

**SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THREATENED
SPECIES AND ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES' PROTECTION IN
AUSTRALIA**

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Addendum to submission dated 10 December 2012-12-13

Blue-tongued Orchid, Kiandra Greenhood *Pterostylis oreophila* —

I would like to add some comments about the Blue-tongued Orchid, Kiandra Greenhood *Pterostylis oreophila*.

This orchid is listed under both the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) and the NSW [Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995](#) (TSC Act) as critically endangered.

However, because a significant part of its range was within the Bago and Maragle State Forests, near Tumbarumba, its fate has been in the hands of Forests NSW.

Logging and the poor management by Forests NSW of fossicking activity within these State Forests has caused a decline in numbers of the orchid. Recent local reports suggest that it has now disappeared from Bago and Maragle State Forests.

This is a tragic example of the failure of both NSW and Commonwealth threatened species laws and management.

Conclusion

The probable extinction of the *Pterostylis oreophila* is a particularly stark example of the failure of the exemption under Section 38 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) of Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) areas.

Had this exemption not existed, the EPBC Act may have offered some hope for the species.