


# Victoria's Bushfire Biodiversity Response and Recovery

Progress Update November 2020

The 2019-2020 bushfires have severely impacted Victoria's plants, animals and habitats. In response, coordinated actions led by the Victorian Government are underway to protect our biodiversity and support its recovery.

## Bushfire impacts 2019-2020:

 **1,500,000 HECTARES BURNED**

 **244 SPECIES** with more than **50%** of their habitat burnt, including **215 rare or threatened species**.

 **9 HABITAT TYPES** had more than **50%** of their extent burnt

## PROGRAM THEMES & FOCUS AREAS:

- ✓ Immediate reconnaissance
- ✓ Emergency extraction
- ✓ Wildlife welfare
- ✓ Threat management
- ✓ Reading and Healing Country
- ✓ Landscape resilience
- ✓ Engagement and partnerships
- ✓ Knowledge and preparedness
- ✓ Nature-led community recovery

2020-2021

 **\$25.5 million FUNDING**

 **\$22.5 MILLION VICTORIAN**

 **\$3 MILLION COMMONWEALTH**

 **120 ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY**

 **19 DELIVERY ORGANISATIONS**

 **MORE THAN 25 DELIVERY PARTNERSHIPS ESTABLISHED**

 **+ \$29 million VIC FUNDING ANNOUNCED NOVEMBER 2020**

## Progress highlights:

**14 AT-RISK SPECIES EXTRACTED** FROM FIRE IMPACT, CARED FOR AND RETURNED

**30 SPECIES OF CONCERN ASSESSED** IN THE FIELD TO ENABLE MORE TARGETED ACTIONS

**10 TRADITIONAL OWNER GROUPS** PARTICIPATING IN READING AND HEALING COUNTRY

**>300,000 NEW INVERTEBRATE RECORDS** ADDED TO THE STATE'S PRIMARY DATABASE FOR BIODIVERSITY RECORDS (VICTORIAN BIODIVERSITY ATLAS)

**>420,000 HECTARES** OF PEST HERBIVORE CONTROL TO SUPPORT THE RECOVERY OF NATIVE SPECIES

**>90,000 HECTARES** OF PEST PREDATOR CONTROL TO SUPPORT THE RECOVERY OF NATIVE SPECIES

**>11,000 HECTARES OF ASH FOREST RESEEDED BY AIR\***

\* Funded by the Reducing Bushfire Risk program, Bushfire Recovery Victoria, and other recovery funds.

**14 WILDLIFE ORGANISATIONS** CONVENED WITH DELWP FOR A ROUNDTABLE TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE RESPONSE DURING FIRE

