



# Habitat 141°

ocean to outback



Restoring and  
reconnecting  
habitats within  
an agricultural  
landscape







**Restoration  
on an  
unprecedented  
scale**



**Reconnecting  
some of  
Australia's  
most iconic  
landscapes**



**Protecting  
our most  
endangered  
habitats**





# This is Habitat 141°

## Restoring and reconnecting habitats within an agricultural landscape

Habitat 141° is restoring connectivity within two nationally recognised biodiversity hotspots, over an area covering 18 million hectares and incorporating 14 National Parks containing a myriad of significant flora and fauna species.

### Facing extinction

Our landscape is in crisis. Vast areas of Australia's temperate woodlands have been cleared since European settlement. These impacts are most severe in the wheat and sheep belts of southern Australia.

Less than 3% of open woodland habitats remain in the Habitat 141° region, because these habitats are associated with more fertile soils and were preferentially cleared for agriculture.

In addition, more than 80% of the region's freshwater wetlands have been lost or heavily modified since European settlement.

The clearance, degradation and fragmentation of woodlands have been identified as the primary reasons for the decline of woodland birds in southeastern Australia.

More than 200 flora and fauna species are listed as threatened in the region and many more are likely to be declining.

Climate change impacts are expected to exacerbate these issues and accelerate the rate of species loss.

It is predicted that without action, up to half of Australia's birds will go extinct in the 21st century.

Habitat 141° is a coordinated response to addressing these issues in one of the most important regions in Australia. The challenges we face across Australia from over-clearing of native vegetation are so vast that we cannot do everything.

**We must choose carefully where our work  
will have the greatest impact.**

The distinctive configuration of wilderness areas spanning a 700km north-south gradient provides one of the best opportunities to reconcile historic over-clearing for agriculture, and assuage the future impacts of climate change, in the Australian wheat-sheep zone.

**Spanning along the 141st degree of longitude,  
the region provides an outstanding opportunity  
to restore southeastern Australia's most threatened  
habitats at an unprecedented scale.**





## Urgent and well-coordinated action is required if we are to halt these declines.

We are protecting what is left of our threatened woodlands and wetlands and scaling up revegetation efforts.

We are ensuring that recreated habitats are strategically placed and meet the requirements of threatened species.

The realisation of the Habitat 141° vision will see wildlife and plants moving through restored and re-connected habitats, ensuring that future generations can still enjoy the sights and sounds of our unique Australian wildlife.

## How we work: Plan, act and empower

The scale of the problem is large and resources are limited. Careful planning is essential to ensure that on-ground activities are undertaken in strategic areas where the need is greatest.

The Habitat 141 Landscape Conservation Plan provides a framework for action across the Habitat 141° landscape that is grounded in the best available knowledge, mapping and analysis, identifying priorities for action and suggesting priority project areas for landscape linkage programs.

Extensive planning and analysis has been undertaken at various scales to identify priorities for on-ground action. Within priority areas, more localised planning workshops are undertaken that engage people in an ongoing dialogue of planning and action.

These workshops bring ecologists together with practitioners and landholders, and have proven to be an essential tool for stimulating partnerships and enabling effective action on the ground.

**The Habitat 141° Landscape Conservation Plan provides a blueprint for action that is agreed to by all alliance members.**

## Habitat 141° Landscape priorities

### Current project examples

#### 1 Murray Mallee Linkages

This project is expanding and reconnecting core habitat areas between Billiat Conservation Park and Murray Sunset National Park to support threatened mallee bird species such as Mallee Emu-wren, Malleefowl, Red-lored Whistler and Western Whipbird.

#### 2 Murray Sunset to Wyperfeld

The Mallee Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is working with private landholders, community groups and public land managers to rebuild connections between the Murray Sunset and Wyperfeld National Parks (NP). The \$3.2 million 'Connecting Mallee Parks' project is funded by the Australian Government and will offer financial support for on-ground works that improve the quality and extent of native vegetation between the major parks.

#### 3 Wimmera Woodlands and Wetlands

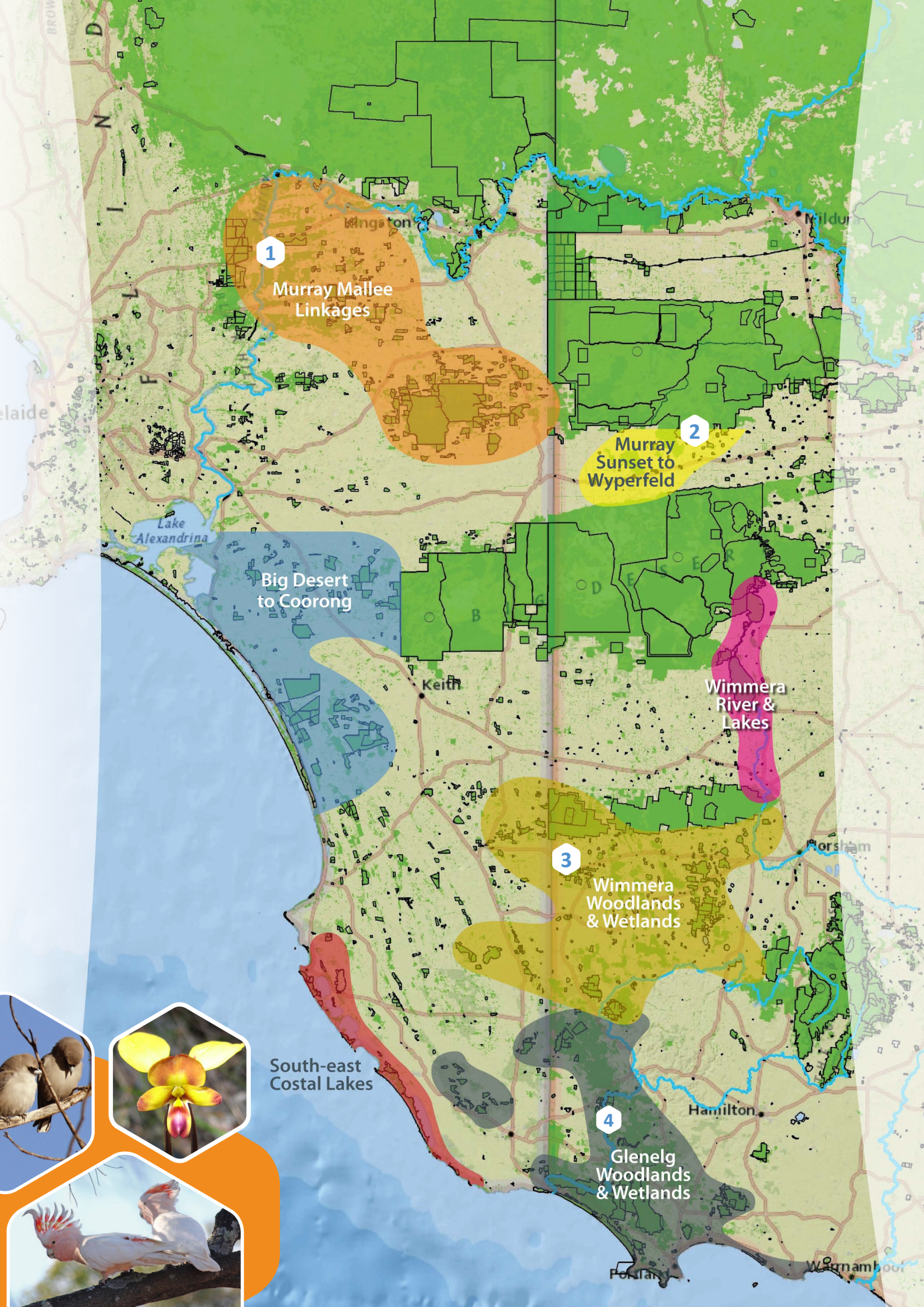
This project is protecting and reinstating threatened woodland and wetland habitats to support endangered wildlife such as the South-eastern Red-tailed Black Cockatoo. The ultimate goal of the project is to reconnect the Little Desert National Park with Mt Arapiles, Dergholm and Grampians National Park.

#### 4 Glenelg Woodlands and Wetlands

The Glenelg area is a real hotspot for threatened mammals including the Southern Brown Bandicoot, Long-nosed Potoroo, Eastern Pygmy Possum, Heath Mouse and Yellow-bellied Glider, plus many other threatened species. The project is conserving the regions last remaining threatened woodlands and wetlands and enhancing connectivity in target areas.







1

Murray Mallee Linkages

2

Murray Sunset to Wyperfeld

Big Desert to Coorong

Wimmera River & Lakes

3

Wimmera Woodlands & Wetlands

4

Glenelg Woodlands & Wetlands

South-east Coastal Lakes





## The Habitat 141° Alliance



The alliance is made up of representatives from 10 organisations across three states, enabling collaboration at an unprecedented scale.

### Our alliance members.



## Get involved

There are many ways to get involved and make Habitat 141° a reality!

Volunteer

Sponsor a project

Promote Habitat 141°

Donate to a specific project

Undertake a Habitat 141° project

Collaborate with Habitat 141° partners



For more information or to find out how you can support Habitat 141°, please contact:

**Ron Dodds**

Habitat 141 Alliance Chair

**0428 594 128**

or

**Dave Warne**

Habitat 141 Project Coordinator

**0427 000 446**