

#### White paper suggestions

Need to conserve rare and threatened plant species by use of ecological burns, weeding, encouraging recruitment and fencing out rabbits and stock. Funding can be made available to Friends Groups or Landcare Groups for the above tasks and for revegetation if seed or propagules of local provenance are available.

For example, the Grasslands along the disused Clyde – Tooradin railway should be protected to conserve the orchid *Prasophyllum frenchii*, *Dianella amoena* and the Swamp Everlasting Daisy.

Funding should be used as suggested above and regular monitoring should be done of these species in the grassland area. The drought has also made growing conditions difficult.

This process should be repeated for other threatened EVCs.

That is, in addition to wanting to conserve biodiversity, there should be active management including fencing out and control of feral animals, weeding and ecological burns based on the knowledge of the biology of the plants. Burning also needs to consider what species are being managed for, both flora and fauna. We still do not know a lot about our fauna and flora and should conserve and study these species till we have improved our knowledge.

Large firebreaks should not be bulldozed around the Catchment areas as crown fires can spot four kilometres in advance rendering the firebreak useless. The firebreak intended in between Dom Dom Saddle and Camberville is destroying the habitat of the endangered Leadbeater's Possum and should not be put in on the chance that there will be a fire. Bulldozers can make firebreaks quickly where and when they are needed.

Pest animals in our marine and aquatic environments should be well publicised so that divers and fishermen can dispose of these pest animals.