

## SPECIES MANAGEMENT PROFILE

*Hackelia latifolia* forest houndstongue

**Group:** Magnoliophyta (flowering plants), Magnoliopsida (dicots), Lamiales, Boraginaceae

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

**Endemic:** Found in Tasmania and elsewhere

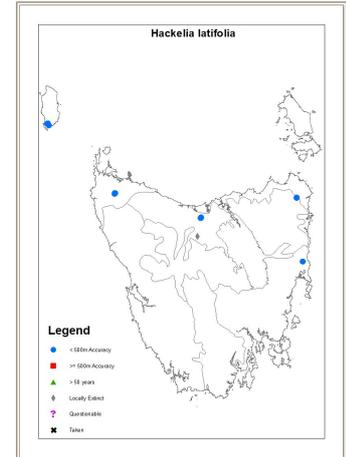
**Status:**



*Hackelia latifolia* (previously *Austrocynoglossum latifolium*) is a trailing perennial herb in the Boraginaceae family. It occurs in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania. Within Tasmania, the species is known from four widely-separated locations in the State's north, including King Island. Its recorded habitat in Tasmania includes damp eucalypt forest along creeklines and rivers, and *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest. The greatest threat to the species in Tasmania is inundation of plants and habitat due to dam construction. Other threats include land clearance, hydrological changes, weed invasion, stock grazing and trampling, and chance catastrophic events near known localities.

### 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.



### Habitat

- 'Habitat' refers to both *known* habitat for the species (i.e. in or near habitat where the species has been recorded) and *potential* habitat (i.e. areas of habitat with appropriate characteristics for the species and within the species' potential range which have not yet been adequately surveyed).
- If in doubt about whether a site represents potential habitat for this species, contact the Threatened Species Section for further advice.
- The known range of forest houndstongue includes four widely-separated locations in the State's north including King Island (see distribution map, above). The potential range for forest houndstongue includes King Island and northern and north-eastern Tasmania.
- Habitat for forest houndstongue corresponds to 'Riparian Bush' and 'Tea-tree and paperbark wet scrub and forest' in the NRE Bushcare Toolkit.
- Habitat for forest houndstongue includes the following elements: damp eucalypt forest along creeklines and rivers, and *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest; variable geology including Precambrian quartzitic sequences, Permian sediments, Jurassic dolerite, Devonian granite and Quaternary alluvium on a range of substrates; the altitude range is 5 to 140 m above sea level.

### What to avoid

The main threats to forest houndstongue are any activities which clear or degrade habitat, including:

- Clearing vegetation, including cutting and slashing
- Inundation of a site (through dam construction)
- Unrestricted stock grazing
- Invasion of a site by woody weeds

### 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>Hackelia latifolia</i>	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
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- This perennial herb flowers in spring to summer. Non-specialists may be able to detect forest houndstongue at any time of year due to its distinctive rough-textured foliage. See the Listing Statement for more information on how to identify this species.
- Recorded habitat for *Austrocynoglossum latifolium* in Tasmania includes damp eucalypt forest along creeklines and rivers, and *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp forest.

### Helping the species

- Learn to identify forest houndstongue so as to recognise the species if it occurs on your property. If in doubt about what it is, seek expert assistance with identification.
- If you live or work in the area where the species occurs (see distribution map, above), look out for and record any observations of the species. All records of this species can provide important information on distribution and abundance.
- If you are interested in knowing for certain whether the species occurs on your land, organise a formal survey. You may need to employ an ecological consultant to do this. Your local Bushcare or Field Naturalist club may be able to assist you with a survey.
- Always report any observations of the species to the NRE Natural Values Atlas, or else provide the data direct to the Threatened Species Section. Records stored on the NVA are a permanent record and are accessible to other people interested in this species.
- Consider the needs of the whole habitat. Preserving a threatened species' habitat is a very important way to manage both the species and the environment in which it lives.
- Habitat for forest houndstongue corresponds to the following Bushcare Toolkit bush types: 'Riparian Bush' and 'Tea-tree and paperbark wet scrub and forest' in the NRE Bushcare Toolkit.
- For long-term protection of localities on private land – consider protection of habitat through a vegetation management agreement or conservation covenant. See the NRE Private Land Conservation Program for more details.
- To protect habitat from the establishment and spread of weeds - prevent the spread of woody weeds in habitat of forest houndstongue, and always follow weed management guidelines.
- See the 'What is Needed' section in the forest houndstongue Listing Statement for a full list of conservation management actions for this species.

### Cutting or clearing trees or vegetation

- To avoid loss of the species at known localities – do not remove vegetation in this species' habitat, including clearing, cutting and slashing.
- To avoid permanent habitat loss - do not convert habitat (e.g. to plantation, pasture or cropping land).

### Burning

- To avoid severe damage by burning to the riparian (river-side) habitat for forest houndstongue - exclude fire from this habitat.
- The Bushcare Toolkit provides more information on fire management in 'Riparian Bush' and 'Tea-tree and paperbark wet scrub and forest' vegetation types.

### Dam construction

- To avoid total loss of known localities – do not inundate known localities through dam construction.

### Use of chemicals

- To protect known localities of forest houndstongue – avoid risk of off-target herbicide damage to plants during the treatment of weeds within or adjacent to known localities.

### Further information

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

**Cite as:** Threatened Species Section (2024). *forest houndstongue (Hackelia latifolia): Species Management Profile for Tasmania's Threatened Species Link*. <https://www.threatenedspecieslink.tas.gov.au/Pages/Hackelia-latifolia.aspx> Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Accessed on 20/9/2024.

**Contact details:** Threatened Species Section, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, GPO Box 44, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, 7001. Phone (1300 368 550).

**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.