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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Blue Mountain Water Skink

The **Blue Mountain Water Skink**, *Eulamprus leuraensis*, is listed as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. Considered to be one of Australia's rarest lizards, surveys suggest that this species is restricted to an isolated and naturally fragmented habitat of sedge and shrub swamps in the mid and upper Blue Mountains west of Sydney, New South Wales (NSW).

Possible threats to the Blue Mountain Water Skink include urban development, some locations are almost completely surrounded by houses and other locations have land zoned for further development adjacent to them; pollution and sedimentation, including stormwater run-off; alterations to hydrological regimes through construction of roads, tracks, plantations and mining subsidence; weed invasion; visitor disturbance and predation by cats.

A Blue Mountain Water Skink Recovery Plan was developed by NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service in 2001). Since little is known about the population dynamics, home range, habitat requirements, or response to disturbance of the species, the aim of the plan is to identify actions required and the parties responsible for ensuring the on-going viability of the species in the wild.

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