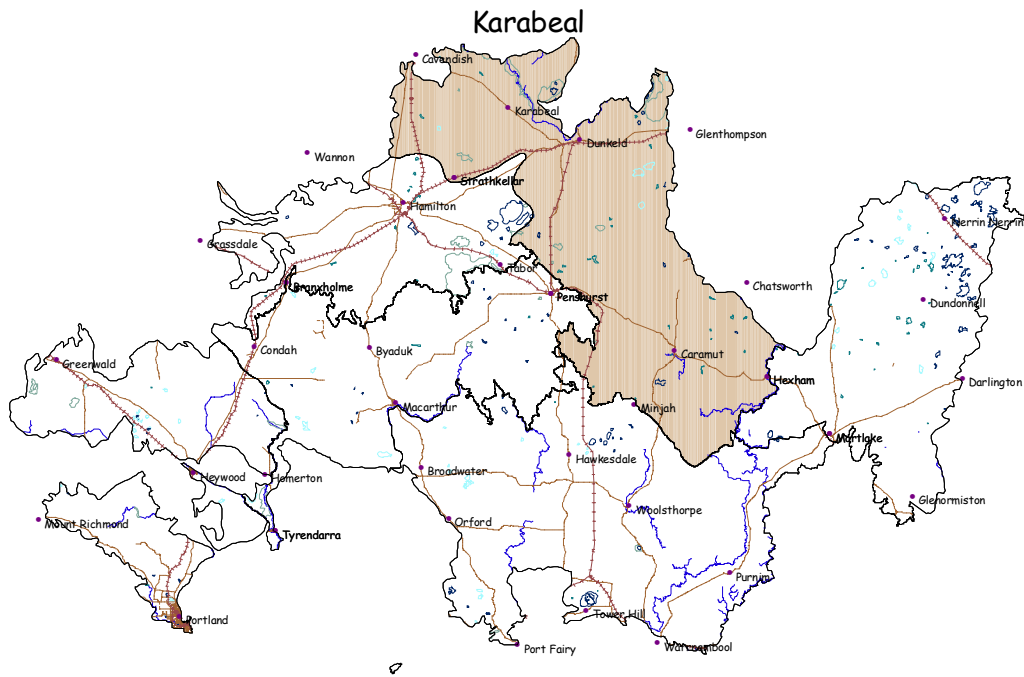


8. Karabeal Landscape Zone



8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.1 Karabeal Landscape Zone description

The Karabeal Landscape Zone consists of undulating plains lying between the Wannon River and the Hopkins River, with Dunkeld in the north and Hexham in the south-east. The zone adjoins the Wannon Zone to the south and west, Mount Eccles and Tower Hill Zones to the south, Dundonnell Zone and the Dundas Tablelands bioregion to the east, the Greater Grampians bioregion to the north and the Dundas Tablelands to the northwest (Map 2). Boundaries have been determined with reference to Land Systems, pre-1750 EVCs and hydrology (Hopkins River and Spring Creek). The zone falls entirely within Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority area (Map 11) and includes parts of Ararat, Moyne and Southern Grampians Shires (Map 12).

The landscape is of undulating volcanic plains with yellow clay and duplex soils. The eastern part of the Karabeal Plains adjoins areas of granite and Ordovician Sediments. Average annual rainfall is approximately 650mm per annum decreasing slightly to the north and east. The vast majority of the native vegetation has been cleared. Major agricultural activities are sheep and cattle grazing on improved pastures.

Pre-1750 vegetation cover would have comprised Plains Grassy Woodland of River Red Gum, Drooping Sheoak, Lightwood and Banksia (Map 30). To the north east of Peshurst and south of Caramut, Plains Grassy Woodland would have occurred in a mosaic with areas of Plains Grassland dominated by Kangaroo Grass. Plains Grassland also occurred between Cavendish and Dunkeld and in the Caramut/Chatsworth/Hexham area. Areas of Aquatic Herbland and Plains Sedgy Wetland occurred in the northern part of the zone especially within the Victoria Valley and areas of Plains Grassy Wetland were widespread. Rivers and streams supported Creekline Tussock Grassland and Creekline Grassy Woodland. Small areas of Plains Grassy Woodland/Stony Knoll Shrubland occurred along the southern boundaries of the zone. The extent of native vegetation remaining is unclear and it is likely that some areas of remnant native grassland have been derived from the original grassy woodland communities (Map 31). A few highly significant areas remain on public land and there are some relatively large areas of native grassland on private land (Map 31). Areas on the eastern edge of the zone (some not within the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregion) retain significant areas of native vegetation.

The vast majority of land is freehold with very few conservation reserves or public land (Map 13). A small part of the Grampians National Park, the Back Creek and Bullawin Flora Reserves, Bryan Swamp Wildlife Reserve and roadsides support the most significant remnants of native vegetation on public land. River condition is mostly moderate to poor (Map 17).

There are a mixture of high quality small, public land sites and some relatively large areas of native vegetation on private land. The zone includes important populations of Gorae Leek-Orchid, Adamson's Blown-grass, Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass, Small Milkwort and Clover Glycine (Map 34). Further information is required on flora and fauna values (especially in the Karabeal area), however it appears that there are considerable opportunities for protection of grassland and grassy woodland communities and threatened fauna such as the *Striped Legless Lizard* on private land (Map 35).

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.1 Karabeal Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

The major issues for biodiversity conservation are loss of floristic and habitat diversity and clearing of native vegetation, changes to the management of native vegetation, invasion of pest plants and animals, decline and death of old trees and degradation of drainage lines and riparian vegetation (Map 36). Protection and restoration of freehold and roadside grassland and grassy woodland remnants are critical. Protection of complementary values is the key conservation objective and for biodiversity gains to be made, there will need to be considerable voluntary co-operation and participation of private landholders and local government, upon whose management actions much of the remaining native biota will depend.

References: LCC (1976), LCC (1979), Beaglehole (1984), Ross (1999), McDougall & Kirkpatrick (1994), McDougall et al (1992, 1993), Barlow (1996), Commonwealth and Victorian RFA Steering Committee (2000a; 2002b).

Table 18. Total area of pre-1750 and extant EVCs in the Karabeal Landscape Zone

EVC group	EVC #	EVC Bioregional Conservation Status	EVC Name	Pre-1750 Area (ha)	Current Area (ha)
13	897	E	Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic	70524	127
14	55	E	Plains Grassy Woodland	55369	86
13	132	E	Plains Grassland	28434	63
14	68	E	Creepline Grassy Woodland	7016	12
19	125	X	Plains Grassy Wetland	4292	1
14	691	E	Aquatic Herbland/Plains Sedgy Wetland Mosaic	1972	2
15	690	E	Floodplain Riparian Woodland/Billabong Wetland Mosaic	1851	1
14	647	E	Plains Sedgy Wetland	1617	11
9	641	E	Riparian Woodland	1220	14
13	654	E	Creepline Tussock Grassland	813	1
14	124	E	Grey Clay Drainage Line Complex	805	1
14	642	X	Basalt Shrubby Woodland	609	0
15	56	E	Floodplain Riparian Woodland	555	11
3	134	E	Sand Forest	503	38
15	794	E	Floodplain Riparian Woodland / Plains Grassy Woodland	499	8
14	716	E	Plains Grassy Woodland / Stony Knoll Shrubland	476	1
6	195	E	Seasonally Inundated Shrubby Woodland	448	7
16	3	V	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland	300	14
14	651	E	Plains Swampy Woodland	287	0
9	83	E	Swampy Riparian Woodland	229	5
19	656	X	Brackish Wetland	208	0
14	175	E	Grassy Woodland	202	3
9	53	E	Swamp Scrub	93	<1
13	715	E	Plains Grassland / Stony Knoll Shrubland	92	0
14	752	E	Grassy Woodland / Hills Herb-rich Woodland / Damp Sands Herb-rich Wood	70	<1

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.1 Karabeal Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 18. Total area of pre-1750 and extant EVCs in the Karabeal Landscape Zone (cont'd)

EVC group	EVC #	EVC Bioregional Conservation Status	EVC Name	Pre-1750 Area (ha)	Current Area (ha)
19	653	E	Aquatic Herbland	49	0
14	660	E	Plains Woodland/Plains Grassy Wetland	45	5
16	885	E	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland / Plains Grassy Woodland	35	0
19	200	E	Shallow Freshwater Marsh	35	1
19	300	E	Reed Swamp	32	18
3	48	V	Heathy Woodland	23	15
13	719	E	Grassy Woodland / Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland	22	0
14	714	E	Stony Knoll Shrubland / Plains Grassy Woodland / Plains Grassy Wetland	21	0
14	705	E	Basalt Creekline Shrubby Woodland	17	0
7	73	E	Rocky Outcrop Shrubland/Herbland Mosaic	15	0
16	881	V	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland / Heathy Woodland	11	4
15	796	E	Valley Grassy Forest / Lateritic Woodland	8	1
9	191	E	Riparian Scrub	6	6
3	646	V	Heathy Woodland / Plains Grassy Woodland	5	5
16	71	V	Hills Herb-rich Woodland	3	0
19	292	E	Red Gum Wetland	3	3
14	649	E	Stony Knoll Shrubland	1	0
16	672	V	Damp Sands Herb-rich Woodland / Shrubby Woodland	1	1
16	67	E	Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland	<1	0
TOTAL				178850	466
20	58	NA	Cleared Severely Disturbed	0	1
0	999	NA	Unknown/Unclassified	1	0
0	998	NA	Water Body - Natural or man made	34	0
0	997	NA	Private Land No Tree Cover	0	178385

Table 19. Total area and number of current EVCs in each conservation status in the Karabeal Zone

EVC Conservation Status	Hectares	Number of EVCs
Endangered	425	25
Vulnerable	38	5
Depleted	0	0
Rare	0	0
Least Concern	0	0
Presumed Extinct	1	1

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.1 Karabeal Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 20. List of current threatened flora the Karabeal Landscape Zone
(EA 2003^{*}; NRE 2002c^{*}; SAC 2002[#]).

Scientific name	Common name	Australian Status [*]	Victorian Status [*]	FFG Act [#]	Recovery Plan [*]	Action Statement [*]	BNA Unassessed	Species No.
<i>Lachnagrostis adamsonii</i>	Adamson's Blown-grass	End	v	L				148
<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	Clover Glycine	Vul	v	L				1456
<i>Asterolasia phebaloides</i>	Downy Star-Bush	Vul	v	L			Un	300
<i>Prasophyllum diversiflorum</i>	Gorae Leek-orchid	End	e	L	Y	148		2706
<i>Leucochrysum albicans</i> ssp. <i>albicans</i> var. <i>tricolor</i>	Hoary Sunray	End	e				Un	4581
<i>Helichrysum</i> aff. <i>rutidolepis</i> (Lowland Swamps)	Pale Swamp Everlasting		v				Un	4655
<i>Diuris punctata</i> var. <i>punctata</i>	Purple Diuris		v	L			Un	1084
<i>Euphrasia collina</i> ssp. <i>muelleri</i>	Purple Eyebright	End	e	L			Un	4468
<i>Comesperma polygaloides</i>	Small Milkwort		v	L		96		798
<i>Craspedia paludicola</i>	Swamp Billy-buttons		v				Un	4649
<i>Senecio psilocarpus</i>	Swamp Fireweed	Vul	v				Un	4659
<i>Arachnorchis oenochila</i>	Wine-lipped Spider-orchid		v				Un	3694

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.1 Karabeal Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 21. List of current threatened fauna in the Karabeal Landscape Zone
(DSE 2003[^]; EA 2003[^]; NRE 2002d^{*}; SAC 2002[#]).

Latin Name	Common Name	Australian Status [*]	Victorian Status ^{^*}	FFG Act [#]	Recovery Plan [*]	Action Statement No. [*]	BNA Unassessed	Species No.
<i>Anas rhynchos</i>	Australasian Shoveler		VU				Un	212
<i>Porzana pusilla palustris</i>	Baillon's Crake		VU					50
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon		VU					238
<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	Brolga		VU	L				177
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew		EN	L		78	Un	174
<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>	Cape Barren Goose		NT					198
<i>Hylacola pyrrhopygia</i>	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren		VU				Un	498
<i>Miniopterus schreibersii oceanensis</i>	Common Bent-wing Bat (eastern)	CD	VU	L			Un	1341
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail		VU				Un	652
<i>Galaxiella pusilla</i>	Dwarf Galaxias	Vul	VU	L				4041
<i>Perameles gunnii un-named subsp.</i>	Eastern Barred Bandicoot	End	CR	L	Y	4		1098
<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	Freckled Duck		EN	L		105		214
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis		NT					178
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret		VU	L				187
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Grey Goshawk		VU					220
<i>Coracina maxima</i>	Ground Cuckoo-shrike		VU	L			Un	423
<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Growling Grass Frog	Vul	EN				Un	3207
<i>Aythya australis</i>	Hardhead		VU				Un	215
<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin		NT				Un	385
<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	Intermediate Egret		CR	L				186
<i>Rallus pectoralis pectoralis</i>	Lewin's Rail		VU					45
<i>Turnix velox</i>	Little Button-quail		NT				Un	18
<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	Magpie Goose		VU					199
<i>Galaxias olidus</i>	Mountain Galaxias		DD	L			Un	4036
<i>Biziura lobata</i>	Musk Duck		VU				Un	217
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus hillii</i>	Nankeen Night Heron		NT					192
<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Pied Cormorant		NT					99
<i>Gadopsis marmoratus</i>	River Blackfish		CR					4127
<i>Platalea regia</i>	Royal Spoonbill		VU					181
<i>Isoodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot	End	NT				Un	1092
<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	Speckled Warbler		VU				Un	504
<i>Delma impar</i>	Striped Legless Lizard	Vul	EN	L	Y	17		2159
<i>Chlidonias hybridus javanicus</i>	Whiskered Tern		NT				Un	110

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.2 Karabeal Landscape Zone priorities

8.2.1 Summary of priority biodiversity actions for Karabeal Landscape Zone:

The majority of native vegetation in this region has been cleared although very high quality small areas of threatened EVCs occur on public land. Some significant areas occur on private land although the extent and quality of these areas is unclear. The focus of biodiversity management should be to:

- develop conservation agreements to protect areas supporting threatened EVCs and threatened species on private and public land;
- identify areas on private land that support habitat for threatened flora and fauna;
- protect and restore lakes and swamps on public and private land for wetland bird conservation;
- implement Recovery Plans and Action Statements for threatened species and communities on public and private land; and
- protect, enhance and restore riverine corridors especially the Wannon River.

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.3 Private Land

Land tenure details:

The tenure includes all freehold land. Associated creeklines and unreserved public wetlands surrounded by freehold land are also included in this tenure for convenience. The zone includes a number of significant freehold remnants some of which support threatened flora species. Further surveys are required to ascertain the full extent and quality of native grassland remnants on private land, especially on the Karabeal Plain and in the Victoria Valley. Wetlands and creeklines are generally degraded with little native vegetation remaining; the Victoria Valley may contain notable exceptions to this.

Land Manager:

Private landholders

Stakeholders:

Key CMA, DSE, DPI, LGA

Others LFW, GAV, ATCV, FNC, VFF, LC, TFN, TSN, FTG, GNP.

Threatened Biodiversity Assets (in brackets: Cons status Vic - lower case, Aust - upper case; followed by BNA priority / risk rankings for threatened taxa = 1A, 2B, etc., or un - unassessed):

EVCs: Plains Grassy Woodland (e); Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Plains Grassy Wetland (e); Aquatic Herbland/Plains Sedgy Wetland (e); Floodplain Riparian Woodland (e); Seasonally Inundated Shrubby Woodland (e).

Threatened flora: Adamson's Blown-grass (v,1B); Clover Glycine (Vv,1B); Gilgai Blown-grass (v,1C); Gorae Leek-orchid (Ee,1A); Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (Ke,1A); Purple Diuris (v,NR).



Purple Diuris - DSE

Threatened fauna: Golden Sun Moth (e,3A); Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,1A).

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Develop management agreements to protect populations of Striped Legless Lizard, Gorae Leek-orchid, Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass and Adamson's Blown-grass.
- Monitor populations of Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass, Gorae Leek-orchid, Adamson's Blown-grass.
- Identify remnants of high conservation and strategic significance, focusing on those that support native grassland and wetland EVCs. Determine priorities for protection of remnants and apply covenants, voluntary programs, incentives and/or planning controls, as appropriate, to protect these blocks.



Striped Legless Lizard - MrCann

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.3 Private Land (cont'd)

- Adhere strictly to native vegetation retention controls, particularly where habitat exists for threatened fauna and flora.

Management to enhance remnants for threatened taxa (BNA response level in brackets: 4 = full commitment, 3 = substantive participation, 2 = opportunistic action, 1 = watching brief):

- Manage and where necessary exclude stock grazing to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Adamson's Blown-grass (3), Clover Glycine (3), Gorae Leek-orchid (4), Gilgai Blown-grass (2), Striped Legless Lizard (4) and Golden Sun Moth (3).
- Control weeds to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland and other grassy ecosystems, Gilgai Blown-grass (2), Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (4), Striped Legless Lizard (4) and Golden Sun Moth (3).
- Trial ecological burns to benefit Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (4).
- Control rabbits to benefit Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (4).



Gorae Leek-orchid - DSE

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Re-introduce Adamson's Blown-grass into suitable secure habitat.
- Supplement habitat to benefit Golden Sun Moth.
- Promote awareness of native grassland, grassy woodland and Striped Legless Lizard conservation and habitat requirements amongst landholders.
- Aim to increase patch size and connectivity on sites where landholders are agreeable. Provide assistance with fencing and other management strategies on restoration areas.
- Use LFW program, Landcare, and other programs as appropriate, to encourage and assist landholders to restore and expand native vegetation cover and wetlands, using fencing, grazing exclusion, weed control, erosion control, reseeding, replanting and regeneration.

EXISTING POLICIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS supporting one or more of the recommended actions:

- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Gorae Leek-orchid (148).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- FFG Action Statement – Adamson's Blown-grass (101).
- FFG Action Statement – Plump Swamp Wallaby-grass (109).
- Recovery Plan – Gorae Leek-orchid (Ingeme and Govenstone 1999).
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith and Robertson 1999).

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.4 Other Public Land

Land tenure details:

Generally all public land where conservation is not the primary management objective. Wannon River Streamside Reserve & Public Land and Water Frontage and Freshwater Lake Lake Reserve (N20, 69ha) constitute the major areas under this tenure. A small number of parcels of uncommitted public land also occur.

Land Manager:

DSE, DPI

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, Private, CMA, LGA

Others TSN, BG, GNP, FNC, LC, VFGA.

Threatened Biodiversity Assets (in brackets: Cons status Vic - lower case, Aust - upper case; followed by BNA priority / risk rankings for threatened taxa = 1A, 2B, etc., or un - unassessed):

EVCs: Brackish Lake (e); Floodplain Riparian Woodland (e); Seasonally inundated Shrubby Woodland (e); Damp Sands-Herb-rich Woodland (v).

Threatened flora: None recorded.

Threatened fauna: Australian Bittern (e,4A); Mountain Galaxias (dd,NR).



Australasian Bittern - DSE

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Review habitat values and status of public land.
- Monitor and protect areas supporting threatened EVCs, flora and fauna.
- Assess status and condition of water frontages and lake reserves, especially with respect to grazing and weed control requirements, and fencing. Implement measures to provide maximum protection for existing values, excluding or reducing grazing wherever possible.

Management to enhance remnants for threatened taxa (BNA response level in brackets: 4 = full commitment, 3 = substantive participation, 2 = opportunistic action, 1 = watching brief):

- Implement control programs for introduced predators, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Australasian Bittern (2).
- Control weeds to benefit Australasian Bittern (2) and to enhance riverine areas.

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.4 Other Public Land (cont'd)

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Supplement habitat to benefit Australasian Bittern.
- Seek opportunities (with Shire, adjoining land managers and local landholders) to expand size and connectivity of remnant vegetation on public land through sympathetic management on adjoining areas. Particular emphasis should be given to riparian and wetland areas.
- Restore riparian areas through revegetation programs in cooperation with adjoining landholders, especially for the Wannon River.

EXISTING POLICIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS supporting one or more of the recommended actions:

- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.5 Local Government

Land tenure details:

Includes all land for which Local Government has responsibility: typically roadsides, township land and, generally, cemeteries. Roadsides support important remnants of grassland and grassy woodland vegetation including several roadsides on the Karabeal Plain, the Caramut-Chatsworth Road, Forest Lane and North Gums Road. Small areas of public land associated with townships may also support significant remnants (e.g. Caramut Reserve).

Land Manager:

LGA, VCM

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, Private, CMA, CFA

Others BG, LFW, GAV, FNC, RCAC, LC.

Threatened Biodiversity Assets (in brackets: Cons status Vic - lower case, Aust - upper case; followed by BNA priority / risk rankings for threatened taxa = 1A, 2B, etc., or un - unassessed):

EVCs: Plains Grassland (e); Plains Grassy Woodland (e); Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e).

Threatened flora: Clover Glycine (Vv,1B); Small Milkwort (v,2A).

Threatened fauna: Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,1A).

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Identify native vegetation on roadsides and other local government managed land, prepare strategic plans and protect through PAMAs important roadsides and cemeteries, especially those areas identified in McDougall et al (1993).
- Instruct Shire staff on locations and importance of roadside remnants.
- Signpost all sites that support threatened EVCs and species such as Small Milkwort and Clover Glycine.
- Exclude grazing and cultivation from all natural and semi-natural roadsides.



Small Milkwort - DSE

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.5 Local Government (cont'd)

Management to enhance remnants for threatened taxa (BNA response level in brackets: 4 = full commitment, 3 = substantive participation, 2 = opportunistic action, 1 = watching brief):

- Exclude stock grazing on roadsides to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (3) and Striped Legless Lizard (4).
- Control weeds to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (3), Clover Glycine (3) and Striped Legless Lizard (4).
- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (3) and Clover Glycine (3); burns should consider the habitat requirements of Striped Legless Lizard (4).



Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Identify suitable habitat for threatened species and expand habitat through sympathetic management on adjoining land. Seek to manage all remnant vegetation on local government land for conservation and expand areas within recreation and other reserves.
- Encourage adjoining landholders or land managers to undertake complementary restoration works on freehold or other land, preferably in the context of local landscape plans.

EXISTING POLICIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS supporting one or more of the recommended actions:

- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Milkwort (96).
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith and Robertson 1999).

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.6 Parks and Reserves

Land tenure details:

There is little reserved land. A very small part of the Grampians National Park (A1, 30 ha) lies within the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregion. Back Creek Flora Reserve (BCFR, 2 ha); Bullawin Flora Reserve (H6, 13 ha) and Bryan Swamp Wildlife Reserve (D69, 817 ha) are the only other reserves. A total of 862ha are included within conservation reserves in this zone.

Land Manager:

Parks Victoria

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, CMA

Others ECC, TSN, GNP, FNC, FG, VFGA.

Threatened Biodiversity Assets (in brackets: Cons status Vic - lower case, Aust - upper case; followed by BNA priority / risk rankings for threatened taxa = 1A, 2B, etc., or un - unassessed):

EVCs: Plains Grassy Woodland (e); Aquatic Herbland/Plains Sedgy Wetland (e).

Threatened flora: Clover Glycine (Vv,2B); Wetland Blown-grass (k,NR); Shiny Wallaby-grass (k,NR); Swamp Fireweed (v,NR).



Clover Glycine - DSE

Threatened fauna: Brolga (v,3B).

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Implement management plans for parks and reserves.
- Assess status and biodiversity values of public land, and determine priorities for upgrading status or other protection. Give particular emphasis to areas that support endangered EVCs.
- Ensure all conservation reserves are adequately fenced and signposted.

Management to enhance remnants for threatened taxa (BNA response level in brackets: 4 = full commitment, 3 = substantive participation, 2 = opportunistic action, 1 = watching brief):

- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Clover Glycine (2) and grassy ecosystems including Western Basalt Plains Grassland.
- Conduct weed control to benefit Clover Glycine (2) and grassy ecosystems including Western Basalt Plains Grassland.

8. Karabeal Landscape Zone

8.6 Parks and Reserves (cont'd)

- Exclude grazing from wetlands to benefit Brolga (1).
- Implement control programs for introduced predators, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Brolga (1).
- Enhance quantity of water flows to wetlands to benefit Brolga (1).
- Control hunting (especially the use of lead shot) to benefit Brolga (1).



Brolga - McCann

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Seek opportunities (with Shire, adjoining land managers and local landholders) to expand size and connectivity of remnant vegetation on public land through sympathetic management on adjoining areas. Particular emphasis should be given to riparian areas and restoration of lake margins.

EXISTING POLICIES, PLANS OR PROGRAMS supporting one or more of the recommended actions:

- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western (Basalt) Plains Grassland Community (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- Grampians National Park Management Plan (Parks Victoria 2000).