



### Gunaikurnai Whole-of-Country Plan

*"We want to be actively managing the water, fire, wildlife and biodiversity on our Country, and helping others to also do this in a culturally appropriate way."*

Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) represents Traditional Owners from the Brataualung, Brayakaulung, Brabralung, Krauatungalung and Tatungalung family clans. The Whole-of-Country Plan guides how GLaWAC and all levels of government work in partnership to manage Country.

The Gunaikurnai and Victorian Government Joint Management Plan builds on the Whole-of-Country Plan. This Plan enables the knowledge and culture of the Gunaikurnai people to influence, and to be recognised in, the management of the ten parks and reserves and to enable the combined natural resource management skills and expertise of the Gunaikurnai and agencies to be applied in these areas.



### Community Based Bushfire Management

**3** active CBBM communities

Mallacoota, Briagolong and the Latrobe Valley

Community Based Bushfire Management (CBBM) is an initiative under Safer Together. It provides a space for local residents and agencies to collaboratively identify bushfire risk and work towards ways to reduce it.



### Engaging the community

FFMvic and CFA will also work with the community in the broader Latrobe Valley Area in relation to potential smoke impacts from planned burning. A Smoke Management Plan has been developed by FFMvic, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and Environment Protection Authority (EPA). Community groups are listed in the plan and are notified and engaged

if required. The plan was first used in Autumn 2017.

CFA and FFMvic work with many stakeholders and partners to develop the JFMP, including Local Government, apiarists, wine growers, Traditional Owner groups and environmental groups.

### Cross-tenure burns

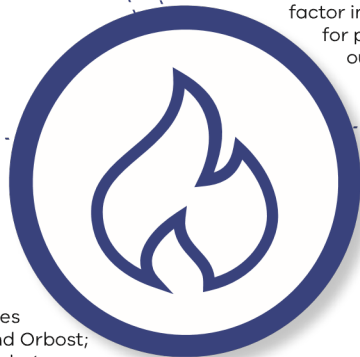
**21** in partnership with the CFA

To reduce risk across public and private land.

### Monitoring conditions

New Automated Fuel Moisture Meters at Bairnsdale, Bendoc, Cann River, Dargo, Erica, Loch Sport and Swifts Creek will allow monitoring of fuel moisture content (FMC) at a landscape level.

The vegetation's moisture content is an important factor in deciding when conditions are suitable for planned burning. The network will improve our ability to take burning opportunities.



### Areas identified for bushfire protection

North of Latrobe Valley in the Neerim, Tanjil and Erica areas; Toongabbie; Gelantip; Wulgulmerang; along the Princes Highway between Tostaree and Orbost; south of the Princes Highway between Cabbage Tree, Club Terrace and Bemm River, and Cann Valley.

**Planned burns**  
**134** covering 109,035 ha

Mechanical fuel reduction methods – mainly slashing and mulching will be used to treat 5,237 ha.

### Biodiversity Monitoring Program

FFMvic will assess the severity, spatial and temporal compatibility of planned burning required to support the persistence and/or recolonisation of the New Holland Mouse after fire.

Social Pin Point is a web-based mapping tool which creates an opportunity for the public to assist in data collection programs. Projects were created on the Social Pinpoint

platform to improve data collection for two threatened species – Glossy Black Cockatoo and Round-leaf Pomaderris. Data collected can be used to improve our knowledge of species extent and contribute to species distribution modelling. By learning more about this species, FFMvic will be able to better manage the timing of planned burns to mitigate threats to the species.



### Ecological burning

Purple Diuris or the Purple Donkey-Orchid occurs in reserves on the Gippsland Plain. Ecological burning in Themeda grasslands helps to promote the species.

A planned burn at the Sale Aerodrome will be completed to promote the Inland Plains Woodland Ecological Vegetation Division.



### Bushfire risk

**63%** by June 2020

Current residual risk is 72%. Bushfire risk will be reduced to below the Gippsland Region target of 71%. Without the joint fuel management program, it is estimated that the bushfire risk could increase to 82% by 2022.

### 2019 Bushfires

The region experienced over 180,000ha of large bushfires during the 2018/19. Adjustments have been made to the area to be treated in affected districts. Districts have planned burns targeting the interface of forested public land with rural communities as well as strategically placed burns which take into consideration recent bushfires.

