



Tom Crook at Kalimna Gully with one of the East Gippsland Rainforest Network's new interpretation signs. (PS)

Interpretive signs at rainforest restoration

East Gippsland Rainforest Conservation Network has welcomed recent permission from the East Gippsland Shire Council to install a series of interpretative and directional signs at several of its rainforest restoration projects across the region.

Rainforest network programs manager, Tom Crook, said he was very pleased the shire continued to offer support in allowing the network to promote and manage rainforest areas on public land.

"Our network has a number of rainforest restoration projects funded by the both the Victorian and Australian governments, which we deliver in close partnership with other groups, including

the shire, the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation, East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority and many others such as Landcare and Trust for Nature," he said.

East Gippsland is home to many rare rainforest ecosystems, which are critical for biodiversity conservation with these same areas also having a rich indigenous cultural history, Tom explained.

"These new signs will provide specific information on the environmental and cultural history values of several rainforest sites around the Gippsland Lakes including at Kalimna and Lake Tyers Beach and will be used to promote greater awareness and understanding of these important

regional assets.

"With an economy increasingly reliant on tourism, being able to interpret the values our unique region has to offer can help ensure we look after these special places and promote appropriate economic development at the same time.

"The rainforest network has a long standing tradition of working closely and building partnerships with the community and would like to thank and congratulate all the people who continue to help make our projects a such a success."

In coming months the network will conduct several planting days as a part of its restoration projects and welcome assistance from anyone willing to lend a hand.