular technique such as genetic fingerprinting if possible). The *Germplasm Conservation Guidelines for Australia* produced by the Australian Network for Plant Conservation (ANPC) should be used to guide this process (ANPC 1997).

Action: Collect seed to preserve genetic diversity
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) and BGPA through GSDTFRT
Cost: $3,000 in years 1, 3 and 5.

7. Undertake weed control and follow-up with additional control if required

Weeds are a major threat to all populations of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*. The following actions will be implemented.

1. Select an appropriate herbicide after determining which weeds are present.
2. Control invasive weeds by hand removal or spot spraying around *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* plants when weeds first emerge.

The tolerance of associated native plant species to herbicides at the sites of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is not known and weed control programs will be undertaken in conjunction with research.

Action: Undertake weed control and follow up with additional control if required
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District, Science Division) through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $3,500 annually.

8. Implement rabbit control

Rabbits are a threat to all populations of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*. Control strategies will be developed and implemented in consultation with relevant land managers.

Action: Implement rabbit control
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $3,000 in year 1 and $2,500 in years 2 to 5.

9. Obtain biological and ecological information

Improved knowledge of the biology and ecology of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* will provide a better scientific basis for management of the wild populations. An understanding of the following is particularly necessary for effective management:

1. Investigate the subspecies' response to disturbance including fire.
2. Investigate seed longevity and viability.
3. Investigate clonal, genetic diversity.
4. Investigate conditions necessary for germination.
5. Determine longevity of plants and time taken to reach maturity.
6. Investigate the subspecies' pollination biology.

Actions: Obtain biological and ecological information
Responsibility: DEC (Science Division, TFSC, Great Southern District) and BGPA through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $13,000 in years 1 to 3 and $18,000 in year 4.

10. Promote awareness

The importance of biodiversity conservation and the protection of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* will be promoted to the public. This will be achieved through an information campaign using local print and electronic media and by setting up poster displays. An information brochure that provides a description of the subspecies with information about threats and recovery actions will be developed for this subspecies and will be

distributed to local land owners, relevant authorities and volunteer organisations. Promotion and awareness raising activities may result in the discovery of new populations. Formal links with local naturalist groups and interested individuals should also be encouraged.

To minimise the risk of destruction, it is recommended that the exact location of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* be kept from the general public. Such information should, however, be provided to the Shire of Brookton and relevant government authorities.

Action: Promote awareness
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District, SCB and Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs Division) through the GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,500 in year 1 and $1,000 in years 2 to 5.

11. Conduct further surveys

It is recommended that areas of potential habitat be surveyed for the presence of this subspecies during its flowering period between July and September. All surveyed areas will be recorded and the presence or absence of the subspecies documented to increase survey efficiency and reduce unnecessary duplicate surveys. Where possible, volunteers from the local community, wildflower societies and naturalists clubs should be invited to assist.

Action: Conduct further surveys
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT
Cost: $4,000 in years 1, 3 and 5.

12. Develop and implement a fire management strategy

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* is believed to regenerate from lignotubers but frequent fires may weaken mature plants and eventually kill them, as well as kill seedlings and exhaust the seed bank, reducing future recruitment. A fire management strategy will be developed by DEC's Great Southern District in consultation with relevant land managers and the GSDTFRT. This will include the maintenance of firebreaks and actions to reduce the impact of frequent wildfires on populations.

Action: Develop and implement a fire management strategy
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT, and relevant authorities
Cost: $3,000 in year 1.

13. Map habitat critical to the survival of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*

While this subspecies is not currently listed under the EPBC Act, it is expected that such a listing will occur. It is a requirement of the EPBC Act to determine spatial data relating to habitat critical to the survival of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*. The areas described in Section 1 have not yet been mapped and that will be addressed under this recovery action. If additional populations are located, then habitat critical to their survival will also be determined and mapped.

Action: Map habitat critical to the survival of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*
Responsibility: DEC (Great Southern District, Species and Communities Branch (SCB)) through GSDTFRT
Cost: $3,500 in year 1.

14. Review the Plan and the need for further recovery actions

At the end of the five-year term of this IRP, the Plan will be reviewed and the need for further recovery actions will be assessed.

Action: Review the Plan and the need for further recovery actions
Responsibility: DEC (SCB, Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT
Cost: $1,500 in year 5.

Summary of recovery actions

Recovery Actions	Priority	Responsibility	Completion date
Coordinate recovery actions	High	GSDTFRT	Ongoing
Propose ranking change	High	DEC (Species and Communities Branch and Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT	2008
Liaise with relevant land managers and Indigenous groups	High	DEC (Great Southern District), through the GSDTFRT	Ongoing
Monitor populations	High	DEC (Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT	Ongoing
Replace DRF markers	High	DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT	2008
Collect seed to preserve genetic diversity	High	DEC (Great Southern District) and BGPA through GSDTFRT	2012
Undertake weed control and follow-up with additional control if required	High	DEC (Great Southern District, Science Division) through the GSDTFRT	Ongoing
Implement rabbit control	High	DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT	2012
Obtain biological and ecological information	High	DEC (Science Division, TFSC, Great Southern District) and BGPA through the GSDTFRT	2011
Promote awareness	High	DEC (Great Southern District, SCB and Strategic Development and Corporate Affairs Division) through the GSDTFRT	2012
Conduct further surveys	Moderate	DEC (Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT	2012
Develop and implement a fire management strategy	Moderate	DEC (Great Southern District) through the GSDTFRT, and relevant authorities	Developed by 2008 with implementation ongoing
Map habitat critical to the survival of *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix*	Moderate	DEC (Great Southern District, Species and Communities Branch (SCB)) through GSDTFRT	2008
Review the Plan and the need for further recovery actions	Moderate	DEC (SCB, Great Southern District) through GSDTFRT	2012

4. TERM OF PLAN

This IRP will operate from May 2007 to April 2012 but will remain in force until withdrawn or replaced. If *Dryandra ionthocarpa* subsp. *chrysophoenix* is still ranked CR after five years, the need for further recovery actions and an update of this IRP will be assessed.

5. REFERENCES

Atkins, K. (2006). *Declared Rare and Priority Flora List for Western Australia.* Department of Conservation and Land Management, Perth, Western Australia

Australian Network for Plant Conservation. (1997). *Germplasm Conservation Guidelines for Australia, An introduction to the principles and practices for seed and germplasm banking of Australian Species*. Canberra, Australian Network for Plant Conservation Germplasm Working Group. Management Report No. 149.

CALM (1992). Policy Statement No. 44 *Wildlife Management Programs* Department of Conservation and Land Management, Perth, Western Australia.

CALM (1994). Policy Statement No. 50 *Setting Priorities for the Conservation of Western Australia's Threatened Flora and Fauna*. Department of Conservation and Land Management, Perth, Western Australia.

Cavanagh, T. and Pieroni M. (2006) *The Dryandras*, Wildflower Society of Western Australia, WA and Australian Plants Society (SGAP Victoria)

DEC. (2007). *Western Australian Herbarium FloraBase 2 – Information on the Western Australian Flora* (Accessed 2007). Department of Environment and Conservation, Western Australia. http://www.calm.wa.gov.au/science/.

George, A.S. (1996). New taxa and a new infrageneric classification in *Dryandra* R.Br. (Proteaceae: Grevilleoideae). *Nuytsia* **10(3)**: 376.

George, A.S. (2005). Further new taxa in *Dryandra* R. Br. (Proteaceae: Grevilleoideae). *Nuytsia*. **15(3)**: 337-346.

IUCN (2001). *IUCN Red List Categories: Version 3.1*. Prepared by the IUCN Species Survival Commission. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

Obbens, F.J., Davis, R.W. and Sage, L.W. (2001). Vegetation, flora and recommendations for conservation management of Jingaring Nature Reserve: A "botanical gem" in the Western Australian wheat-belt. *Journal of the Royal Society of Western Australia*. **84**: 53-61.

Pieroni, M. (2000) Two more undescribed taxa? in *Dryandra Study Group Newsletter*, Issue 39, July 2000

6. TAXONOMIC DESCRIPTION

Excerpt from: George, A.S. (2005). Further new taxa in *Dryandra* R. Br. (Proteaceae: Grevilleoideae). *Nuytsia*. **15(3)**: 337-346.

Shrub with lignotuber, apparently clonal. Margins of *leaf lobes* almost straight. *Floral bracts* approximately 4 mm long, elongating to 6-7 mm in fruit. *Perianth* 52-60 mm long including limb 6-11.5 mm long; claws purple-red; limb golden. *Pistil* 63-65 mm long; pollen presenter 3-5.5 mm long. *Follicles* (not seen mature) obovate, 9-11 mm long, tomentose on stylar edge, as well as having the prominent apical tuft characteristic of the species.

Dryandra ionthocarpa subsp. *chrysophoenix* closely allies with *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *ionthocarpa* in all aspects of its morphology, differing mainly in having a fire-tolerant rootstock while the later is non-lignotuberous. The margins of the leaf lobes are straighter than those of the subsp. *ionthocarpa* which are gently curved. Generally its flowers are larger than those of typical *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *ionthocarpa*, but several collections of the latter have large flowers. It appears to set mature fruit very rarely, examination of the plants showing only a few follicles that appeared to be immature.

The account of *D. ionthocarpa* subsp. *ionthocarpa* in *Flora of Australia* vol. 17B stated that the floral bracts do not elongate as the fruit develops, but that may not be the case as some elongation was noted in subsp. *chrysophoenix*.