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Wombat Forestcare Newsletter

Will the Wombat-Lerderderg National Park be legislated this year as promised? As we wait for news, we are getting on with our owl searches and motion-camera surveys. We recommend a visit to the Lerderderg State Park, particularly the ridges on Blue Gum Track to see a splendid array of spring wildflowers.
Gayle Osborne (editor) and **Angela Halpin** (design)

Waiting, waiting, waiting…

By Gayle Osborne

We have been waiting since 24th June 2021, when the Victorian Government tabled its response to the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Central West Investigation Final Report, for the new national, conservation and regional parks, nature and bushland reserves to be legislated.

The good news is that the government has confirmed that the legislation is on the way.

Wombat Forestcare members gathered at the Lerderderg River in April 2021 to remind the government that our wonderful Wombat Forest needed protection. More than three years later we are still waiting. Photography © Sandy Scheltema.

On the 9th August 2024, the Minister for the Environment, the Hon. Steve Dimopoulos wrote to the Hon. Mary-Anne Thomas "The parks will be created through two Bills, with the first proposed to be introduced in the coming months and the second as soon as practicable thereafter. Wombat-Lerderderg and Mt Buangor national parks will be created through the first bill and parks not included in that Bill will be included in the second."

However, there are only six sitting days in October and six sitting days in November remaining this year and we can only hope that there will not be any hold-up. The Bill will then need to be presented to the Legislative Council, and it is not clear whether there is enough time for that to happen this year. It is alarming that there is no timeline for the creation of the second Bill for all the remaining parks and reserves.

The government's response to the report was not perfect. In the Wombat Forest, a large area of forest west of the Ballan Road was recommended in the final report to be part of the national park, but it will now only be a regional park. There were also complicated arrangements for some continued commercial firewood coupes and domestic firewood collection will be available in the proposed regional parks until June 2029.

There is a long-standing practice of successive Victorian governments to act consistently with recommendations to create national parks rather than waiting for the passage of legislation or other formalities necessary to create new reserves. This is given legislative force by sections 25 and 26A of the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council Act 2001.

As in previous circumstances, we had expected that the government would manage the Wombat Forest as if the national and other parks were already legislated. Instead, the forest has been subjected to more than two years of devastating timber salvaging, including in sections of the promised national park.

We have been informed that the salvage works will recommence in October. We should be outraged that this environmental destruction will continue while the government takes its time to legislate the parks. ■

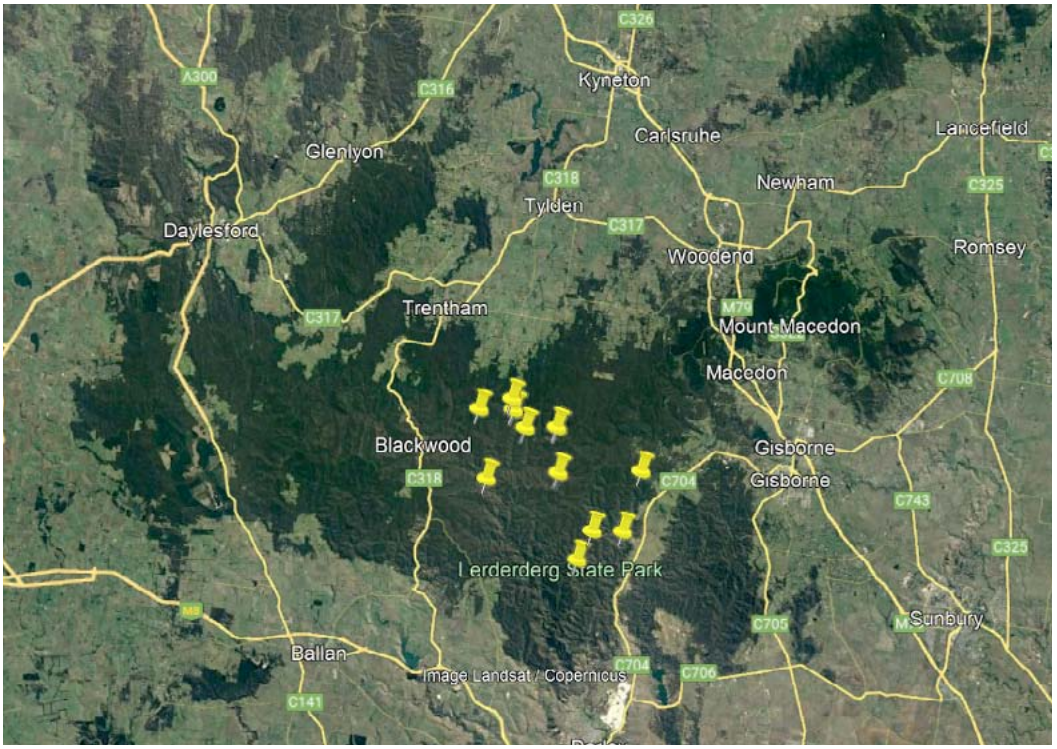
The Eastern Pygmy-possum - a rarely seen resident

By Trevor Speirs

Remote sensing camera images of Eastern Pygmy-possums

The Eastern Pygmy-possum *Cercartetus nanus* is a small mammal that is always a delight to see on the Wombat Forestcare's remote sensing cameras. Not overly attracted to the bait station, which is usually attached to a fallen log, the tiny pygmy-possum's attendance is usually only brief as it moves through the forest. There are several other species of a similar size that can be caught on Wombat Forestcare's cameras making identification a challenge, but the pygmy-possums' large, rounded ears and thickish tail at the base (used to store food) are distinctive enough to separate it from species like an antechinus or feather-tailed glider.

On an island off Tasmania, the French explorer and naturalist Francois Peron is credited as the first European to discover the Eastern Pygmy-possum, just one of 100,000 various animal specimens collected on Nicholas Baudin's voyage to Australia from 1801 to 1804. Peron's original pygmy-possum specimen is still kept at the Museum of National History in Paris and it was over half a century later that the first Eastern Pygmy-possum was officially recorded on the mainland. Found along eastern mainland Australia, Tasmania and several islands, Eastern Pygmy-possums feed on nectar and pollen from the flowers of the Myrtaceae and Proteaceae families as well as insects, seeds, fungi and fruit. Banksia is generally thought to be their favoured food source but they have



Wombat Forestcare's Eastern Pygmy-possum records in the Wombat State Forest and Lerderderg State Park.

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Austral Grass-tree *Xanthorrhoea australis* in the Lerderderg State Park. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

been recorded in habitats where no banksia is present. In Victoria, coastal East Gippsland is considered to be where the pygmy-possum, is most abundant but overall, it is generally considered scarce and doesn't occur in drier country north-west of Bendigo and Shepparton.

Early this century, the Eastern Pygmy-possum was listed as a threatened species in both NSW and South Australia. Factors given for its listing were the usual suspects such as habitat loss, inappropriate fire regimes, firewood collection, logging practices and predation by introduced pests, especially foxes and cats. Limited dispersal opportunities where sub-populations occur also increases the risk of localised extinctions. Around the same time, researchers from the Southern Cross University recommended the Eastern Pygmy-possum be nominated as a threatened species under the Victorian *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* but its inclusion was not accepted.

Looking back over the Wombat Forestcare records, all bar three of our twelve camera records are between the months of October and April, and all sightings are to the east of the Greendale-Trentham Road. Wombat Forestcare also recorded Eastern Pygmy-possums on two occasions in the Fryers State Forest. No images were seen on any cameras during the months of June and July which is probably to be expected as they are known to enter periods of torpor in the colder months. Like much Australian fauna, tree hollows, especially spouts, are important for shelter and breeding but it also utilises tree stumps, disused bird nests, possum dreys, and even holes in the ground.

In the Lerderderg State Park, the Austral Grass-tree *Xanthorrhoea australis* is reasonably common, especially in heathy forest and Wombat Forestcare has recorded pygmy-possums in these habitats. The grass-trees' long, wiry leaves form a "skirt" like effect at its base providing excellent cover and protection for these and other small mammals.

So how is the Eastern Pygmy-possum faring in the Wombat and Lerderderg forests? It's difficult to know really, as apart from the data collected on Wombat Forestcare's camera surveys, there have only been a smattering of sightings submitted to the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) and these were mainly from the 1970s. The low numbers of VBA records would indicate that there hasn't been any detailed surveys or research of the Eastern Pygmy-possum in this area, While our camera records can in no way be seen as a true indicator of habitat preference or occurrence, as mentioned earlier after many rounds of cameras, all our records are in forest south of Trentham and between the Ballan and Gisborne roads. The records are mainly from the ecological vegetation classes, shrubby foothill forest and heathy dry forest with two sightings from heathy woodland in the Lerderderg State Park.

Even though this small mammal is generally associated with banksia as their preferred food source, our cameras only recorded the pygmy-possum at one of thirteen sites where banksia was noticeably present. The most common features at nearly all sites is good amounts of fallen timber, a ground cover of low shrubs such as tea-tree, hakea and various pea species, all in a reasonably open and grassy habitat with very little bracken. Peppermints, both broad-leaved *Eucalyptus dives* and narrow-leaved *E. radiata* are the dominant eucalypt species, usually with some messmate *E. obliqua* and scent bark *E. aromaphloia*, to a lesser extent. For anybody interested in reading more about this tiny and probably less known marsupial of our forests, the research paper by Jamie Harris, listed below, is very informative and highly recommended. ■

References

Menkhorst, P.W., 1995 (ed.). Mammals of Victoria: Distribution, Ecology and Conservation. Oxford University Press, Melbourne

Harris, J.M. (2010) The natural history, conservation status and ecology of the eastern pygmy-possum (*Cercartatus nanus*). Ph.D. Thesis, Southern Cross University, Lismore.

Is anybody out there? Surveying in the Wombat Forest

By Gayle Osborne

Looking back over the last 19 years Wombat Forestcare members have been involved in flora and fauna survey projects that have resulted in an extraordinary number of achievements. Our survey work grew out of a desire to better understand our forest and its inhabitants such as the iconic Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*. We also realised that in order to safeguard the threatened species in the Wombat Forest from logging and mining, the locations of these species needed to be recorded and submitted to the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA), the Victorian government database for flora and fauna.

When we started submitting our observations to the VBA, it was apparent that there were very few fauna records, including common species for the Wombat Forest. Our contribution to the atlas has been enormous and we have populated the atlas with a vast number of records of fauna species, covering most of the Wombat Forest.

Community volunteer Viola installing a hair tube.
Photography © Tibor Hegedis.

Trevor and Arie installing motion-sensing cameras in the headwaters of the Campaspe River.
Photography © Gayle Osborne.

When the Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action (DEECA) undertake managements activities such as planned burns, road and track works and more recently storm debris works they use the VBA database to establish whether threatened species exist on a site and whether or how they will be impacted by DEECA activities.

In theory, protections are put in place for threatened species, but this is not always the case. However, the presence of fauna such as Greater Gliders *Petauroides volans* (listed as endangered under national and state environmental law) in a planned burn mean that attention is paid to raking debris away from the base of hollow-bearing trees as well as other mitigation methods.

We consider that planned burns are causing environmental degradation and are not necessarily making communities safer, however, our surveys have established the locations of many threatened species that have had some mitigating actions put in place to help with their survival or protection.

In 2005, before being incorporated, Wombat Forestcare embarked on a project in partnership with the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research (ARI) to investigate relationships between the presence of Greater Gliders, and other arboreal mammals, with certain eucalypt species. The relationship between ground mammals and different types of vegetation was also researched. ARI scientists established thirty 1-hectare sites in mature forest and the community manufactured and installed hair tubes, measured trees and vegetation extent. The community lacked the skills to carry out the spotlighting survey and these were undertaken by ARI scientists.

The project involved over 100 community members. Motion-sensing cameras were not available to us at the time and the established survey method for ground mammals was the use of hair tubes. A creature, attracted by a smelly bait, enters or puts its head into a small plastic tunnel and deposits hairs on some double-sided tape. This survey method was very time-consuming as the tapes had to be peeled from the tube and sent to an expert for analysis.

However, as soon as we could afford a motion-sensing camera we purchased one and after some practice quickly sought funding for more. Miriam Rotstein and I installed the camera on

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the research site where some hairs from a hair tube had been identified as possibly being from a Brush-tailed Phascogale *Phascogale tapoatafa*. We had no success, but at another site, approx. 3.5k to the east, we were amazed to see images of a phascogale. It was incredibly exciting as this was a record of the species outside of its known range. Brush-tailed Phascogales are listed under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Amendment Act 2019* (FFG Act) as vulnerable to extinction. On the same site we also had images of both male and female Spotted Quail-thrush *Cinclosoma punctatum*, a species that was listed as near threatened.

Trevor and Lynda installing a song meter.
Photography © Gayle Osborne.

Emily from The Field Naturalists Club of Ballarat assists Lynda with the song meter project. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

All the previous records for phascogales in the forest had been from the section north of the Hepburn Regional Park, although a dead animal had been found near Newbury. Since that initial camera record in April 2012, we have recorded them around the Blackwood-Greendale area, Springhill, the Cobaw State Forest and in the Lerderderg State Park, all in areas where they had not previously been recorded.

We have observed that phascogales tend to be absent from suitable habitat where the fallen timber has been removed. Illegal firewood collection in the drier forest habitats impacts the phascogale populations as these small carnivores prey on the insects and spiders that inhabit fallen and decaying timber.

An advantage of the cameras is that they record everything that appears in front the camera, not just the animals attracted to the bait. The species list is quite extensive and includes the occasional koala and many sightings of birds such as elusive ground dwellers like the Bassian Thrush *Zoothera lunulata* and the forenamed Spotted Quail-thrush. We have also recorded the locations of a large number of foxes, as well as some feral pigs, cats and deer.

In 2022 we assisted Upper Campaspe Landcare Network with a motion-sensing camera project in seven drier forests to our north. We surveyed in the Upper Loddon and Fryers State Forests, Taradale Nature Conservation Reserve (NCR), Metcalf State Forest and NCR, and Emberton and Mt Lofty Bushland Reserves.

Brush-tailed Phascogales were located in all these forests. However, the highlight of the survey was the discovery of Common Dunnarts *Sminthopsis murina* in the Metcalf NCR. Common Dunnarts are listed as vulnerable under the FFG Act, and this was a new record for this reserve.

The Wombat Forest contains the most westerly population of the endangered Greater Glider, which mainly inhabit the tall hollow-bearing trees along the creek lines and rivers. The aim of our spotlighting for Greater Gliders is to establish where they are found in the forest, not to rigorously follow a survey method that can be duplicated to establish population changes. We aim to establish whether the gliders inhabit proposed planned burn areas so that measures can be taken for their protection. DEECA have provided us with metal tags to nail to trees where Greater Gliders have been seen emerging from hollows by Wombat Forestcare members while spotlighting. These trees can then be protected as far as possible in planned burns. To date we have tagged 89 trees.

The Wombat Forest is also home to Australia's largest owl, the Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua*. Initially our searches for Powerful Owls involved looking under Blackwoods *Acacia melanoxylon*. Blackwoods *continued next page ...*

Anne Williamson examining a microbat for identificaton. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

are a known favoured roost tree of Powerful Owls, but we've come to realize that several eucalypt species are also often used. Powerful Owls defecate a white chalky wash that is very distinctive as well as regurgitating pellets of indigestible fur and bone from their consumed prey, and these can be found under regular roost trees.

However, it is hard work and time-consuming checking large areas of forest, often with no success. Trevor Speirs would often be in the forest at dawn and dusk listening for their distinguishing 'whoo whoo'. These searches became easier when Trevor acquired a song meter, which has been developed for recording bird calls. We then purchased a second song meter. Now song meters can be left out in probable habitat for several days. It is also helpful that we can record owl chicks trilling for food from a nest hollow and confirm that breeding has taken place.

Anne Williamson supervises the installation of a harp trap for a microbat survey at Cornish Hill, Daylesford. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

A song meter was invaluable in helping locate a pair of critically endangered Barking Owls *Ninox connivens*. Trevor thought that the habitat was suitable but there was quite a large area to search, and we were close to giving up when at last a "Barker" was recorded calling on the song meter. We have documented the pair breeding at this location for a number of years now.

Our most recent research project is to locate populations of Mountain Skinks *Liopholis montana* (listed as endangered under national and state environmental law) in both the Wombat State Forest and the Lerderderg State Park. There are a number of upcoming planned burns that need to be surveyed so we can attempt to have mitigation measures put in place should Mountain Skinks be present.

Ideally fire should be excluded from skink habitat as initially the burn will leave the skinks vulnerable to predation and as the vegetation recovers there is a tendency for the regrowth, usually bracken, to be thicker and over-shade the site.

Gayle, Trevor and Lynda take a break during a survey. Photography © Sandy Scheltema

Wombat Forestcare members have also undertaken plant searches. In 2009, Murray Ralph developed a project based around locating rare and threatened plant species in the Wombat Forest. He approached biodiversity officers in Department of Environment and Sustainability (DSE) and to our great delight the project was greeted with enthusiasm. We were given laminated photos of a number of species and histories of when they were last located and eventually, we were successful in locating four Wombat

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Leafless Bossiaea *Bossiaea vombata* plants. Due to the rhizomatous nature of their root system, each plant covers a reasonably large area. There are only five plants known to exist in the wild on our planet and it is now listed as critically endangered under the FFG Act

This exciting discovery led to a 'Certificate of Recognition' being awarded by DSE management to all the plant searchers in a small ceremony and afternoon tea at one of the locations. This was a time when DSE biodiversity staff shared information with Wombat Forestcare in order to locate threatened flora and fauna. Despite our opposition to the department's planned burn program, it was a time of constructive collaboration.

In August 2018 the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council released its Central West Investigation Draft Proposals Paper. The recommendations for high conservation areas in the Wombat Forest to be protected under the National Parks Act 1975 were underpinned, in part, by our records of threatened species and showed us the importance of our survey work.

The investigation's draft proposal paper states "The presence of breeding powerful owls is significant, as this species requires very extensive areas of forest to provide an adequate food source of possums and gliders, and usually nests in large hollows high up in old living eucalypts."

Over the years, many Wombat Forestcare members and supporters have been involved in and led these projects and we acknowledge their huge contribution. This effort has undoubtedly helped bring us to the stage where the government has now promised to shortly protect the Wombat Forest in a mix of national, regional and conservation parks. ■

Presentation to Wombat Forestcare members of Certificates of Recognition by Grant Hull, Group Manager, Biodiversity Services for South West Victoria, Department of Sustainability and Environment. Photography © Tibor Hegedis.

Surveys undertaken by Wombat Forestcare

- Arboreal mammal habitat association research project.
- Small ground mammal habitat association research project.
- Motion-sensing camera projects – Wombat State Forest and surrounding public land, resulting in many threatened species records added to the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas (VBA) data base.
- Greater Glider *Petauroides volans* spotlighting resulting in over 480 records added to the VBA.
- Powerful Owl *Ninox strenua* searches that established five breeding sites.
- Barking Owl Ninox connivens searches with one breeding site being established.
- New records for threatened fauna species.
- Rare plant searches resulting in locating four of the five known Bossiaea vombata plants in existence.
- Participated in the 'Communities Listening for Nature' project established by the Victorian National Parks Association and Museums Victoria that used automated sound recorders to monitor birds. Lynda Wilson developed the project for the Wombat State Forest.
- Microbat surveys at the Glenlyon Dam and Cornish Hill.
- Eastern Bent-wing Bat *Miniopterus orianae oceanensis* colonies located with a Song Meter acoustic recorder.
- Records of rare and unusual fungi by John Walter.
- Mountain skink *Liopholis montana* searches resulting in 56 new records and extended the range to Lerderderg State Park as well as south and west of known locations.

Mountain Clematis *Clematis aristata.* Photography © Gayle Osborne.

Shrubby Foothill Forest (EVC 45)

By Murray Ralph

The type of native vegetation or plant community that occurs at a particular location reflects local and regional differences in climate, geology, soil type, aspect, altitude and position in the landscape. When these environmental conditions are similar, particular groups of plant species tend to grow together and native vegetation exhibits similar structure.

All native vegetation types across Victoria have been mapped and classified into what are called Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs). Within the Wombat Forest approximately 30 different EVCs have been identified.

Shrubby Foothill Forest EVC is the most common vegetation type found in the Wombat Forest. As the name implies Shrubby Foothill Forest occurs in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range at higher elevations 600-900m above sea level with annual rainfall from 750-1200mm.

Common Apple-berry *Billardiera mutabilis.* Photography © Gayle Osborne.

In areas with higher rainfall Shrubby Foothill Forest occurs on all slopes and aspects, whilst in relatively drier areas it is restricted to sheltered slopes and gullies. It tends to occur on moderately fertile clay soils derived from shale and sandstone.

In the Wombat Forest the overstorey of Shrubby Foothill Forest is a medium to tall open forest up to 20-30m tall.

Prior to European settlement the overstorey cover was about 40% and contained approximately 20 large trees (1metre and over in diameter) per hectare.

These large trees would have contained many tree hollows that are critical for a range of native fauna including arboreal mammals and many native birds.

The overstorey is usually dominated by Messmate *Eucalyptus obliqua* and Narrow-leaved Peppermint *Eucalyptus radiata*. Although a number of other Eucalypts can also be present depending on the site, including Manna Gum *Eucalyptus viminalis*, Broad-leaved Pepermint *Eucalyptus dives*, Candlebark *Eucalyptus rubida* and Mountain Grey Gum *Eucalyptus cypellocarpa*. Blackwood *Acacia melanoxylon* often occurs as an understorey tree.

As the name also implies the understorey of Shrubby Foothill Forest is characterised by

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a shrub layer that ranges from dense to relatively open. The shrub layer tends to be denser following a bushfire and then becomes more open over time.

In the Wombat Forest the most common medium-sized shrub species found in Shrubby Foothill Forest are Prickly Moses *Acacia verticillata* and Narrow-leaf Wattle *Acacia mucronata*. Other medium-sized shrubs that may also be present include Large Leaf Bush-pea *Pultenaea daphnoides*, Prickly Tea-tree *Leptospermum continentale*, Hazel Pomaderris *Pomaderris aspera*, Prickly Currant-bush *Coprosma quadrifida*, Snowy Daisy-bush *Olearia lirata*, Common Cassinia *Cassinia aculeata* and Hop Goodenia *Goodenia ovata*.

Powerful Owl. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

Common smaller shrubs include Common Heath *Epacris impressa*, Moth Daisy-bush *Olearia erubescens*, Netted Daisy-bush *Olearia speciosa*, Gorse Bitter-pea *Daviesia ulicifolia*, Bushy Parrot-pea *Dillwynia ramosissima* and Wombat Bush-pea *Pultenaea reflexifolia*.

Wombat Bush-pea is mostly found in the Wombat Forest and is listed as vulnerable at a state level due to its restricted occurrence.

A range of other understorey species are commonly found in Shrubby Foothill Forest in the Wombat Forest.

Common smaller native herbaceous species include Mountain Clematis *Clematis aristata*, Common Raspwort *Gonocarpus tetragynus*, Ivy-leaf Violet *Viola hederacea*, Hairy Pennywort *Hydrocotyle hirta*, Soft Crane's Bill *Geranium potentilloides,* Tall Sundew *Drosera auriculata*, Hairy Speedwell *Veronica calycina*, Button Everlasting *Helichrysum scorpiodes*, Common Apple-berry *Billardiera mutabilis*, Grass Trigger-plant *Stylidium gramnifolium* and Bidgee-widgee *Acaena novae-zelandiae*.

Sedges and lilies include Spiny-headed Mat-rush *Lomandra longifolia* ssp. l*ongifolia*, Red-fruited Saw Sedge *Gahnia sieberiana* and Tasman Flax-lily *Dianella tasmanica*. Austral Bracken *Pteridium esculentum* is also common and may dominate in some areas in response to disturbance, especially fire.

Native grasses that are commonly found in Shrubby Foothill Forest includes Forest Wire-grass *Tetrarrhena juncea*, Weeping Grass *Microlaena stipoides* var. *stipoides*, Grey Tussock-grass *Poa sieberiana* var. *sieberiana*, Common Tussock-grass *Poa labillardieri* and Silvertop Wallaby-grass *Rytidosperma pallidum*.

Fallen logs are another critical habitat component of Shrubby Foothill Forest EVC. Approximately 200 metres

Large eucalypt with Eastern Yellow Robin. Photography © Gayle Osborne.

of fallen logs per hectare, many very large, would have been present in this EVC.

Fallen logs provide habitat for lizards, skinks, frogs, snakes and small mammals. invertebrates, other insects and fungi. They also aid plant germination and forest regeneration, provide refugia for organisms during drought and/or fire, and also play a significant role in nutrient cycling in forests.

Leaf litter also provides habitat for invertebrates and other insects. Approximately 40% of the ground would have been covered in leaf litter in this EVC.

A very diverse range of fungi can also be found in Shrubby Foothill Forest, especially in higher rainfall areas.

Since European settlement Shrubby Foothill Forest has had a long history of disturbance, including intense logging and frequent fuel reduction burning. This has resulted in a significant loss of large old trees that are critical habitat for many native species and reduced overall species diversity. Despite this the Conservation Status of Shrubby Foothill Forest is classified as 'Least Concern' in Victoria. ■

Be a Champion for Nature - Let's Protect our Mountain Skink

By Wombat Forestcare Inc.
Australia

$1,525
Raised of $30,000

Donate now

The endangered Mountain Skink *Liopholis montana* needs your help to ensure its future.

Up until four years ago, the Mountain Skink was thought to only inhabit high altitude alpine areas from the ACT to Yea in Victoria and only at a limited number of locations. In 2020 a group of herpetologists discovered a family of Mountain Skinks in the Wombat Forest, in Victoria, and at a much lower altitude.

Research partly funded by Wombat Forestcare demonstrated that the newly discovered Wombat Forest population of Mountain Skinks contained higher levels of genetic diversity and lower levels of inbreeding when compared to the other populations of Mountain Skinks.

Climate change will threaten the capacity of many alpine creatures to survive, and the Wombat Forest population will be of critical conservation importance should a captive breeding program be undertaken.

Mountain Skinks are also under threat from fuel reduction burns that are regularly undertaken in the Wombat Forest as well as salvage logging and firewood collection.

In order to protect Mountain Skinks from these activities we need to know where they are located in the Wombat Forest.

Wombat Forestcare is seeking donations to employ a reptile scientist to undertake further surveys, establish long-term monitoring sites and collect additional genetic samples. ■

https://chuffed.org/project/113833-be-a-champion-for-nature-lets-protect-our-mountain-skink

Juvenile Mountain Skink *Liopholis montana.* Photography © Gayle Osborne.

Wombat Forestcare

research • education • action

Wombat Forestcare Inc. is dedicated to preserving the biodiversity and amenity of the Wombat State Forest, Central Victoria, Australia, by utilising the skills and resources of the community.

By becoming a member you will have input into our activities and projects, and give support to caring for our forests.
For memberships and further information contact Gayle Osborne, (03) 5348 7558 or email info@wombatforestcare.org.au
Membership fees: $15 single and $20 family. Visit our website - www.wombatforestcare.org.au

The Wombat Forestcare newsletter is proudly produced on the land of the Djaara people.