

# Action statement

*Flora & Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*

## Western (Basalt) Plains Grasslands and Grassy Woodlands Communities

Nomination number: 140 and 706

Action statements are developed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* (FFG Act). Their preparation and implementation complement the FFG Act strategy *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037* and its vision that “Victoria's biodiversity is healthy, valued and actively cared for”.

This action statement is prepared to support the conservation and recovery of two threatened communities that co-occur in some locations and are often adjacent. They are subject to common or similar threats and both threatened communities will benefit from coordinated planning and implementation of common actions.

### Threatened Communities and Distribution



Herbfield in remnant grassland beside the Glenelg Highway at Wickliffe.



Featherhead (*Ptilotus macrocephalus*) is a perennial plant of remnant native grassland.



The distribution map displays the indicative range of the threatened communities based on locations that share attributes of the listed communities' descriptions in Victoria.



Remnant grassy woodland with numerous native yams – Murnong *Microseris* sp in flower.

### Conservation Status

#### Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community: Threatened in Victoria

Listed under the FFG Act, in 1991, as the following criteria were met:

**Criteria 2.1** The community is in a demonstrable state of decline which is likely to result in extinction.

**Criterion 2.2** The community is significantly prone to future threats which are likely to result in extinction.

**Sub-Criterion 2.2.1** The community is very rare in terms of the total area it covers, or it has a very restricted distribution, or it has been recorded from only a few localities.

### Western Basalt Plains (River Red Gum) Grassy Woodland Floristic Community 55-04: Threatened in Victoria

Listed under the FFG Act in 2005 as the following criteria were met:

**Criteria 2.1** The community is in a demonstrable state of decline which is likely to result in extinction.

**Criterion 2.2** The community is significantly prone to future threats which are likely to result in extinction.

**Sub-criterion 2.2.2** The threat is currently operating and is expected to operate at a level in the future which is likely to result in the extinction of the community.

### Related national listings

Two *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) listed ecological communities that encompass the Victorian threatened communities are both listed as Critically Endangered and can be found here:

- [Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain](#)
- [Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain](#)

### Descriptions

**Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community** is characteristically a tussock grassland, often dominated by Kangaroo Grass (*Themeda triandra*) and other sub-dominant native grasses, with scattered shrubs, sub-shrubs and a diversity of forbs and an associated fauna including reptiles, bird, and small mammal species.

Most plants perennial and less than one metre in height. Trees and shrubs are largely confined to watercourses and drainage lines, rocky areas, and the margins of permanent and ephemeral wetlands.

**Western Basalt Plains (River Red Gum) Grassy Woodland Floristic Community 55-04** is floristically characterised by an overstorey of River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*), with Lightwood (*Acacia implexa*) and Golden Wattle (*A. pycnantha*). The ground layer is dominated by grasses, particularly Kangaroo Grass, or Common Tussock Grass (*Poa labillardierei*) with occasional other native grasses and a diversity of forbs.

A more detailed description (including some of the component flora species which make up the threatened community), distribution and references are provided in the threatened communities listing recommendations:

- [Western \(Basalt\) Plains Grasslands Community](#)
- [Western Basalt Plains \(River Red Gum\) Grassy Woodland](#)

### Associated and component threatened species

The following FFG Act listed threatened species are associated with, or are components of, Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community and/or Western Basalt Plains (River Red Gum) Grassy Woodland Floristic Community 55-04:

**Plants:** Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (*Amphibromus pithogastrus*), Small Milkwort (*Comesperma polygaloides*), Tough Scurf-pea (*Cullen tenax*), Small Golden Moths Orchid (*Diuris basaltica*), Matted Flax-lily (*Dianella amoena*), Sunshine Diuris (*Diuris fragrantissima*), Clover Glycine (*Glycine latrobeana*), Spiny Peppergrass (*Lepidium aschersonii*), White Sunray (*Leucochrysum albicans* subsp. *tricolor*), Spiny Rice-flower (*Pimelia spinescens* subsp. *spinescens*), Basalt Rustyhood (*Pterostylis basaltica*), Button Wrinklewort (*Rutidosia leptorhynchoides*), Large-headed Groundsel (*Senecio macrocarpus*).

**Birds:** Black Falcon (*Falco subniger*), Brolga (*Antigone rubicunda*), Bustard (*Ardeotis australis*), Little Eagle (*Hieraaetus morphnoides*), Grey-crowned Babbler (*Pomatostomus temporalis*), Plains-wanderer (*Pedionomus torquatus*), Swift Parrot (*Lathamus discolor*).

**Invertebrates:** Golden Sun Moth (*Synemon plana*).

**Mammals:** Eastern Quoll (*Dasyurus viverrinus*), Eastern Barred Bandicoot (*Perameles gunnii*), Fat-tailed Dunnart (*Sminthopsis crassicaudata*).

**Reptiles:** Striped Legless Lizard (*Delma impar*), Victorian Grassland Earless Dragon (*Tympanocryptis pinguicolla*), Tussock Skink (*Pseudemoia pagenstecheri*).

Action statements for associated listed threatened species can be found here: [Action statements \(environment.vic.gov.au\)](#)

## Threats

Threats listed below have been identified through expert consultation and published literature are listed in approximate order of severity of risk to the threatened communities.

Threat	Description
<b>Introduced species</b>	
Introduced herbivores	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduced herbivores including sheep (<i>Ovis aries</i>), cattle (<i>Bos taurus</i>), rabbits (<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>), hares (<i>Lepus europaeus</i>), goats (<i>Capra hircus</i>), pigs (<i>Sus scrofa</i>) and deer can degrade the threatened communities through herbivory, trampling, pugging wet soils, increasing nutrient loads, reducing native plant recruitment, and enabling introduced predator and plant species access.</li> </ul>
Introduced plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduced plants change the structure and composition of the threatened communities, impacting the assemblage of species and ecosystem function. Introduced pasture grasses are of high concern, e.g., Phalaris (<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>), Cocksfoot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>) and Paspalum (<i>Paspalum dilatatum</i>). High threat weeds include Serrated Tussock (<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>), Chilean Needle Grass (<i>Nassella neesiana</i>) and African lovegrass (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>).</li> </ul>
<b>Loss, degradation or modification of the threatened communities</b>	
Historic native vegetation clearing or damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The threatened communities have been subject to extensive historic losses and fragmentation because of land use change, construction, development and/or infrastructure leading to alteration of vegetation extent and condition.</li> </ul>
Increased biomass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excess growth of either native or introduced plant species (woody and non-woody) can change the structure and composition of threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Land use change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land use changes, such as new urban development and changes in agricultural or horticultural practices, alter vegetation extent and condition, contributing to further loss and degradation of threatened communities.</li> <li>Native grasslands are subject to ongoing small and large losses as a result of land management activities such agricultural intensification, cropping, grazing, pasture 'de-rocking' and fertiliser use.</li> </ul>
Livestock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Livestock can cause ecosystem degradation through the combined effects of herbivory, trampling, soil compaction, soil erosion, reduced native plant biomass and recruitment and excess nutrient loads. Livestock can also spread weed seeds, leading to weed incursion.</li> </ul>
Reduced connectivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of connectivity between remnant patches of the threatened communities reduces dispersal of organisms and genetic exchange between native species.</li> </ul>
Species richness declines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local extinctions of component plant and associated animal species (e.g., orchids, yam daisy and small mammals) has resulted in a cascade of effects and triggered further declines in composition, structure, and ecological function.</li> </ul>

Threat	Description
<b>Human disturbance</b>	
Construction, development and/or infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction, development and maintenance of urban areas, utilities and infrastructure may result in direct removal of the threatened communities or component species or indirect impacts such as through increased risk of weed and pathogen incursion, run-off and soil erosion leading to loss of ecosystem structure and function.</li> </ul>
Emergency response activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some emergency response activities (e.g., vegetation clearance and/or earthworks, application of fire retardant) can inadvertently lead to alterations in vegetation structure and composition, and ecological function.</li> </ul>
Illegal take or clearing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illegal removal of components or areas of the threatened communities contributes to loss of extent and ecosystem degradation.</li> </ul>
Road and track construction or maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roadside areas of the threatened communities are vulnerable to loss or damage as a result of direct impacts from road construction and maintenance works (e.g., grading, mowing and slashing) and indirect impacts from associated run-off, soil erosion, and potential weed and pathogen introduction. Lack of maintenance, e.g., of road drains, and inappropriate activities (e.g., tree planting into grasslands, storing equipment) may also impact ecosystem structure and function.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire</b>	
Altered fire regimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrequent and/or too frequent fire may lead to component species population decline and alter vegetation structure and condition, including increased density of woody native shrubs and/or trees.</li> </ul>
Fire management activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fire management operations such as creation of fuel breaks (soil disturbance and slashing) may impact areas of the threatened communities, cause mortality of individuals, and reduce regeneration.</li> </ul>
<b>Climate change</b>	
Altered flowering or germination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change may affect the timing and success of flowering and germination events of component flora, thus impacting species composition within the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Altered rainfall and temperature regimes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change, increasing temperature and altered rainfall are likely to magnify existing threats and may reduce the extent or distribution of the threatened communities and alter vegetation composition, structure, and function.</li> </ul>
Temperature extremes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change may increase the frequency and duration of heat-wave events, leading to increased risk of mortality of component species of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Pollutants and toxicants</b>	
Nutrient enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nutrient enrichment alters soil chemistry, disadvantaging indigenous species and facilitating invasion by introduced plants. This alters ecosystem structure, composition, and function, leading to reduced extent and/or condition of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>

Threat	Description
Pesticide use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pesticides (including chemicals used to control plants, fungi, and invertebrates) can impact recruitment and/or mortality rates, may alter habitat or ecosystem function, and may impact persistence of component species.</li> </ul>
Pollutants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pollutants pose a threat to native species and ecosystems, either through direct impacts on health, recruitment and/or mortality, or indirectly by affecting food availability and/or habitat condition.</li> </ul>
<b>Knowledge</b>	
Lack of awareness or knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land managers, decision makers and/or community members unaware of the significance, management needs, or efforts underway to conserve the threatened communities may undertake or allow actions that inadvertently cause harm.</li> </ul>

## Conservation Objectives

Conservation objectives are informed by the criteria for listing the threatened community on the FFG Threatened List. This provides a framework to understand how we can work towards conservation and recovery of the threatened community and subsequent removal from the Threatened list.

The key objectives of this action statement are:

- Protect and manage high value and/or significant areas and sites of the threatened communities.
- Minimise further decline and increase the extent and improve the condition of the threatened communities to improve connectivity and increase resilience.
- Improve knowledge and understanding of the distribution, condition, threats including genetic risks, management, and conservation requirements of the threatened communities.
- Support community participation and improve awareness for the protection and restoration of the threatened communities, component species and associated threatened species.

## Conservation Actions

The actions below have been identified through expert consultation and published literature. Actions are grouped and then listed alphabetically within each group. This is to enable all interested parties to understand related or interconnected activities and prioritise based on their own context, capacity, and capability. Landscape scale actions may mitigate threats for adjacent threatened communities and other species. For more information on where to undertake actions that benefit the threatened communities and multiple species, please refer to [NatureKit](#).

Action	Description
<b>Assessment and research</b>	
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase understanding of genetic risks, resulting from reduced genetic exchange due to lack of connectivity, and investigate management options.</li> <li>Investigate impacts of fire regimes for each threatened community and implications under climate change scenarios.</li> <li>Investigate the impacts of threats and effectiveness of interventions, including grazing regimes, and improve management guidelines as needed.</li> </ul>

Action	Description
Survey and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor the threatened communities at known sites and other suitable locations to assess species composition, condition, threats and management requirements, and changes in these measures over time.</li> <li>• Undertake field assessments to support preparation of, or review and update, maps of the extent and condition of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Collaboration, partnerships and engagement</b>	
Community engagement and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to identify, promote, and support opportunities for community involvement in conservation efforts to assist recovery of these threatened communities.</li> <li>• Investigate ways to inspire and engage with community, business, and industry to increase the effort and resourcing to protect and manage priority areas of the threatened communities.</li> <li>• Increase landholder awareness of the threatened communities and the impacts of livestock grazing and other activities. Provide guidance on the changes to management that may be required, such as livestock exclusion, to support the recovery of the threatened communities.</li> <li>• Install signs to inform the community of the presence and importance of the threatened communities.</li> <li>• Promote citizen science for information gathering to inform improved management for the threatened communities.</li> <li>• Work with land managers and planning authorities to confirm the presence, condition, and distribution of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
<b>Conservation planning and protection</b>	
Conservation management planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine areas and sites of highest value or significance and prioritise protection, management, restoration and/or revegetation.</li> <li>• Review conservation management plans, and update as needed, to support recovery of the threatened communities including for priority areas or sites.</li> <li>• Investigate local government provisions and planning tools to support conservation and management of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Permanent protection *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate incentives, voluntary agreements, covenants, and other permanent protection measures to enable protection and restoration of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Protect remnant areas *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the threatened communities' distribution data and ecological information are available and considered in planning for developments, land use changes, infrastructure, and utilities planning and maintenance. Ensure that the cumulative impact of previous loss and degradation is factored into consideration of potential losses.</li> <li>• Support the development of coordinated programs to encourage protection and management of priority sites of the threatened community, including to address threats of land use change, development, pollutants, and nutrients.</li> </ul>

**Threat management**

Action	Description
Avoid and/or mitigate impacts associated with emergency response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that mapping and ecological information are available and considered in emergency management activities. This includes approved work instructions, guidelines, and standards to help avoid and minimise impacts of activities on areas of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Avoid and/or mitigate impacts associated with fire management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the threatened communities' distribution data and ecological information are available and considered in fire management activities.</li> <li>Undertake biodiversity values check prior to fuel management in areas where the threatened communities occur, to confirm treatment suitability and timing.</li> </ul>
Biomass management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Manage biomass, such as dense regrowth of trees or shrubs and/or dense grass cover, in priority sites as required to enhance threatened communities' structure and composition using ecologically and culturally appropriate means.</li> </ul>
Collect and store reproductive material	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake appropriate propagule collection and management for long-term storage and establish seed production areas of key component plant species. Ensure that adequate supply and genetic diversity is secured for future reintroduction, and that essential information (such as how to break dormancy) is known.</li> </ul>
Compliance and enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake risk-based compliance and enforcement activities to limit impacts of identified threats to the threatened communities, including unauthorised removal of areas, component species and/or habitat elements (including rocks), of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>
Control introduced herbivores *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement and maintain effective management and control of introduced herbivores in priority areas.</li> </ul>
Control introduced plants*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement and maintain effective management and control of introduced plants in priority areas and undertake revegetation with appropriate native species.</li> </ul>
Ecological fire regime *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement fire management actions that promote an appropriate fire regime for the threatened communities, including supporting fire informed by cultural knowledge.</li> </ul>
Genetic rescue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate options for improving resilience of key grassland flora species through enhancing genetic exchange via physically linking populations with enhanced habitat, translocation, or genetic management in an ex-situ setting.</li> </ul>
Manage impacts from natural disaster events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and implement recovery actions for areas of the threatened communities impacted by natural disaster events and/or emergency response (e.g., significant bushfire, storm, or flood events).</li> </ul>
Manage road and track works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect the threatened communities from disturbances caused by road, track and path construction and maintenance.</li> </ul>
Provide natural and artificial habitat features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support associated native fauna species population persistence through the provision of natural and artificial habitat features in areas where key habitat features are lacking.</li> </ul>
Restoration and/or revegetation *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restore and/or revegetate priority areas and buffers to improve ecosystem condition, connectivity, and function of the threatened communities.</li> </ul>

Action	Description
Translocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design and implement a translocation program for component flora species of the threatened communities to meet the objectives of the action statement, as needed.</li> </ul>

*\*Indicates landscape-scale actions that may deliver benefits to multiple species*

## Past Actions

The key conservation management actions listed below have been delivered in the past 10 years.

Past action	Description
Community engagement and awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Significant Vegetation" signs have been installed at 20 sites.</li> <li>A Grassy Plains Network and key friends' group has been established to focus on grassland conservation.</li> </ul>
Conservation management and planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threatened Communities were assessed under the Melbourne Strategic Assessment.</li> <li>Conservation Action Plan for Western Plains and Wetlands has been developed.</li> </ul>
Control introduced plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weed control, focusing on Phalaris and including Chilean Needlegrass and Serrated Tussock, has occurred on public linear reserves since 2014.</li> </ul>
Deliver landscape-scale programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programs have been implemented in regions and catchment areas to promote awareness of these and other threatened communities and provide information and incentives to improve protection, management and restoration. See <a href="#">Biodiversity On-Ground Action</a> programs which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity Response Planning (BRP) projects from 2017-2021. Phase 1: 'Building blocks for biodiversity in the Bannockburn region', 'Addressing key threats to native grassland linear reserves on the Victorian Volcanic Plains', and 'Connected landscapes - connecting landholders to biodiversity on the Victorian Volcanic Plain'.</li> <li>Community and Volunteer Action Grant projects (2018) including: 'Protecting Victorian Volcanic Plains Grasslands and Grassy Woodland Habitats along Mount Emu Creek'.</li> <li>Protecting Biodiversity projects including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Landscapes and Targeted action projects (2017-18): 'Improving the quality and connectedness of native grassland communities on the Victorian Volcanic Plain' and 'Enhancing significant ecological communities and threatened flora and fauna of the Western District'.</li> <li>Regional Biodiversity Hub projects (2016-17): 'Improving the quality and connectedness of grassland communities on the Victorian Volcanic Plain' and 'Protecting and Connecting species and communities in Melbourne's West'.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>See <a href="#">Nature Fund</a> projects (2023): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Saving threatened plant species on the Victorian Volcanic plains' includes restoration of 350ha of natural temperate Grasslands, seed production area establishment and a re-introduction program of threatened and culturally significant species.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



Past action	Description
Ecological fire regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ecological fuel reduction burning on Plains Grasslands roadsides has been undertaken over the past decade.</li> <li>Cultural Burning on Plains Grassland and Grassy Woodland sites has been undertaken by Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation in 2017, 2021, 2022 and 2023.</li> </ul>
Establish/maintain Recovery Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recovery team for a number of species that occur within these threatened communities have been established, including Spiny Rice-flower and Sunshine Diuris.</li> </ul>
Fire management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts associated with fire management activities on public land have been managed through a value checking and risk mitigation process for planned burn and roading activities.</li> </ul>
Permanent protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A number of sites have been permanently protected under a conservation covenant with Trust for Nature such as through the BRP project 'Iconic estates - Volcanic Plains / Otways' (2019-21).</li> </ul>
Protect remnant areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning scheme amendments have been put in place to protect remnant patches across the state.</li> <li>Transfer of numerous small to medium patches of the threatened communities to local councils as conservation reserves (including Wyndham, Melton, Brimbank, Hume, Merri-bek and Whittlesea).</li> </ul>
Survey and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A map of the likely extent and distribution of the threatened communities has been prepared.</li> </ul>

## Decision Support Tools

Decision making for conservation actions is supported through the following Victorian Government tools which may be of assistance in choosing the most appropriate or beneficial actions for biodiversity:

- [Choosing actions for nature: NatureKit](#)
- [Biodiversity Knowledge Framework](#)

## Further Information

- [FFG Act listing recommendation Western \(Basalt\) Plains Grasslands Community](#)
- [FFG Act listing recommendation Western Basalt Plains \(River Red Gum\) Grassy Woodland](#)
- [EPBC Act Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain](#)
- [EPBC Act Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain](#)
- [Victoria's changing climate – understanding the impacts of climate change in Victoria](#)
- [Commonwealth Threat Abatement Plans](#)
- [Flora and Fauna Guarantee Regulations 2020](#)
- [FFG Act action statements](#)

## Get Involved and Take Action

If you are interested in supporting the recovery of these threatened communities, and associated threatened species, there are some important things you need to consider.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) is committed to engaging and partnering with Traditional Owners on how they wish to be involved in the planning and implementation of actions for this species. Steps must be taken to avoid harm and where appropriate ensure actions can deliver cultural benefits.

You can find advice about required approvals, land manager and/or owner permissions, options and incentives for private land conservation, and engagement with Traditional Owners and public land managers here: [Action statements \(environment.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.environment.vic.gov.au) To identify the relevant Traditional Owners, use the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Register and Information System (ACHRIS) Welcome to Country and Acknowledgements Map.

You can also register your interest in taking action so we can connect you to other people or organisations working to help us secure the future for Victoria's threatened species and communities at [threatened.species@deeca.vic.gov.au](mailto:threatened.species@deeca.vic.gov.au)

## Reporting Actions

Activity data is critical to monitoring the implementation and progress of actions and evaluating action statements. These data are also used to:

- Determine progress towards achieving the contributing targets for [Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037](#).
- Inform the five-yearly State of the Environment Report.

For guidance on reporting actions undertaken on this species, refer to [Activity Data](#).

## Submitting Monitoring Data

For species that occur in these threatened communities the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) provides a foundational dataset showing where biodiversity occurs across the Victorian landscape and how it may have changed over time. This is a core input for decision support tools that inform conservation action, public land management, research activities and reporting. We encourage all participants in the delivery of on-ground actions to submit species records and observations, including for introduced species, to the VBA as they carry out projects.

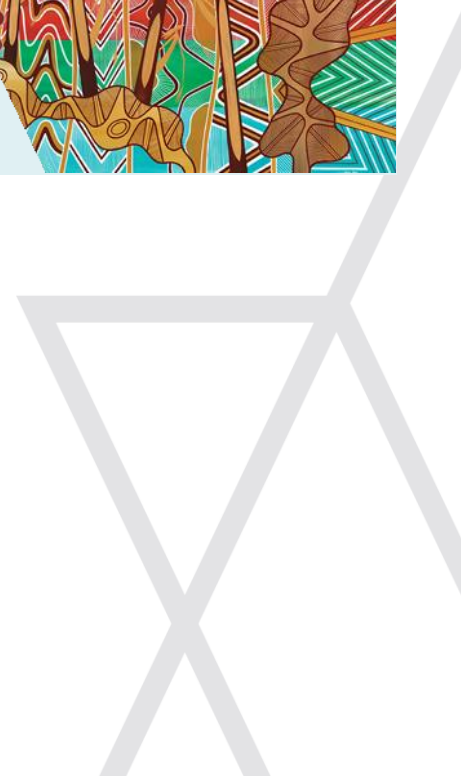
For further information see: Victorian Biodiversity Atlas ([environment.vic.gov.au](https://www.environment.vic.gov.au))

Sign up and begin submitting your data today at: <https://vba.biodiversity.vic.gov.au/>

### Acknowledgment

We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

We are committed to genuinely partner, and meaningfully engage, with Victoria's Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities to support the protection of Country, the maintenance of spiritual and cultural practices and their broader aspirations in the 21st century and beyond.



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