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MEDIA RELEASE

## Threatened Species Thrives after Fire

The threatened species *Grevillea caleyi* is thriving in a tiny pocket of Warringah thanks to hazard reduction burns.

*Grevillea caleyi* forms part of the vegetation community Duffys Forest and is only found within an 8km radius surrounding Terrey Hills.

Since hazard reduction burns surrounding Frank Beckman Reserve in September last year, at least 70 seedlings of the nationally threatened species have appeared – a remarkable feat since the species was not present on the site before 2010, when it successfully germinated through volunteer bush regeneration.

“It’s fantastic to see this rarest of species make a resurgence,” said Natural Environment Office Nicole McVicar. “I return regularly to the site and am recording more plants with every visit. This reserve has become a stronghold for *Grevillea caleyi*’s conservation.”

There have been similar results in other locations following hazard reduction burns in Warringah.

The hazard reduction was planned by the Warringah Pittwater Bush Fire Management Committee and carried out by local NSW Rural Fire Service volunteer brigades.

Nicole McVicar said, “Well managed hazard reduction burning can produce successful outcomes for the environment. This continues to improve as we work together to manage bush fire risk to life and property, while protecting our threatened species.”

### Note to Editors

*Grevillea caleyi* is a medium to tall shrub, with long spreading branches, which grows to a height and width of up to 4 metres and is listed as Endangered under the *NSW Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. It was recently nominated to have its listing upgraded to Critically Endangered in NSW.

*Grevillea caleyi* has a restricted range, occurring on ridge tops with very a specific soil type and mix of associated plant species. It is only found within an approximate 8km radius spanning from Terrey Hills, Duffys Forest, Ingleside, Belrose and St Ives. The plant stores seed in the soil and will respond favourably to fire and soil disturbance under the right conditions.