## Threatened Ecological Communities: Victoria



Natural Grasslands of the Murray Valley Plains: Expansive and undulating, these grasslands capture the essence of the Murray Valley Plains. With flora like the Spear Grass, Wallaby Grass, and various saltbush species, they paint a unique picture. Fauna is equally diverse, from the small Eastern Barred Bandicoot foraging on insects to the vocal Plains-wanderer bird that roams in search of seeds.

Seasonal Herbaceous Wetlands (Freshwater) of the Temperate Lowland Plains: A fluctuating landscape, these wetlands are abundant in herbaceous plants such as the Floating Pondweed and Spikerush. They serve as breeding grounds for the Growling Grass Frog and are stopover sites for migratory waterbirds like the Australasian Bittern, which camouflages among the reeds.

Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens: A product of the chilly alpine regions, these areas are drenched in moisture and blanketed in Sphagnum moss. Flora such as the Alpine Marsh Marigold dot the region. The endemic Corroboree Frog, with its striking yellow and black markings, and the Bogong Moth, which serves as a food source for many alpine predators, are iconic fauna here.

Buloke Woodlands of the Riverina and Murray-Darling Depression Bioregions: The Buloke tree, with its willowy appearance, is the hallmark of this woodland. Amidst the trees, native grasses sway. The woodland resounds with the calls of the endangered Regent Parrot while grounddwelling animals like the Mallee Fowl create intricate nests.

Gippsland Red Gum Grassy Woodland: Marked by the towering Gippsland Red Gum, these woodlands are interspersed with grasslands housing species like the Wallaby Grass. The Koala might be spotted munching on the gum leaves, while the ground may reveal tracks of the Long-nosed Potoroo.



Grassy Eucalypt Woodland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain: With a canopy formed by various Eucalyptus species, the woodland floor is rich with Kangaroo Grass and orchids. The elusive Striped Legless Lizard slithers through, and on sunny days, the Golden Sun Moth flits about.

Grey Box Grassy Woodlands: The Grey Box trees, with their textured bark, stand tall here. Underneath, a tapestry of native grasses and herbs flourishes. Birds like the Painted Honeyeater and mammals such as the Brush-tailed Phascogale find refuge here.

Natural Temperate Grassland of the Victorian Volcanic Plain: Diverse wildflowers, from Billy Buttons to lilies, burst forth amongst native grasses. The Striped Legless Lizard, with its snake-like appearance, and the Eastern Rat Kangaroo are noteworthy inhabitants.

Silurian Limestone Pomaderris Shrubland (SLPS): The alkaline limestone soil nourishes a unique flora dominated by various Pomaderris species. The Eastern Pygmy Possum, with its large round eyes, navigates the shrubby expanse.

White Box-Yellow Box-Blakely's Red Gum Grassy Woodland: A fusion of eucalypt species towers above, while the ground is embroidered with grasses and herbs. The Superb Parrot, with its radiant green plumage, and ground-dwellers like the Sugar Glider are native here.

Littoral Rainforest and Coastal Vine Thickets of East Australia: Dense foliage, from large-leaved rainforest trees to sprawling vines, characterizes this coastal zone. The Eastern Ground Parrot, with its cryptic plumage, and the Hastings River Mouse navigate the dense underbrush.



Giant Kelp Marine Forests of South East Australia: Under the sea's surface, Giant Kelp sways in rhythmic underwater currents. A diverse marine haven, it hosts species from the vibrantly colored Weedy Sea Dragon to the Abalone, which clings to rocky substrates.

