



Cobboboonee National Park and Forest Park

16 November 2006

Labor will create a new Cobboboonee National Park and Forest Park outside Portland to preserve the valuable Cobboboonee Forest and ensure it is managed for the best mix of conservation and recreational uses

A re-elected Bracks Government will create a new 27,000 hectare Cobboboonee National Park and Forest Park. The Cobboboonee is home to many threatened bird and animal species. Recent studies show many Australian bird species could face extinction as a consequence of the impact of climate change on food sources and habitat which is why it is important that areas like the Cobboboonee are given the protection of the National Parks Act.

The Cobboboonee has in excess of 10 Ecological Vegetation Classes that are listed as threatened in Victoria and is a stronghold for the iconic Powerful Owl which is listed as vulnerable in Victoria. It also provides critical habitat for the following national and state listed species; Spot-tailed Quoll, Southern Brown Bandicoot, Long-nosed Potoroo, Southern Bent Wing Bat, Masked Owl, Swamp Antechinus and Swamp Skink.

In addition to its values as a conservation area, the Cobboboonee is also enjoyed by locals and tourists for its great walking trails and other recreational activities.

Labor will ask the Department of Sustainability and Environment to work with Parks Victoria and the local community to determine the final boundaries of the new National and Forest Parks so that the new arrangements accommodate appropriate recreational activities.

This ecologically important area is already managed for conservation resulting from public consultation and recommendations. By bringing this land under the National Parks Act 1975, we will increase its protection so that it can be enjoyed by generations to come.

Iconic species found in the Cobboboonee,

- **Spot-tailed Quoll - *Dasyornis maculatus* - Nationally Endangered**
- **Southern Brown Bandicoot - *Isoodon obesulus* - Nationally Endangered**
- **Long-nosed Potoroo - *Potorous trydactylus* - Nationally Vulnerable**
- **Southern Bent Wing Bat - *Miniopterus schreiberei* - Nationally Endangered**
- **Masked Owl - *Tyto novaehollandiae* - Endangered in Victoria**
- **Swamp Antechinus - *Anthechinus minimus* - Near Threatened in Victoria**
- **Swamp Skink - *Ergenia coventryi* - Vulnerable in Victoria**



Fact Sheet

WHEN IT MATTERS
Steve Bracks



Cobboboonee State Forest

