

Please note: The views stated are  
those of the speaker (Cam Beardsell)  
and not necessarily those of Parks  
Victoria

# Green Wedge Milestones

- Blueprint for the establishment of our fine parks and reserves system
- Provided sources for funding for threatened species conservation programs and pest plant and animal control programs
- Promoted community understanding of environmental management that has activated their participation in Landcare and Friends groups
- Instigated scientific research on rare or threatened species, and flora and fauna survey that identified the sites of biological and cultural significance
- These established guidelines for biodiversity management
- Fostered collaboration between management agencies to integrate conservation programs, mitigate threatening processes and improve ecological outcomes

# Green Wedge Recommendations

- Consensus amongst key stakeholder groups is that the Green Wedge concept is a fine working model not in need of change.
- However, only a small component of the community actively participates in Landcare and Friends activities.
- We believe that we need to re-engage with the mainstream community on the fundamental importance of conservation programs and the practical values of maintaining the Green Wedge.
- While Parks Victoria manages over 15% of the Green Wedge, some 60% of our flora and fauna habitat still remains on private land.
- The ability of land managers to effectively perform management functions over public land would be considerably impacted if the level of protection of native vegetation on private land is further reduced or surrounding land subdivision is increased.

# *Caladenia oenochila*

## Wine-lip Spider-orchid

- Vulnerable - 2500 survive
- Formerly widespread
- 1000 in bushland reserve at St Andrews
- Restricted to Nillumbik and Dandenong Ranges
- Persists in high quality, protected bushland
- Wasp pollinated - low natural pollination rates
- Critical summer fire regime – harmed by autumn burns
- Specialised symbiotic partnership with soil fungi, insect pollinators and native grasses





# Early summer ecological burning





# Slender-tailed Dunnart

## One Tree Hill



- Vulnerable species; formerly widespread across Nillumbik; now highly restricted
- main population in Green Wedge on rocky hill-crests in Warrandyte – Kinglake Nature Conservation Reserve
- Dependent on: post-fire vegetation
- Artificial nesting habitat
- And predator protection - fencing and fox programs

# *Caladenia rosella*

## Rosella Spider-orchid

- Now restricted to Nillumbik
- Endangered species - 4 sites  
- 250 plants
- Inhabits rocky hill-crests
- Symbiotic moss partnership
- Pollinated by native bee that forages on flowering peas and wattles
- Needs protection from grazing animals
- In situ recovery programs have been effective and population is increasing





# *Caladenia rosella*

- Laughing Waters recovery program
- 2 plants in 2004
- 80 plants in 2018





# Emerald-lip Greenhood

## *Pterostylis smaragdyna*

- Rare in Vic – possibly 1500 plants
- Eight sites & 200 plants in Nillumbik
- Flowering from late June and pollinated by a fungus-gnat that inhabits damp gullies
- Diminishing autumn rainfall due to climate change is drying the gullies
- Orchid and pollinator habitat threatened by autumn burning

