

The Halfway Huddle

Linking the rainforest to the coast

The Hoddle Range is an incredibly diverse patch of native vegetation in South Gippsland. It is the halfway point between the Strzelecki Ranges and Cape Liptrap and a key node in a rainforest to coast biolink.

Here, you'll find an array of vegetation types ranging from heathlands to rainforests. Undisturbed remnants, regenerating native bush and fern-lined gullies form a mosaic across the landscape.

It is through this patch that the wildlife, including the coastal Liptrap population of lyrebird, has the best chance to connect with their rainforest communities. Lyrebirds are one of nature's ecological engineers, their foraging behaviour plays an important role in maintaining forest biodiversity – some call this corridor the Lyrebird Link.



We respectfully acknowledge the **Bratowoloong Clan** as the Traditional Custodians of the Hoddle Range on **Kurnai Country**.

**Fish Creek
VIC**

We are coordinating **community driven biodiversity surveys** to identify habitat notes worthy of conservation that will enable meaningful **biolink mapping** on the Hoddle Range.

There are significant patches of remnant vegetation here on both private and public land, but the rich biodiversity has not been fully documented.

A whopping 94% of the land in South Gippsland is privately owned. To create a network of biolinks, **the support of private landholders is critical.**

With the use of aerial mapping tools and existing biodiversity data, properties that are – or could become – **biodiversity linkages in the landscape have been identified.** We are working with landholders and ecologists to document them.

These invaluable surveys not only provide great insight to landholders of the status of species present on the land, they become tools to manage their land collaboratively with neighbours for **landscape scale biodiversity protection and weed and feral control**

This process also generates data for the **South Gippsland Biodiversity Protection Plan and Biolinks Mapping** projects by the South Gippsland Landcare Network, which are recognised at government level as important planning documents for our region.

The next stage of this project will be to work with water and land authorities to secure biodiversity mapping of land that is under their tenure in the Hoddle Range. The **high level of community support** for the current surveys has strengthened the case for government landholders to follow suit.

visit our website:



www.promcoasteolink.org