

SPECIES MANAGEMENT PROFILE

Caladenia prolata white fingers

Group: Magnoliophyta (flowering plants), Liliopsida (monocots), Orchidales, Orchidaceae

Status: *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995:* **endangered**
Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999: Not listed

Endemic: Found in Tasmania and elsewhere

Status:



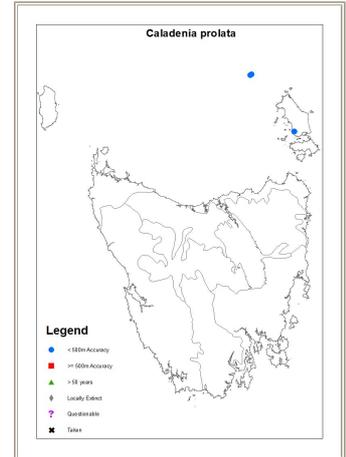
Key Points

- **Important:** Is this species in your area? Do you need a permit? Ensure you've covered all the issues by checking the Planning Ahead page.
- **Important:** Different threatened species may have different requirements. For any activity you are considering, read the Activity Advice pages for background information and important advice about managing around the needs of multiple threatened species.

Surveying

| | |
|----------|------------------------------|
| Key | Survey reliability more info |
| M | Best time to survey |
| M | Potential time to survey |
| M | Poor time to survey |
| M | Non-survey period |

To ensure you follow the law - check whether your survey requires a permit. Always report any new records to the Natural Values Atlas, or send the information direct to the Threatened Species Section. Refer to the Activity Advice: Surveying page for background information.



| <i>Caladenia prolata</i> | Spring | | | | | Summer | | | | | Autumn | | | | | Winter | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| white fingers | S | S | O | O | N | N | D | D | J | J | F | F | M | M | A | A | M | M | J | J | J | J | A | A |

- Flowers are required for the identification of this ground orchid which dies back to subterranean tubers after flowering. In Tasmania it is only known from three collections (1998, Flinders Island; 30 October and 18 November 2004, Deal Island), suggesting a good search window on Bass Strait islands could be late October to mid November.
- On mainland Australia, *Caladenia prolata* occurs in light coastal scrub and open heathy forest on well-drained sandy and clay loams, usually under low shrubs. On Flinders Island, *Caladenia prolata* is restricted to the surface of granite boulders (its absence from nearby ground is probably due to extensive ground disturbance by feral pigs). On Deal Island, *Caladenia prolata* occurs on slopes of two gully systems dominated by *Allocasuarina verticillata* (with sparse *Eucalyptus nitida*) and a *Poa labillardierei* and light bracken understorey.

Further information

Check also for listing statement or notesheet pdf above (below the species image).

Recovery Plan

Cite as: Threatened Species Section (2026). *white fingers (Caladenia prolata): Species Management Profile for Tasmania's Threatened Species Link*. <https://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/Pages/Caladenia-prolata.aspx> Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Accessed on 8/3/2026.

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Permit: A permit is required under the Tasmanian *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* to 'take' (which includes kill, injure, catch, damage, destroy and collect), keep, trade in or process any specimen or products of a listed species. Additional permits may also be required under other Acts or regulations to take, disturb or interfere with any form of wildlife or its products, (e.g. dens, nests, bones). This may also depend on the tenure of the land and other agreements relating to its management.