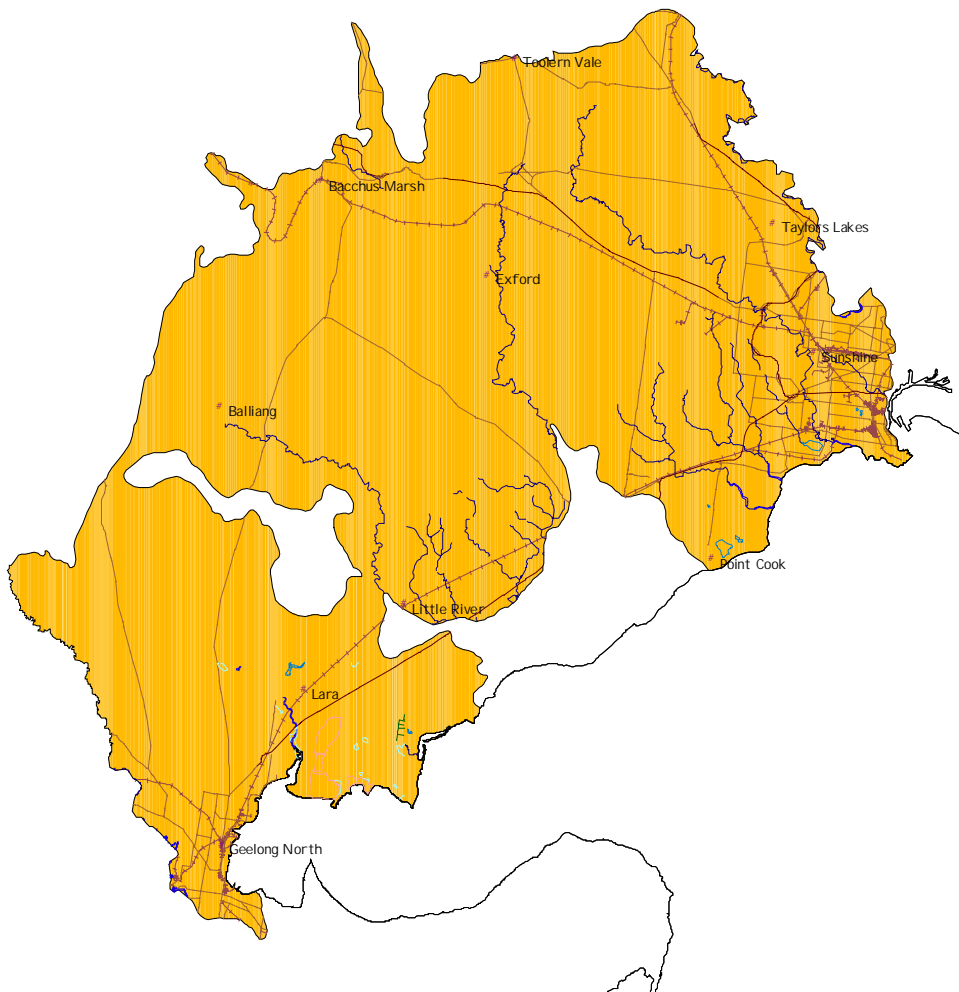


6. Werribee Landscape Zone



6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description

The Werribee Zone extends from Sutherland Creek and the Moorabool River in the west to the Maribyrnong River and Jacksons Creek in the east. It is bordered by the foothills of the Brisbane Ranges, Bacchus Marsh and Toolern Vale to the north and Port Phillip and Corio Bay and the coastal plains to the south. Boundaries have been determined with reference to Land Systems, pre-1750 EVCs and hydrology (Moorabool and Maribyrnong Rivers and Sutherland and Jacksons Creeks). The zone is bordered to the west by the Leigh Zone, the east and north by the Craigieburn Zone, the south by the Otway Plain bioregion and to the north and west by the Central Victorian Uplands bioregion. An area of the Central Victorian Uplands bioregion (the You Yangs) is isolated within the zone. The zone is within the area of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Port Phillip Catchment and Land Protection Board areas (Map 11) and includes parts of ten Local Government Authority areas (Map 12).

The landscape consists of undulating volcanic plains with red duplex soils. The Werribee, Maribyrnong and Little Rivers have incised steep and sometimes spectacular gorges into the basalt plain. The large lava shield volcano of Mount Cottrell and the scoria cone of Mount Anakie are significant landscape features. A band of Tertiary sediments is located along the western edge of this Zone. Average annual rainfall is relatively low for the bioregion and varies from 450 mm at Eynesbury to 595 mm at Sunbury.

The dry plains of the Werribee Zone formerly supported extensive areas of Plains Grassland. These grasslands intergraded with Riverina Plains Grassy Woodland (dominated by Grey Box, Buloke and Drooping Sheoak) to the west and south of Melton, and Plains Grassy Woodland in the around the You Yangs and east of the Brisbane Ranges (Map 18). Riparian zones supported Floodplain Riparian Woodland and Creekline Grassy Woodland with Escarpment Shrubland on steeper escarpments. A variety of wetland communities formerly occurred throughout including Plains Grassy Wetland, Plains Sedgy Wetland, Canegrass Wetland, Lignum Wetland and Aquatic Herbfeld. Scoria Cone Woodland was associated with Mount Anakie and other volcanoes. Areas of Coastal Saltmarsh were found along the shores of Port Phillip Bay. Many elements of the flora reflect the low rainfall including White Cypress-pine and Fragrant Saltbush found along the steep escarpments of the Werribee River, and Woolly Buttons at Little River. The native vegetation has been extensively cleared and altered for agriculture and (increasingly) for urban and industrial use. However, there are large areas of predominantly native vegetation including woodlands, wetlands and grasslands (Map 19).

A large number of conservation reserves and other areas of public land are found within the zone (Map 14) although these are generally small and the vegetation often in relatively poor condition. Reserves include the Organ Pipes National Park, Brimbank Metropolitan Park (part), You Yangs Regional Park (part), Derrimut Grassland Reserve, Laverton North Grassland Reserve, Serendip Wetlands Education Centre, Edgars Road Swamp Wildlife Reserve, The Spit Wildlife Reserve, Port Phillip Bay Coastal Reserve, Gisborne Flora Reserve and Holden Flora and Fauna Reserve. There are also numerous areas of high conservation value managed by the Commonwealth Government, state government agencies and local government (Map 20).

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

The zone supports a number of communities and species that are not found elsewhere in the bioregion (Maps 19 and 21-24) and significant populations of threatened plant species including *Basalt Podolepis*, *Brittle Greenhood*, *Buloke*, *Buloke Mistletoe Button Wrinklewort*, *Large-fruit Fireweed*, *Small Golden Moths*, *Small Milkwort*, *Small Scurf-pea*, *Spiny Rice-flower*, an undescribed *Pterostylis* sp, and the only remaining wild population of *White Diuris* (new name is *Sunshine Diuris*). Large tracts of grassland, woodland, wetland and coastal saltmarsh vegetation remain in the west and along the coast and smaller areas persist in urban areas providing habitat for significant populations of *Grassland Earless Dragon*, *Orange-bellied Parrot*, *Plains-wanderer*, *Striped Legless Lizard*, *Swift Parrot*, *Red-chested Button-quail* and a number of threatened wetland bird species. The western shoreline of Port Phillip Bay from Limeburners Bay to Altona and a number of inland areas including the Avalon Saltworks, the Werribee sewerage treatment complex and the Point Cook and Laverton Saltworks are listed under the Ramsar convention and in the *Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia* (Map 16). River condition is moderate to very poor (Map 17).

The major issue for biodiversity conservation in the Werribee Zone is loss of native vegetation and habitat through clearing for urban development, cropping and infrastructure. The compounding effects of such clearing are the loss of floristic and habitat diversity and increasing fragmentation of habitats and isolation of remnants. Similarly changes to management of remnant vegetation and increased urbanisation contribute to the proliferation of weeds and feral animals. Degradation of drainage lines and riparian vegetation through erosion, pollution and uncontrolled grazing, depletion of wetlands and changes to the hydrology of wetlands and streams are also serious threats to biodiversity in the region. However, a range of conservation assets are present and significant opportunities do exist to establish relatively large areas and networks of areas that are managed sympathetically for conservation. Such networks could include a range of vegetation types and land tenures and relatively large and intact areas of open grassland, grassy woodland and wetland communities. The involvement of private individuals, community groups and corporations in conservation in the zone is already high but is necessary to ensure biodiversity programs are effective across a range of sites and land tenures.

References: Schulz et al (1991), Beardsell (1991), McDougall (1987), DCE (1991), Ross (1999), EA (2001), Muir et al (1996), Ecology Australia (2002).

Note: The Final Report of Ecology Australia (2002) is likely to provide details of further biodiversity assets in this zone.

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 10. Total area of pre-1750 and extant EVCs in the Werribee Landscape Zone

EVC group	EVC #	EVC Bioregional Conservation Status	EVC Name	Pre-1750 Area (ha)	Current Area (ha)
13	132	E	Plains Grassland	139642	3393
14	55	E	Plains Grassy Woodland	25899	1122
14	693	E	Riverina Plains Grassy Woodland/Plains Grassland Mosaic	11649	16
20	9	E	Coastal Saltmarsh	3382	623
5	175	E	Grassy Woodland	2642	290
13	805	X	Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic	2369	0
19	125	X	Plains Grassy Wetland	2193	5
15	68	E	Creekline Grassy Woodland	2002	158
15	56	E	Floodplain Riparian Woodland	1339	128
19	292	E	Red Gum Wetland	1330	168
5	71	V	Hills Herb-rich Woodland	711	15
14	895	E	Escarpment Shrubland	534	58
8	851	E	Stream-bank Shrubland	467	152
9	641	E	Riparian Woodland	439	<1
19	647	E	Plains Sedgy Wetland	378	<1
1	858	D	Calcarenite Dune Woodland	373	0
5	894	E	Scoria Cone Woodland	354	14
19	291	X	Cane Grass Wetland	282	0
19	653	E	Aquatic Herbland	147	86
1	163	V	Coastal Tussock Grassland	117	53
4	64	V	Rocky Chenopod Woodland	84	78
19	104	E	Lignum Wetland	83	60
20	692	LC	Mangrove Shrubland/Coastal Saltmarsh/Berm Grassy Shrubland/Coastal Tussock Grassland Mosaic	71	0
6	22	D	Grassy Dry Forest	55	20
20	140	V	Mangrove Shrubland	45	8
6	47	V	Valley Grassy Forest	40	18
19	74	E	Wetland Formation	21	83
1	900	E	Coastal Saltmarsh/ Coastal Dune Grassland/ Coastal Dune Scrub/ Coastal Headland Scrub Mosaic	21	0
4	61	D	Box Ironbark Forest	18	23
6	21	LC	Shrubby Dry Forest	18	<1
19	691	E	Aquatic Herbland/Plains Sedgy Wetland Mosaic	17	2
16	164	E	Creekline Herb-rich Woodland	9	1
1	921	D	Coast Banksia Woodland/ Coastal Dune Scrub Mosaic	6	0
19	200	E	Shallow Freshwater Marsh	6	0
19	914	X	Estuarine Flats Grassland	5	45
6	20	LC	Heathy Dry Forest	3	<1
8	53	E	Swamp Scrub	2	2
16	67	E	Alluvial Terraces Herb-rich Woodland	2	1
2	134	E	Sand Forest	2	<1
3	16	LC	Lowland Forest	1	1

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 10. Total area of pre-1750 and extant EVCs in the Werribee Landscape Zone (cont'd)

EVC group	EVC #	EVC Bioregional Conservation Status	EVC Name	Pre-1750 Area (ha)	Current Area (ha)
19	934	X	Brackish Grassland	1	0
19	935	E	Estuarine Wetland/ Estuarine Swamp Scrub Mosaic	0	36
1	160	D	Coastal Dune Scrub	0	10
6	45	D	Shrubby Foothill Forest	0	3
1	311	E	Berm Grassy Shrubland	0	1
19	656	X	Brackish Wetland	0	1
1	2	V	Coast Banksia Woodland	0	1
TOTAL				196802	6839
99	993	NA	Bare Rock/Ground	0	<1
99	998	NA	Water Body - Natural or man made	42	163
99	987	NA	Plantation (undefined)	0	263
99	58	NA	Cleared Severely Disturbed	0	858
99	997	NA	Private Land No Tree Cover	0	188839

Table 11. Total area and number of current EVCs in each conservation status in the Werribee Landscape Zone

EVC Conservation Status	Hectares	Number of EVCs
Endangered	6394	23
Vulnerable	172	6
Depleted	56	4
Rare	0	0
Least Concern	1	3
Presumed Extinct	52	3

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 12. List of current threatened flora the Werribee 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>Amphibromus fluitans</i>	River Swamp Wallaby-grass	Vul	k	X				3623
<i>Amyema linophylla</i> ssp. <i>orientale</i>	Buloke Mistletoe		v					217
<i>Austrodanthonia richardsonii</i>	Straw Wallaby-grass		v					978
<i>Botrychium australe</i>	Austral Moonwort		v				Un	445
<i>Comesperma polygaloides</i>	Small Milkwort		v	L		96		798
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum		v				Un	1295
<i>Craspedia paludicola</i>	Swamp Billy-buttons		v				Un	4649
<i>Cullen parvum</i>	Small Scurf-pea	End	e	L		31		2773
<i>Cullen tenax</i>	Tough Scurf-pea		e	L				2776
<i>Dianella amoena</i>	Matted Flax-lily	End	e				Un	5084
<i>Dianella longifolia</i> var. <i>grandis</i>	Glaucous Flax-lily		v				Un	4419
<i>Dipodium campanulatum</i>	Bell-flower Hyacinth-orchid		e				Un	4500
<i>Diuris fragrantissima</i>	Sunshine Diuris	End	e	L	Y	50	Un	4414
<i>Diuris palustris</i>	Swamp Diuris		v	L				1082
<i>Diuris punctata</i> var. <i>punctata</i>	Purple Diuris		v	L			Un	1084
<i>Diuris</i> sp. aff. <i>lanceolata</i> (Laverton)	Small Golden Moths	End	e	L				1473
<i>Diuris X fastidiosa</i>	Proud Diuris	End	e				Un	1078
<i>Eleocharis pallens</i>	Pale Spike-sedge		v				Un	1143
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxydon</i> ssp. <i>connata</i>	Melbourne Yellow-gum		v	X			Un	4484
<i>Euphrasia scabra</i>	Rough Eyebright		e	L		10	Un	1343
<i>Glycine latrobeana</i>	Clover Glycine	Vul	v	L				1456
<i>Helichrysum</i> aff. <i>rutidolepis</i> (Lowland Swamps)	Pale Swamp Everlasting		v				Un	4655
<i>Lachnagrostis punicea</i> ssp. <i>filifolia</i>	Purple Blown-grass		r	L			Un	4222
<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>	Spiny Peppergrass	Vul	e	L		111		1897
<i>Lepidium hyssopifolium</i>	Basalt Peppergrass	End	e	L			Un	1903
<i>Maireana aphylla</i>	Leafless Bluebush		v				Un	2096
<i>Microseris</i> sp. 1	Plains Yam-daisy		v				Un	4657
<i>Pimelea spinescens</i>	Spiny Rice-flower		e	L				3894
<i>Pimelea spinescens</i> ssp. <i>spinescens</i>	Spiny Rice-flower	Vul	e					4823
<i>Podolepis</i> sp. 1	Basalt Podolepis		e				Un	4658
<i>Prasophyllum spicatum</i>	Dense Leek-orchid	Vul	v				Un	4506
<i>Prasophyllum suaveolens</i>	Fragrant Leek-orchid	End	e	L		147		4567
<i>Pterostylis truncata</i>	Brittle Greenhood		e	L		63		2821
<i>Rutidosia leptorhynchoides</i>	Button Wrinklewort	End	e	L	Y	28		2982
<i>Senecio macrocarpus</i>	Large-fruit Fireweed	Vul	e	L		68		3116
<i>Thesium australe</i>	Austral Toad-flax	Vul	v	L		56	Un	3389

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 13. List of current threatened fauna in the Werribee 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 rhynchotis</i>	Australasian Shoveler		VU				Un	212
<i>Ardeotis australis</i>	Australian Bustard		CR	L			Un	176
<i>Prototroctes maraena</i>	Australian Grayling	Vul	VU	L				4031
<i>Porzana pusilla palustris</i>	Baillon's Crane		VU					50
<i>Ninox connivens connivens</i>	Barking Owl		EN	L			Un	246
<i>Falco subniger</i>	Black Falcon		VU					238
<i>Phalacrocorax fuscescens</i>	Black-faced Cormorant		NT				Un	98
<i>Oxyura australis</i>	Blue-billed Duck		EN	L				216
<i>Grus rubicunda</i>	Brolga		VU	L				177
<i>Coturnix ypsilophora australis</i>	Brown Quail		NT				Un	10
<i>Phascogale tapoatafa tapoatafa</i>	Brush-tailed Phascogale		VU	L		79	Un	1017
<i>Myrmecia sp. 17</i>	Bullant		Vul	L			Un	5011
<i>Burhinus grallarius</i>	Bush Stone-curlew		EN	L		78	Un	174
<i>Cereopsis novaehollandiae</i>	Cape Barren Goose		NT					198
<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Caspian Tern		NT					112
<i>Hylacola pyrrhopygia</i>	Chestnut-rumped Heathwren		VU				Un	498
<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix</i>	Common Diving-Petrel		NT					85
<i>Oreoica gutturalis gutturalis</i>	Crested Bellbird		NT				Un	419
<i>Stagonopleura guttata</i>	Diamond Firetail		VU				Un	652
<i>Perameles gunnii un-named subsp.</i>	Eastern Barred Bandicoot	End	CR	L	Y	4		1098
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	Eastern Curlew		NT					149
<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Fairy Prion	Vul	VU				Un	83
<i>Sterna nereis nereis</i>	Fairy Tern		EN	L			Un	118
<i>Sminthopsis crassicaudata</i>	Fat-tailed Dunnart		NT				Un	1072
<i>Stictonetta naevosa</i>	Freckled Duck		EN	L		105		214
<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	Glossy Ibis		NT					178
<i>Synemon plana</i>	Golden Sun Moth	CE	End	L		106		5021
<i>Tympanocryptis pinguicolla</i>	Grassland Earless Dragon	End	CR	L	Y	35	Un	2922
<i>Ardea alba</i>	Great Egret		VU	L				187
<i>Accipiter novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Grey Goshawk		VU					220
<i>Pomatostomus temporalis temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler		EN	L		34	Un	443
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Flying-fox	Vul	VU				Un	1280
<i>Litoria raniformis</i>	Growling Grass Frog	Vul	EN				Un	3207
<i>Sterna nilotica macrotarsa</i>	Gull-billed Tern		EN					111
<i>Aythya australis</i>	Hardhead		VU				Un	215
<i>Thinornis rubricollis rubricollis</i>	Hooded Plover		VU	L		9	Un	138
<i>Melanodryas cucullata cucullata</i>	Hooded Robin		NT				Un	385
<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	Intermediate Egret		CR	L				186
<i>Ixobrychus minutus dubius</i>	Little Bittern		EN				Un	195
<i>Turnix velox</i>	Little Button-quail		NT				Un	18
<i>Egretta garzetta nigripes</i>	Little Egret		EN				Un	185
<i>Sterna albifrons sinensis</i>	Little Tern		VU	L		51		117
<i>Macquaria australasica</i>	Macquarie Perch	End	EN	L			Un	4096
<i>Anseranas semipalmata</i>	Magpie Goose		VU					199
<i>Cacatua leadbeateri leadbeateri</i>	Major Mitchell's Cockatoo		VU	L		87	Un	270
<i>Galaxias olidus</i>	Mountain Galaxias		DD	L			Un	4036
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus hillii</i>	Nankeen Night Heron		NT					192
<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Northern Giant-Petrel	Vul	NT		Y		Un	937
<i>Neophema chrysogaster</i>	Orange-bellied Parrot	End	CR	L	Y	43		305
<i>Grantiella picta</i>	Painted Honeyeater		VU	L			Un	598
<i>Rostratula benghalensis australis</i>	Painted Snipe		CR					170

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.1 Werribee Landscape Zone description (cont'd)

Table 13. List of current threatened fauna in the Werribee Landscape Zone
(DSE 2003[^]; EA 2003^{*}; NRE 2002d^{*}; SAC 2002[#]) (cont'd).

Latin Name	Common Name	Australian Status [*]	Victorian Status ^{^,*}	FFG Act [#]	Recovery Plan [*]	Action Statement No. [*]	BNA Unassessed	Species No.
<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Pectoral Sandpiper		NT				Un	978
<i>Phalacrocorax varius</i>	Pied Cormorant		NT					99
<i>Pedionomus torquatus</i>	Plains-wanderer	Vul	CR	L		66		20
<i>Ninox strenua</i>	Powerful Owl		VU	L		92	Un	248
<i>Todiramphus pyrrhopygia pyrrhopygia</i>	Red-backed Kingfisher		NT				Un	325
<i>Turnix pyrrhothorax</i>	Red-chested Button-quail		VU					19
<i>Xanthomyza phrygia</i>	Regent Honeyeater	End	CR	L	Y	41	Un	603
<i>Gadopsis marmoratus</i>	River Blackfish		CR					4127
<i>Platalea regia</i>	Royal Spoonbill		VU					181
<i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i>	Silver Perch		CR	L			Un	4099
<i>Isodon obesulus obesulus</i>	Southern Brown Bandicoot	End	NT				Un	1092
<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Southern Giant-Petrel	End	VU		Y		Un	929
<i>Chthonicola sagittata</i>	Speckled Warbler		VU				Un	504
<i>Dasyurus maculatus maculatus</i>	Spot-tailed Quoll	Vul	EN	L		15		1008
<i>Delma impar</i>	Striped Legless Lizard	Vul	EN	L	Y	17		2159
<i>Arctocephalus tropicalis</i>	Subantarctic Fur Seal	Vul	NT				Un	1830
<i>Polytelis swainsonii</i>	Superb Parrot	Vul	EN	L		33	Un	277
<i>Lathamus discolor</i>	Swift Parrot	End	EN	L	Y	169		309
<i>Chlidonias hybridus javanicus</i>	Whiskered Tern		NT				Un	110
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle		VU	L		60	Un	226
<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	White-faced Storm-Petrel		NT				Un	65

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.2 Werribee Landscape Zone priorities

6.2.1 Summary of priority biodiversity actions for Werribee Landscape Zone:

The zone includes a number of relatively large areas of native vegetation on both public and private land and several sites of very high conservation significance. High quality wetlands are found throughout the region and these are of importance for a number of threatened fauna species. Important populations of many threatened flora and fauna species are found on private land and within rail reserves and cemeteries. The focus of biodiversity management should be to:

- develop a Conservation Management Network for the Werribee Plains to protect and manage woodland, grassland and wetland conservation values;
- develop conservation agreements to protect areas supporting threatened EVCs and threatened species on public land;
- implement Recovery Plans and Action Statements for threatened species and communities on public and private land;
- protect and enhance areas supporting endangered EVCs and threatened species on public and private land;
- protect and enhance lakes and swamps on public and private land for wetland bird conservation;
- protect and enhance large areas of native vegetation on private land through incentives, purchase, covenants or land management agreements; and
- protect, enhance and restore riverine corridors especially the Werribee and Little River.

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.3 Private Land

Land tenure details:

The tenure includes all freehold land. Associated creeklines and unreserved public wetlands surrounded by freehold land are also included for convenience. The zone includes extensive areas of native grassland, grassy woodland and wetland communities especially on the plains between Balliang and Werribee, and adjoining the Werribee River. These areas are of varying quality but provide important habitat for a range of flora and fauna.

Land Manager:

Private landholders

Stakeholders:

Key LGA, DSE, DPI, CMA, CFA

Others BG, 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: Riverina Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Plains Grassland (e); Plains Grassy Wetland (e); Canegrass Wetland (e); Floodplain Riparian Woodland (e); Escarpment Shrubland (e); Scoria Cone Woodland (e); Plains Sedgy Wetland (e); Lignum Wetland (e).

Threatened flora: Basalt Podolepis (e,NR); Buloke (v,NR); Buloke Mistletoe (v,NR); Clover Glycine (Vv,1B); Corkscrew Spear-grass (r,NR); Fragrant Saltbush (r,NR); Leafy Templetonia (v,NR); Pale Spike-sedge (v,NR); Pale Swamp Everlasting (v,NR); Pterostylis “Woorndoo”(e,NR); Rye Beetle-grass (r,NR); Slender Tick-trefoil (k,NR); Small Golden Moths (Ee,1A); Small Milkwort (v,1A); Small Scurf-pea (Ee,2B); Smooth Nardoo (k,NR); Spiny Rice-flower (Ve,3A); Spurred Spear-grass (r,NR); Swamp Billy-buttons (v,NR); Tough Scurf-pea (e,1A); Turkey Bush (v,NR); Wetland Blown-grass (k,NR); White Cypress Pine (v,NR).



Glycine latrobeana
(Photo: John Eichler)

Threatened fauna: Australasian Bittern (e,1A); Australian Shoveler (v,NR); Baillon’s Crake (v,1B); Barking Owl (e,NR); Black Falcon (e,3A); Blue-billed Duck (v,3B); Brolga (v,1B); Common Dunnart (dd,2B); Fat-tailed Dunnart (dd,NR); Freckled Duck (e,3A); Glossy Ibis (v,2B); Grassland Earless Dragon (Ecen,1A); Great Egret (e,4A); Little Egret (cen,NR); Masked Owl (e,NR); Painted Snipe (e,3A); Plains-wanderer (Ve,1A); Red-chested Button Quail (v,2B); Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,1A); Swift Parrot (Ee,4A); Warty Bell Frog (new name is Growling Grass Frog) (Vv,NR).



Brolga (Photo: Ian McCann)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.3 Private Land (cont'd)

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants

- Monitor populations of Small Golden Moths, Small Scurf-pea and Tough Scurf-pea.
- Identify remnants of high conservation and strategic significance, focusing on those that support native grassland, stony knoll and wetland EVCs. Determine priorities for protection of remnants and apply covenants, management agreements, voluntary programs, incentives and/or planning controls, as appropriate, to protect these blocks.
- Acquire large significant areas of native grassland, grassy woodland and high quality wetlands to be managed as conservation reserves where such sites are available or where this is required to protect conservation values.
- 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):

- Control rabbits and hares to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Buloke, Buloke Mistletoe, Australasian Bittern (4), Grassland Earless Dragon (4), Plains-wanderer (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Painted Snipe (3) and Common Dunnart (2).
- Exclude stock grazing to benefit riparian vegetation, Swift Parrot (2), Buloke and Buloke Mistletoe.
- Manage stock grazing to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Plains-wanderer (4), Red-chested Button-quail (2), Striped Legless Lizard (4), Grassland Earless Dragon (4), Common Dunnart (2), Small Milkwort (4), Clover Glycine (3), Small Golden Moths (4), Spiny Rice-flower (3), Tough Scurf-pea (4) and Small Scurf-pea (2).
- Control weeds (especially Artichoke Thistle, Chilean Needle-grass, Phalaris, and Serrated Tussock) to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (4), Small Golden Moths (4), Grassland Earless Dragon (4), Red-chested Button-quail (2), Striped Legless Lizard (4) and Spiny Rice-flower (3).
- Trial ecological burns to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Golden Moths (4), mindful of potential impacts on Plains-wanderer (4).
- Implement control programs for foxes, cats and dogs, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Australasian Bittern (4), Plains-wanderer (4), Striped Legless Lizard (4), Freckled Duck, Painted Snipe (3), Brolga (3), Glossy Ibis (3), Baillon's Crake (3) Great Egret (2), Red-chested Button-quail (2) and Blue-billed Duck (1).



Diuris sp. aff.
lanceolata (Laverton)
(Photo: John Eichler)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.3 Private Land (cont'd)

- Control and exclude where required stock grazing on wetlands and wetland margins to benefit Australasian Bittern (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Brolga (3), Freckled Duck (3), Painted Snipe (3), Glossy Ibis (2), Great Egret (2) and Blue-billed Duck (1).
- Enhance quality and quantity of water flows to wetlands to benefit Australasian Bittern (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Brolga (3), Freckled Duck (3), Painted Snipe (3), Glossy Ibis (2), Great Egret (2), and Blue-billed Duck (1).
- Prevent human disturbance at roosting, nesting and breeding sites to benefit Australasian Bittern (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Glossy Ibis (2) and Blue-billed Duck (1).
- Reduce herbicide and pesticide use to benefit Black Falcon (3).
- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Black Falcon (3) and Common Dunnart (2).
- Control hunting (especially the use of lead shot) to benefit Brolga (3), Freckled Duck (3) and Blue-billed Duck (1).
- Provide education to eel fishing industry to benefit Blue-billed Duck (1).
- Provide information to landholders to benefit Brolga (3).

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Relocate to secure habitat populations of threatened fauna and flora that are subject to imminent loss through development.
- Supplement habitat to benefit Black Falcon, Blue-billed Duck and Swift Parrot.
- 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.
- Develop programs to restore and enhance grassland, riparian, grassy woodland and wetland vegetation and create habitat links between existing areas of wetland and native vegetation on public and private land.



Swift Parrot (Photo: Mike Carter)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.3 Private Land (cont'd)

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

- FFG Action Statement – Western Basalt Plains Grassland (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Scurf-pea (31).
- FFG Action Statement – Grassland Earless Dragon (35).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western Basalt Plains Grassland (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Plains Wanderer (66).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Milkwort (96).
- FFG Action Statement – Freckled Duck (105).
- FFG Action Statement – Swift Parrot (196).
- CAMBA – Glossy Ibis, Great Egret, Painted Snipe.
- JAMBA – Great Egret, Plains-wanderer.
- Recovery Plan – Grassland Earless Dragon (Robertson & Cooper 2000).
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith & Robertson 1999).
- Recovery Plan – Swift Parrot (SPRT 2000).

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.4 Other Public Land

Land tenure details:

Generally all public land where conservation is not the primary management objective. This tenure includes Commonwealth land (Laverton RAAF Base, Point Wilson, Target Bomb Range, various signals stations), Melbourne Water (drainage reserves, Truganina Swamp, Werribee Treatment Farm,), rail reserves (Diggers Rest Rail Reserve, Manor-Lara Rail Reserve, St Albans Rail Reserve, Tottenham Rail Reserve,) and Anakie and Hovells Creek Public Land and Water Frontages. A number of high quality wetlands occur to the west of Werribee (Balls Swamp, Baths Swamp, Rabbits Lake and Richmonds Swamp); the tenure and management of these sites is unclear.

Land Manager:

Commonwealth, DSE, DPI, PTC, MW

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, Private

Others TSN, BG, GNP, FNC

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 Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Plains Grassy Wetland (e); Cane-grass Wetland (e); Creekline Grassy Woodland (e).

Threatened flora: Basalt Podolepis (e,NR); Brittle Greenhood (e,3B); Buloke (v,NR); Button Wrinklewort (Ee,1A); Corkscrew Spear-grass (r,NR); Derrinallum Billy-buttons (v,2B); Large-fruit Fireweed (Ve,1A); Rye Beetle-grass (r,NR); Slender Tick-trefoil (k,NR); Small Golden Moths (Ee,2A); Small Milkwort (v,2A); Spiny Rice-flower (Ve,1A); Spurred Spear-grass (r,NR); Thelymitra sp. aff nuda (Laverton) (e,NR); White Diuris (Ee,1A); Woolly Buttons (r,NR).



Pterostylis truncata (Photo: John Eichler)

Threatened fauna: Australasian Bittern (e,4A); Baillon's Crake (v,1B); Black Falcon (e,3A); Fairy Tern (v,NR); Fat-tailed Dunnart (dd,NR); Glossy Ibis (v,2B); Little Tern (v,3A); Orange-bellied Parrot (Ecen,2A); Painted Snipe (e,1A); Plains-wanderer (Ve,1A); Red-chested Button-quail (v,2B); Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,2A); Warty Bell Frog (Vv,NR). A number of significant bird species are associated with coastal areas on the western shore of Port Phillip Bay.



Plains-wanderer (Photo: DSE/Cooper)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.4 Other Public Land (cont'd)

Recommended actions

Protection of existing remnants:

- Signpost rail reserves that support threatened EVCs and threatened species including: Basalt Podolepis, Button Wrinklewort, Derrinallum Billy-buttons, Large-fruit Fireweed, Spiny Rice-flower, Small Milkwort and White Diuris.
- Develop PAMAs to protect Western Basalt Plains Grassland and populations of threatened species at Diggers Rest, Manor-Lara and St Albans Rail Reserves (Humphries & Webster 1992) and Tottenham Rail Reserve (Webster & McKay 1993).
- Protect habitat for threatened fauna and flora on Commonwealth land through transfer to state as conservation reserves or management agreements.
- Monitor populations of Basalt Podolepis, Brittle Greenhood, Button Wrinklewort, Derrinallum Billy-buttons, Large-fruit Fireweed, Spiny Rice-flower, Small Golden Moths, Small Milkwort and White Diuris.
- Assess habitat values on public land in this tenure, and upgrade status or otherwise protect those likely to contribute to biodiversity. Assess condition especially with respect to grazing, fencing and weed control requirements. Implement measures, in consultation with any licensees, to provide maximum protection for existing values, excluding or reducing grazing wherever possible.
- Protect significant wetlands through upgrading status and developing management agreements with adjoining landholders.

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

- Control rabbits, hares and mice to benefit Buloke, White Diuris (4), Painted Snipe (4), Plains-wanderer, Baillon's Crake (3), Little Tern (3), Orange-bellied Parrot (3), Small Golden Moths (3) and Australasian Bittern (2).
- Exclude stock grazing from rail reserves to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (3) and Spiny Rice-flower (4).
- Manage stock grazing in native grasslands to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Plains-wanderer (4), Small Golden Moths (3), Striped Legless Lizard (3) and Red-chested Button-quail (2).
- Control weeds (especially Artichoke Thistle, Chilean Needle-grass, Phalaris and Serrated Tussock) to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Large-fruit Fireweed (4), Spiny Rice-flower (4), White Diuris (4), Little Tern (3), Small Milkwort (3), Striped Legless Lizard (3), Australasian Bittern (2), Derrinallum Billy-buttons (2), Red-chested Button-quail (2) and Brittle Greenhood (1).



Orange-bellied Parrot
(Photo: Petina Pert)



Australasian Bittern
(Photo: Peter Menkhorst)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.4 Other Public Land (cont'd)

- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Button Wrinklewort (4), Large-fruit Fireweed (4), Spiny Rice-flower (4), White Diuris (4), Black Falcon (3), Small Golden Moths (3), Small Milkwort (3), Derrinallum Billy-buttons (2) and mindful of habitat requirements of Striped Legless Lizard (3) and potential impacts on Plains-wanderer (4).
- Control human disturbance to benefit White Diuris (4).
- Artificially pollinate White Diuris (4) and Small Golden Moths (3).
- Exclude stock grazing to benefit Brittle Greenhood (1).
- Investigate ecological burning to benefit Brittle Greenhood (1).
- Enhance quality and quantity of water flows to wetlands to benefit Painted Snipe (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Australasian Bittern (2) and Glossy Ibis (2).
- Control visitor access to benefit Australasian Bittern (2) and Glossy Ibis (2).
- Implement control programs for introduced predators, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Painted Snipe (4), Plains-wanderer (4), Baillon's Crake (3), Little Tern (3), Orange-bellied Parrot (2), Glossy Ibis (2) and Red-chested Button-quail (2).
- Control and exclude where required stock grazing on wetlands and wetland margins to benefit wetland vegetation, Painted Snipe (4), Baillon's Crake (3) and Glossy Ibis (2).
- Reduce herbicide and pesticide use to benefit Black Falcon (3).



Painted Snipe (Photo: Mike Carter)

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Reintroduce Small Golden Moths to suitable secure habitat.
- Reintroduce Brittle Greenhood to Melbourne Water land (Bramwells 1995).
- Supplement habitat to benefit Australasian Bittern, Black Falcon and Little Tern.
- Reintroduce Orange-bellied Parrot to suitable secure habitat.
- 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 areas adjoining or linking grassy woodland and riparian areas.
- Restore and enhance riparian areas and wetland fringes through revegetation programs in cooperation with adjoining landholders.

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.4 Other Public Land (cont'd)

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

- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Button Wrinklewort (28).
- FFG Action Statement – Orange-bellied Parrot (43).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – White Diuris (50).
- FFG Action Statement – Little Tern (51).
- FFG Action Statement – Western Basalt Plains Grassland (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Brittle Greenhood (63).
- FFG Action Statement – Plains-wanderer (66).
- FFG Action Statement – Large-fruit Groundsel (68).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Milkwort (96).
- CAMBA – Glossy Ibis, Little Tern, Painted Snipe.
- JAMBA – Little Tern, Orange-bellied Parrot, Plains-wanderer.
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith & Robertson 1999).
- Recovery Plan – Button Wrinklewort.
- Recovery Plan – Orange-bellied Parrot (OBPRT 1998).

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.5 Local Government

Land tenure details:

Includes all land for which Local Government has responsibility: typically roadsides, township land and, generally, cemeteries. Significant areas include road reserves (Ripleys Rd, Parwan-Exford Rd, St Albans Rd, McCorkells Rd), council reserves (Sunshine Tip, Taylors Creek Shrubland, Sydenham Park, Altona Tip, Altona Coastal Park, Cherry Lake, cemeteries (Truganina Cemetery) and other areas (e.g. Toolern Creek Reserves, Minns Road Retarding Basin).

Land Manager:

Local Government Authority, Committees of Management

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, Private, CMA

Others BG, LFW, GAV, FNC, CFA.

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 Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Riverina Plains Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Creekline Grassy Woodland (e); Escarpment Shrubland (e); Riparian Woodland (e).

Threatened flora: Buloke (v,NR); Buloke Mistletoe (v,NR); Button Wrinklewort (Ee,3A); Derrinallum Billy-buttons (v,1A); Leafy Templetonia (v,NR); Slender Tick-trefoil (k,NR); Small Milkwort (v,2A); Small Scurf-pea (Ee,4B); Spiny Rice-flower (Ve,1A); Spurred Spear-grass (r,NR); Velvet Daisy-bush (v,2B); White Cypress Pine (v,NR).



Templetonia stenophylla
(Photo: John Eichler)

Threatened fauna: Altona Skipper Butterfly (-,NR); Australian Grayling (Vv,2B); Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,1A). A number of significant bird species are associated with coastal areas on the western shore of Port Phillip Bay.



Australian Grayling
(Photo: DSE)

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Develop PAMAs to protect Western Basalt Plains Grassland and populations of threatened species at Truganina Cemetery (Humphries & Webster 1992) and on road reserves and other council reserves.

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.5 Local Government (cont'd)

- Signpost all road reserves that support threatened EVCs and threatened species such as Small Scurf-pea, Velvet Daisy-bush and Buloke.
- Instruct Shire staff on locations and importance of roadside remnants.
- Exclude grazing and cultivation from all roadsides supporting remnant native vegetation.
- Monitor populations of Small Scurf-pea.

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

- Control rabbits and hares to benefit Buloke and Buloke Mistletoe.
- Exclude stock grazing from roadsides to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (3) and Small Scurf-pea (1).
- Implement control programs for foxes, cats and dogs, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Striped Legless Lizard (4).



Amyema linophylla
ssp. *orientale* (Photo:
John Eichler)

- Control weeds (especially Artichoke Thistle, Chilean Needle-grass, Phalaris and Serrated Tussock) to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Derrinallum Billy-buttons (4), Spiny Rice-flower (4), Striped Legless Lizard (4), Small Milkwort (3), Australian Grayling (2), Velvet Daisy-bush (2) and Small Scurf-pea (1).
- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Derrinallum Billy-buttons (4), Spiny Rice-flower (4), Button Wrinklewort (3), Small Milkwort (3) and Small Scurf-pea (1) mindful of the habitat requirements of Striped Legless Lizard (4).
- Exclude grazing from riparian areas to benefit Australian Grayling (2).



Olearia pannosa ssp.
cardiophylla (Photo: John
Eichler)

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.

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.5 Local Government (cont'd)

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

- FFG Action Statement – Small Scurf-pea (3).
- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Button Wrinklewort (28).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – Western Basalt Plains Grassland (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Milkwort (96).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith & Robertson 1999).

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.6 Parks and Reserves

Land tenure details:

Angliss Grassland Reserve (57 ha), Banchory Grove Grassland Reserve (22 ha), Brimbank Metropolitan Park (part - 60 ha), Cheetham Wetlands (524 ha), Derrimut Grassland Reserve (154 ha), Edgars Road Swamp Wildlife Reserve (10 ha), Gilbertsons Grassland Reserve (7 ha), Holden Flora and Fauna Reserve (65 ha), Jawbone Flora and Fauna Reserve (10 ha), Laverton North Grassland Reserve (45 ha), Mount Anakie Scenic Reserve, Murtcaim Wildlife Management Area (Part) - The Spit Wildlife Reserve, Organ Pipes National Park (part – 76 ha), Point Cook Metropolitan Park (308 ha), Port Phillip Bay Coastal Reserve (part), Serendip Wetlands Education Centre (250 ha), St Albans Grassland Reserve (40 ha), Streamside Reserves (Werribee River, Tarneit, Kororoit Creek) and You Yangs RP (part). Less than 2,000 ha occur in conservation reserves within this Zone.

Land Manager:

Parks Victoria, MW.

Stakeholders:

Key DSE, DPI, CMA, MW

Others LCC, TSN, GNP, FNC, LGA, FG

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 Grassland/Plains Grassy Woodland Mosaic (e); Plains Grassy Wetland (e); Cane-grass Wetland (e); Creekline Grassy Woodland (e); Escarpment Shrubland (e); Riparian Woodland (e); Scoria Cone Woodland (e); Coastal Saltmarsh (d).

Threatened flora: Basalt Podolepis (e,NR); Branching Groundsel (k,NR); Corkscrew Spear-grass (r,NR); Heath Spear-grass (r,NR); Pale Swamp Everlasting (v,NR); Rye Beetle-grass (r,NR); Small Milkwort (v,1A); Spiny Rice-flower (Ve,3A); Spurred Spear-grass (r,NR); Slender Tick-trefoil (k,NR); Swamp Billy Buttons (v,NR); Turkey Bush (v,NR); White Cypress Pine (v,NR). A number of threatened flora species including Button Wrinklewort, Large-fruit Fireweed, Purple Diuris and White Diuris, have been re-introduced to Derrimut Grassland Reserve, Laverton North Grassland Reserve and Organ Pipes National Park.



Comesperma polygaloides (Photo: John Eichler)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.6 Parks and Reserves (cont'd)

Threatened fauna: Australasian Bittern (e,2A); Australian Grayling (Vv,4B); Baillon's Crake (v,1B); Caspian Tern (v,3B); Fat-tailed Dunnart (dd,NR); Grassland Earless Dragon (Ecen,2A); Great Egret (e,3A); Little Tern (v,4A); Nankeen Night Heron (v,1B); Orange-bellied Parrot (Ecen,3A); Red-chested Button-quail (v,2B); Striped Legless Lizard (Ve,2A); Warty Bell Frog (Vv,NR). A number of significant bird species are associated with coastal areas on the western shore of Port Phillip Bay. A number of threatened fauna species including Australian Bustard, Brolga and Magpie Goose have been re-introduced to the Serendip Wetlands Education Centre and Striped Legless Lizard have been re-introduced to Laverton North Grassland Reserve and Organ Pipes National Park.



Australasian Bittern (Photo: Peter Menkhorst)

A number of threatened fauna species including Australian Bustard, Brolga and Magpie Goose have been re-introduced to the Serendip Wetlands Education Centre and Striped Legless Lizard have been re-introduced to Laverton North Grassland Reserve and Organ Pipes National Park.

Recommended actions:

Protection of existing remnants:

- Develop and implement management plans for parks and conservation 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.
- Upgrade Laverton North Grassland Reserve to a Permanent Reserve for Grassland Conservation (Webster & McKay 1993).
- Assess applications for use and development of land adjacent to reserves to ensure that potential impacts are addressed.

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 stock grazing to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (4), Grassland Earless Dragon (3) and Red-chested Button-quail (2).
- Control and exclude where required stock grazing on wetlands and wetland margins to benefit Magpie Goose (4), Australasian Bittern (3), Great Egret (3), Baillon's Crake (3), Brolga (1) and Caspian Tern (1).
- Control weeds (especially Chilean Needlegrass, Phalaris and Serrated Tussock) to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, escarpment communities, Magpie Goose (4), Small Milkwort (4), Australasian Bittern (3), Grassland Earless Dragon (3), Spiny Riceflower (3), Striped Legless Lizard (3), Red-chested Button-quail (2) and White Diuris.



Striped Legless Lizard (Photo: Peter Robertson)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.6 Parks and Reserves (cont'd)

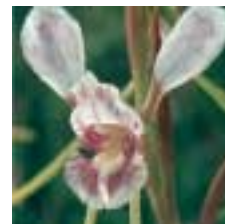
- Conduct ecological burns to benefit Western Basalt Plains Grassland, Small Milkwort (4), Spiny Rice-flower (3) and White Diuris, mindful of the habitat requirements of Striped Legless Lizard (3).
- Artificially pollinate White Diuris.
- Implement control programs for foxes, cats and other introduced predators, giving priority to known or potential habitat sites of Magpie Goose (4), Australasian Bittern (3), Baillon's Crake (3), Grassland Earless Dragon (3), Great Egret (3), Orange-bellied Parrot (3), Striped Legless Lizard (3), Little Tern (2), Red-chested Button-quail (2), Brolga (1) and Caspian Tern (1).
- Remove in-stream barriers to benefit Australian Grayling (1).
- Control rabbits and hares to benefit Magpie Goose (4), Baillon's Crake (3) and Grassland Earless Dragon (3).
- Enhance quality and quantity of water flows to wetlands to benefit Baillon's Crake (3), Great Egret (3), Brolga (1), Caspian Tern (1) and Magpie Goose.
- Control human disturbance at roosting, nesting and breeding sites to benefit Caspian Tern (1).
- Control hunting (especially the use of lead shot) to benefit Magpie Goose (4) and Brolga (1).



Grassland Earless Dragon (Photo: Peter Robertson)

Restoration of strategic vegetation blocks or linkages:

- Reinforce populations of Small Milkwort.
- Reintroduce Button Wrinklewort, Large-fruit Fireweed, Small Golden Moths and White Diuris to suitable secure habitat.
- Supplement habitat to benefit Australian Grayling, Grassland Earless Dragon, Great Egret, and Magpie Goose.
- Restore saltmarsh and grassland areas in coastal parks and reserves.
- 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.
- Restore margins of wetlands, coastal areas and riparian zones through revegetation programs.



Diuris fragrantissima (Photo: John Eichler)

6. Werribee Landscape Zone

6.6 Parks and Reserves (cont'd)

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

- FFG Action Statement – Striped Legless Lizard (17).
- FFG Action Statement – Button Wrinklewort (28).
- FFG Action Statement – Grassland Earless Dragon (35).
- FFG Action Statement – Orange-bellied Parrot (43).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Red Fox (44).
- FFG Action Statement – White Diuris (50).
- FFG Action Statement – Little Tern (51).
- FFG Action Statement – Western Basalt Plains Grassland (53).
- FFG Action Statement – Large-fruit Groundsel (68).
- FFG Action Statement – Predation by Cat (80).
- FFG Action Statement – Small Milkwort (96).
- CAMBA – Caspian Tern, Great Egret
- Recovery Plan – Striped Legless Lizard (Smith & Robertson 1999).
- Recovery Plan – Grassland Earless Dragon (Robertson & Cooper 2000).
- Recovery Plan – Orange-bellied Parrot (OBPRT 1998).