

# Media Release



**Lily D'Ambrosio MP**

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change  
Minister for Suburban Development

Wednesday, 21 December, 2016

## URGENT WORKS FUNDED TO SAVE OUR THREATENED SPECIES

The Andrews Labor Government has launched critical projects to protect and save Victoria's most vulnerable threatened species.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio today announced \$554,000 for urgent actions to control pests and protect threatened native species.

The projects include:

- fox control in the Snowy River gorge to protect the Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby
- predator-proof fencing in the Big Desert Wilderness Park to protect remaining populations of Heath Skink
- searches for additional large Brown Tree Frog populations
- trout removal from remote upland streams to protect Gippsland populations of Galaxias
- seed collection and weed control to save 13 threatened plant species

These actions are part of a broader \$25.7 million Labor Government package to support our native species through community action grants, support programs and regional partnerships.

Additional funding will also soon be available, including \$4.9 million over four years for community activities and \$14.7 million over four years to support management activities and regional partnership projects.

There are almost 300 vertebrate fauna species and more than 2,000 species of plants at risk in Victoria, and these numbers are increasing. More than one quarter of Victoria's mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians are threatened.

For more information on Victoria's efforts to protect threatened species, visit <http://www.delwp.vic.gov.au/environment-and-wildlife/conserving-threatened-species-and-communities>.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio

*"These urgent works are critical to protecting our most threatened species."*

*"These projects are part of our \$25.7 million package to form partnerships and provide grants to protect our most vulnerable species."*