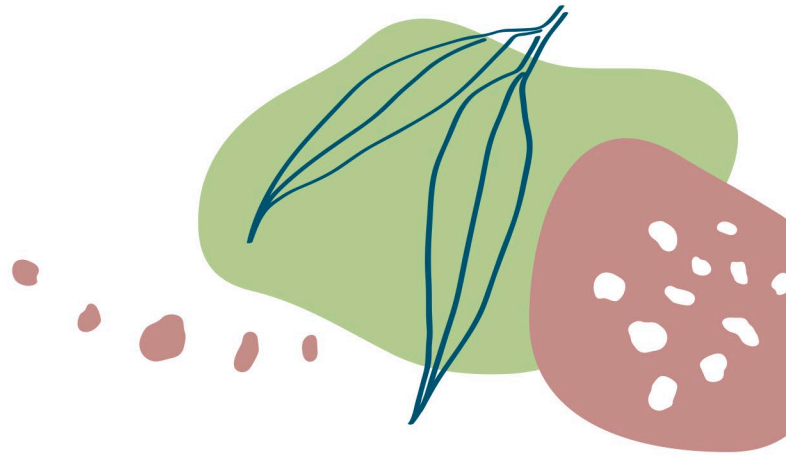


Media Release



31 May 2024

NEW PROJECT ENSURES GRASS SPECIES BLOWS IN FUTURE

An endangered saline-loving grassland plant will be blowing into the future with the announcement of a \$250,000 project aimed at its survival in the landscape.

Adamson's Blown Grass – a native grassland plant found in south-west Victoria – was identified as a priority species in the Australian Government's Threatened Species Action Plan 2022-2023.

From that listing, the Glenelg Hopkins CMA has been successful in sharing some of the \$24 million in funding announced last week through the Saving Native Species Program for 61 projects to protect the plants and animals prioritised in the plan. .

The two-year project will follow on from a project in 2022 which identified populations of the plant on public and private land, and will move towards supporting landholders to protect the populations on their property through awareness raising campaigns, helping them to identify the plant and its' habitat.

The project will also aim to collect seed from the grass and support works to diversify the populations of the plant through population propagation.

"Adamson's Blown Grass is a plant commonly confused with what we colloquially call umbrella grass," Glenelg Hopkins CMA CEO Adam Bester said.

"While it might look similar to the untrained eye, Adamson's Blown Grass is actually a special grass that creates its home in the more saline soils of our region, and is especially good at supporting soils which occur around wetlands and drains.

"By supporting this endangered species, we continue our aim of supporting the wide diversity of grassland plants we are lucky to continue to have thriving in our catchment."

This is the second project the Glenelg Hopkins CMA has been successful in having funded through the Saving Native Species Program, with a \$490,000 project to support the habitat restoration and a captive breeding program for the Glenelg Freshwater Mussel announced recently.

ENDS



CAPTION: Adamson's Blown Grass is often confused with more prevalent grassland species but is an endangered saline-area plant.

IMAGE: AUSTIN BROWN.