

Enhancing the habitat of the Superb Parrot



Recently celebrating 20 years of operation, the Superb Parrot Group Inc has a long and proud history of working to increase and improve available habitat for this rare species.

Unique to Australia and found only in the Murray Corridor of NSW and Victoria, the Superb Parrot is listed as significant under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and is thought to have a stable population of only 6,000 adult birds.

Birds breed in the Barmah and adjacent red gum forests along the Murray and move out into adjacent landscapes to feed.

While much of the River Red Gum forest country is now protected, the foraging
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Project snapshot

The Superb Parrot project receives \$30,000 of funding from the Victorian Government each year. The project is delivered by the Superb Parrot Group Inc, with support from the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority, and aims to:

- restore foraging habitat for the Superb Parrot on private land; and
- to deliver on-ground actions to protect, enhance and restore areas of remnant vegetation and grassland habitat across the Catchment's northern irrigation region.


Funding is available for revegetation works including direct seeding and supply of native seed and tube stock.

The program has been funded annually and in the past 20 years has involved 99 landholders and achieved:

- 527ha of land donated by landholders for rehabilitation;
- 318,800 seedlings planted;
- 290km of fencing erected; and
- 306km of direct seeding.

For the 2012/13 period alone 18ha of revegetation works on 11 properties has been completed.

For more information contact the Superb Parrot Group's Coordinator Philippa Schapper on 0400 037 432.



grounds are not and many traditional re-vegetating foraging areas are now under active agriculture, so the work of this group in re-vegetating foraging sites contributes to the bird's long-term survivability in a fragmented and production-focused landscape.

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Land and Biodiversity Program Manager Steve Wilson said Victorian Government funding for the project provided a valuable incentive for landholders to get involved in the project.

"The funding helps landholders who are willing to plant out appropriate areas with a good cover of native trees, shrubs, grasses and other plants on their properties," Mr Wilson said.

"Landholders are supported in this work by the group who co-ordinates property planting days, using the group's own direct seeding equipment.

"Superb Parrot Group members also provide advice on revegetation protocols and practices in areas with appropriate local native species - it's a community-owned and driven initiative and that is why it has been so successful."



For more information about the Goulburn Broken CMA got to:



www.gbcma.vic.gov.au