

Dragons from the greater Geelong area

The Department of Sustainability and Environment is currently undertaking surveys to locate the Grassland Earless Dragon in Victoria. The last confirmed Victorian sighting of this species was in 1969. This dragon is listed at the state and national level as endangered. It's easy to confuse the Grassland Earless Dragon with two different species of dragon around the greater Geelong area. This information sheet has been developed to assist people in positively identifying the dragons of this area.

Grassland Earless Dragon (*Tympanocryptis pinguicolla*)



Peter Robertson Wildlife Profiles P/L



Peter Robertson Wildlife Profiles P/L

Distinguishing features

- Narrow cream vertebral, dorsal and midlateral stripes interrupt broad brown bands over a pale brown background.
- No obvious ear opening.
- Yellow tinge under chin. In the breeding season males may have a yellow belly.
- Total length is no longer than 150mm.
- Habitat – native grasslands.

Jacky Dragon (*Amphibolurus muricatus*)



Peter Robertson Wildlife Profiles P/L



Nick Clemann DSE

Distinguishing features

- Grey with a series of pale dorsal blotches.
- Moderately robust build.
- Distinct ear opening.
- Thighs with large scatted spinose scales.
- Total length up to 300mm.
- Habitat – coastal and inland dry sclerophyll, rocky ridges and coastal heathlands

Mountain Heath Dragon (*Rankinia diemensis*)



Peter Robertson Wildlife Profiles P/L



Nick Clemann DSE

Distinguishing features

- Broad vertebral stripe grey to reddish brown in colour, edged by deeply serrated triangular marking forming prominent zigzagging patterns
- Distinct ear opening.
- Obscure pale bar usually present between eyes
- Row of enlarged spinose scales on each side of the tail-base
- Total length up to 200mm
- Habitat – heathlands and woodlands

For further information please contact:

Garry Peterson
Threatened Species Officer
(03) 5561 9915
gary.peterson@dse.vic.gov.au

Donna McMaster
Threatened Species Officer
(03) 5233 5589
donna.mcmaster@dse.vic.gov.au



Australian Government



Published by the Victorian Government Department of Sustainability and Environment, Warrnambool, May 2009
© The State of Victoria Department of Sustainability and Environment 2008

This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*.
Authorised by the Victorian Government, 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne.

For more information contact the DSE South West Regional Office (Warrnambool) on 5561 9900 or visit the DSE website at <http://www.dse.vic.gov.au>
This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

www.dse.vic.gov.au