LANDSCAPE SOUTH AUSTRALIA KANGAROO ISLAND

Kangaroo Island spider-orchid

Scientific name: ***Caladenia ovata***

National status (*EPBC Act 1999*): **Endangered**

South Australian status: (*NPW Act 1972*): **Endangered**

Description:

Annual terrestrial orchid emerging in spring with a single hairy leaf to 7 cm long. Usually one, rarely two, red or maroon and sometime yellow flowers to 30 cm high. Flowering between September and October.

Distribution:

Endemic to South Australia and restricted to Kangaroo Island and the Fleurieu Peninsula. On Kangaroo Island it grows on lateritic soils in open areas mainly within *Eucalyptus cneorifolia* mallee woodland.

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Specific threats:

Threats contributing to the decline of *Caladenia ovata* include vegetation clearance and habitat loss, over-browsing by macropods (kangaroos and wallabies), lack of pollinators, inappropriate fire regimes (lack of fire), climate change and declining genetic viability due to a small and fragmented population.

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