

**Review of SWIFFT (State Wide Integrated Flora & fauna Teams)  
November 2013 to November 2014**

The SWIFFT web sites and SWIFFT video conferences have continued to grow and provide a valuable means of sharing information between government, education and community sectors relating to threatened species and biodiversity conservation across Victoria.

This update builds on similar reports in 2011, 2012 and 2013 providing activities over the last 12 months and a snapshot of the web site since 2005.

The original SWIFFT wiki web site has been in transition since April 2014 with a new web site being supported through Federation University Australia, Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation (CeRDI). The Department of Environment and Primary Industries has continued to provide access to databases for developing new pages. It has also supported video conferences through telephony and providing venues across Victoria.

**SWIFFT video conferences**

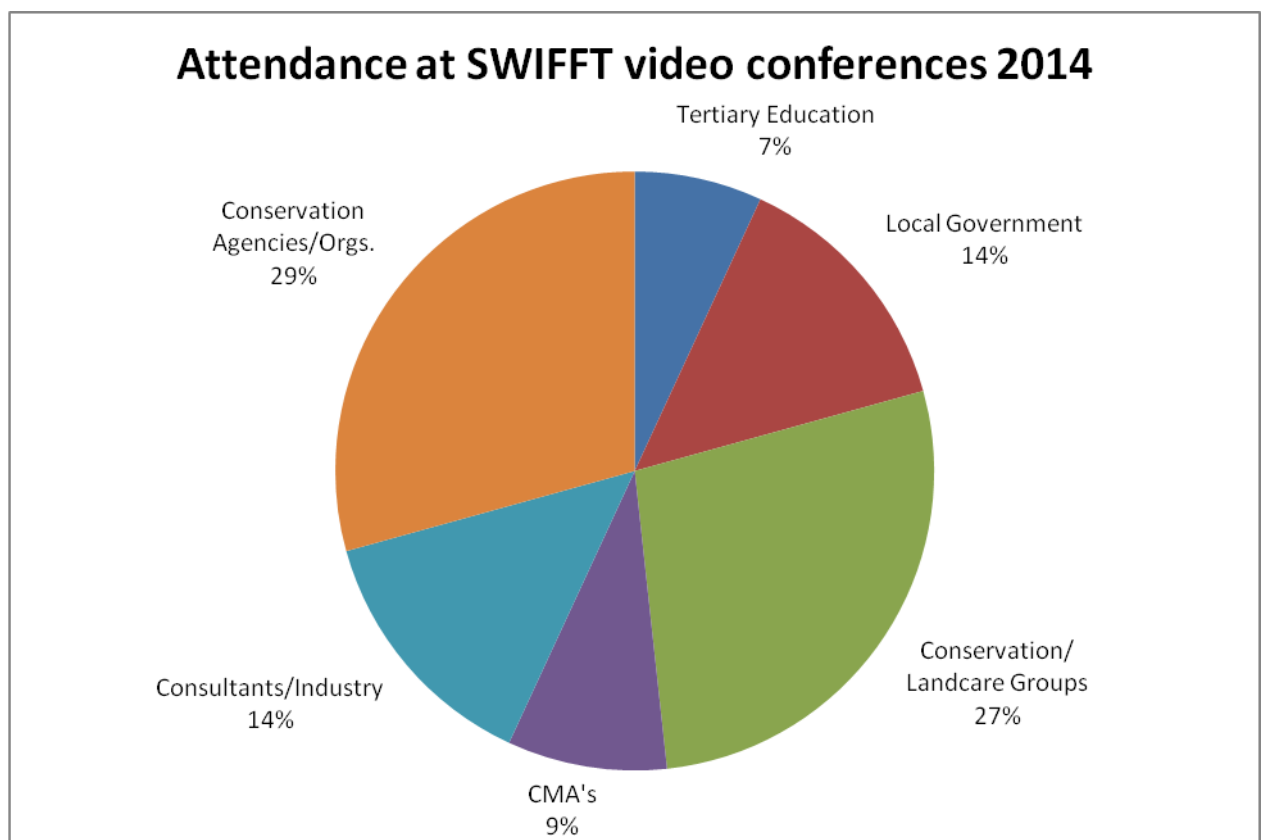


*In 2014 video conferences linked up 16 locations throughout Victoria*

**Video conference outcomes and sphere of influence (Oct. 2013 - Oct. 2014)**

| Video conference topic                      | Attended   |
|---|------------|
| Raptors                                     | 95         |
| Marine wildlife                             | 52         |
| Wildlife on farms                           | 97         |
| Wetlands                                    | 69         |
| <b>Total participants in last 12 months</b> | <b>313</b> |

**Engagement categories for attendance at video conferences in the last 12 months.**



A total of 58 different organisations/groups were involved throughout the year.

Tertiary Institutions x 4

- Bendigo TAFE
- Deakin University
- Federation University Australia
- Gordon TAFE - Geelong

### Local Government x 8

Baw Baw Shire  
City of Greater Geelong  
Colac Otway Shire  
Hume City  
Moorabool Shire  
Nillumbik Shire  
Latrobe City  
Wyndham City Council

### Conservation groups x 16

ANGAIR (Anglesea & Aireys Inlet Environment Network)  
Ballarat Birdlife  
Ballarat Environment Network  
Ballarat Field Naturalists Club  
Basalt to Bay Landcare  
Bellarine Landcare  
Friends of Eastern Otways  
Garibaldi Landcare  
Geelong Environment Council  
Geelong Field Naturalists Club  
Hamilton Field Naturalists Club  
Land for Wildlife  
Orbost Landcare  
Portland Field Naturalists Club  
Torquay Landcare  
Upper Mt Emu Ck. Landcare

### Catchment Management Authorities x 5

North East CMA  
North Central CMA  
West Gippsland CMA  
Glenelg Hopkins CMA  
Corangamite CMA

### Consultants / Industry x 8

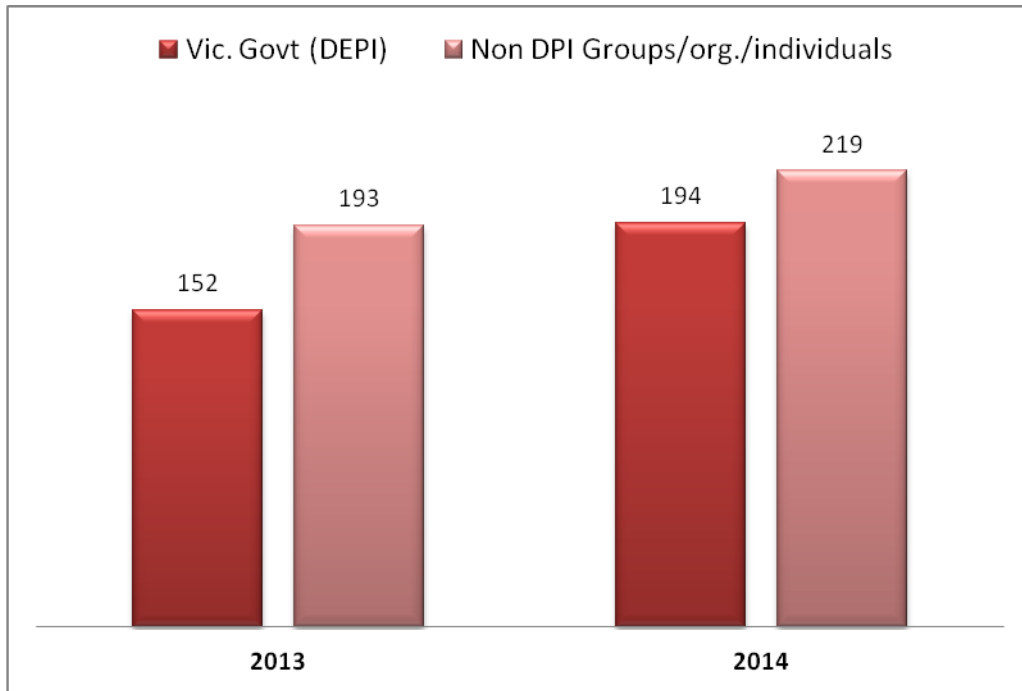
Australian Forest Growers  
Bret Lane and Associates  
Deliberate Impact, consulting  
Ecology Australia  
Ecology & Heritage Partners  
Environmental Justice Office Australia  
Rakali Consulting  
Treehome Nursery

## Conservation agencies and organisations x 17

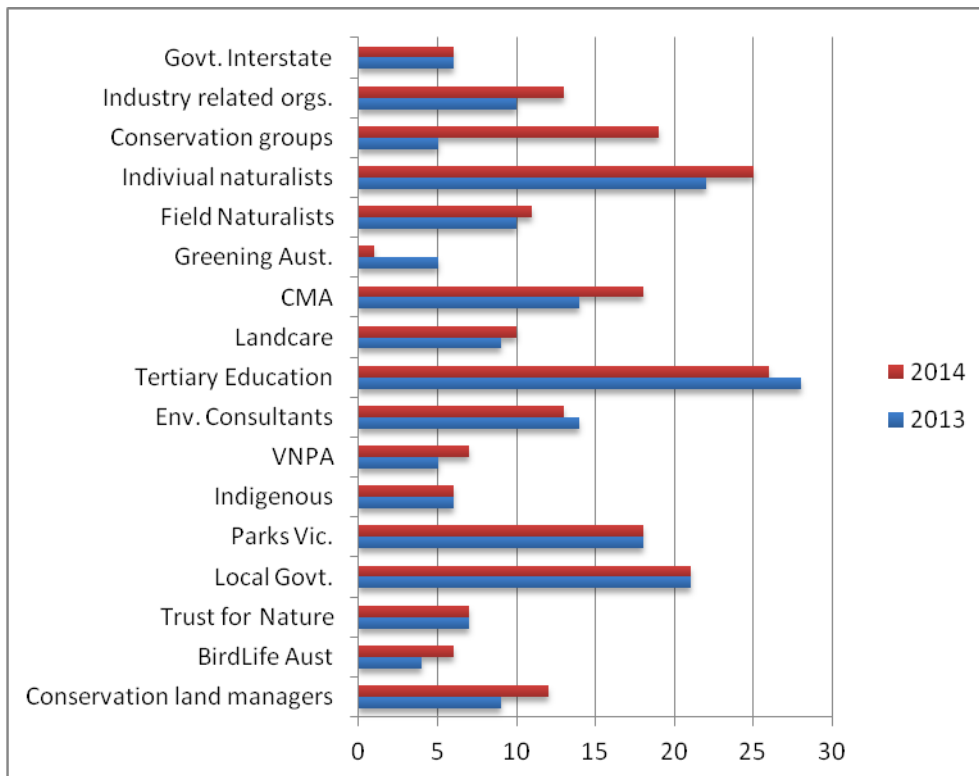
Ballarat Renewable Energy And Zero Emissions,  
Barwon Coast Committee  
Bellarine Bayside Committee of Management  
Birdlife Australia  
Blue Whale Study Org.  
Central Highlands Water  
Connecting Country  
DEPI, Arthur Rylah Institute  
DEPI, Nicholson Street, Melb.  
Game Management Authority  
Nature Glenelg Trust  
Parklands Albury/Wodonga  
Parks Victoria  
Trust for Nature  
Wathaurong Aboriginal Co-op  
Western Coastal Board  
Windamarra Land Management Team.



## SWIFFT e-mail contact list for video conferences



## Composition of non DEPI SWIFFT contacts (based on e-mail list)



## The SWIFFT web site

The addition of content to the new SWIFFT web site commenced in April 2014. The new SWIFFT site is supported by the Centre for eResearch and Digital Innovation (CeRDI) - Content Builder.

The old wiki site is still on-line but many pages now have links to the new site.

A total of 122 pages were added to the new site between April to November 2014, of these 13 were new species specific pages.

|                               | Old wiki | New Site |
|-------------------------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Total pages</b>            | 316      | 122      |
|                               |          |          |
| <b>Species specific pages</b> |          |          |
| Flora                         | 35       | 2        |
| Birds                         | 30       | 5        |
| Mammals                       | 20       | 5        |
| Fish                          | 6        |          |
| Reptiles & Amphibians         | 12       | 1        |
| Invertebrates                 | 12       |          |
| <b>Total species specific</b> | 115      | 13       |

It is planned that species pages on the wiki will be updated and reformatted to the new site as time and resources permit.

### SWIFFT sites usage 2014

**Overall visits to SWIFFT wiki front page 76,942 up 18,443 for the year** (24% increase in front page visits and an increase of 6% compared with last year's increase).

**Overall cumulative visits to the top 68 wiki pages 923,348 up 256,508 for the year** (28% increase in visits).

*The top 68 pages are pages which have accumulated more than 5000 visits. The higher number of overall visits to the most popular 68 pages compared to the front page indicates a lot of people are going to species pages from web searches.*

**Overall visits to the new SWIFFT site April - Nov. 2014 = 9,488**

*As the new site becomes established it is expected that visits to the old wiki will decline, particularly as species pages are added to the new site.*

**Popular SWIFFT wiki pages** (pages with over 5000 visits) as at 26/11/2014 (*inc. visits in 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14*) \* Pages which have been added to the new SWIFFT site.

| <b>Species /Pages</b>           | <b>Accumulated Page visits</b> | <b>2011-12 visits</b> | <b>2012-13 visits</b> | <b>2013-14 visits</b> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current Projects page *         | 47160                          | +6132                 | +12404                | +9382                 |
| Bush Stone-curlew *             | 46039                          | +9124                 | +7440                 | +5256                 |
| SWIFFT meetings page *          | 41417                          | +5229                 | +7693                 | +22267                |
| Brolga                          | 35234                          | +5456                 | +10360                | +4050                 |
| Brush-tailed Phascogale *       | 34766                          | +6465                 | +9836                 | +5165                 |
| Hooded Plover                   | 30667                          | +5766                 | +4940                 | +3757                 |
| Orange Bellied Parrot *         | 29347                          | +5450                 | +7508                 | +7277                 |
| Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo       | 28784                          | +4067                 | +8083                 | +5955                 |
| Surveys page *                  | 27459                          | +6309                 | +7315                 | +4294                 |
| Powerful Owl                    | 27060                          | +6489                 | +4474                 | +3707                 |
| Eastern Barred Bandicoot *      | 26311                          | +3929                 | +7248                 | +3536                 |
| Barking Owl                     | 24095                          | +4783                 | +4828                 | +3608                 |
| Common Bent-wing Bat            | 22094                          | +4295                 | +6289                 | +3673                 |
| Striped Legless Lizard          | 20540                          | +4326                 | +5593                 | +3401                 |
| Diamond Firetail                | 18414                          | +5414                 | +4120                 | +2218                 |
| Growling Grass Frog             | 16719                          | +3726                 | +5202                 | +3419                 |
| Brush-tailed Rock-Wallaby *     | 14710                          | +2499                 | +5898                 | +2334                 |
| Blue-billed Duck                | 13264                          | +3020                 | +4637                 | +1867                 |
| King Quail                      | 13539                          | +2642                 | +3462                 | +2574                 |
| Threat Sp A-Z SW page *         | 13392                          | +1104                 | +3898                 | +4876                 |
| Masked Owl                      | 12870                          | +2893                 | +2691                 | +2176                 |
| Reports and findings page *     | 12506                          |                       | +3276                 | +5270                 |
| Common Dunnart                  | 11869                          | +2091                 | +3417                 | +1953                 |
| Blue Whale                      | 11726                          | +1717                 | +4262                 | +836                  |
| Swamp Antechinus                | 10799                          | +1846                 | +1896                 | +1458                 |
| Golden Sun Moth                 | 10658                          | +1585                 | +1864                 | +1271                 |
| Southern Right Whale *          | 10453                          |                       |                       | +10953                |
| Swift Parrot                    | 10402                          | +1530                 | +1738                 | +1422                 |
| Eastern Curlew                  | 10376                          | +1674                 | +3396                 | +1488                 |
| Long-nosed Potoroo              | 10713                          | +1979                 | +2582                 | +1873                 |
| Azure Kingfisher                | 10287                          | +2560                 | +2947                 | +1733                 |
| Basalt Peppercross              | 10091                          |                       |                       | +10091                |
| Grey Goshawk                    | 9860                           | +1627                 | +1967                 | +1382                 |
| Meeting notes native grasslands | 9341                           | +1503                 | +2204                 | +1746                 |
| Ground Parrot                   | 9271                           | +2107                 | +2263                 | +1643                 |
| Rosenberg's Goanna              | 9044                           |                       |                       | +9044                 |
| Musk Duck                       | 8666                           | +1239                 | +1609                 | +1100                 |
| Research page *                 | 9803                           | +1309                 | +2386                 | +2253                 |
| Great Knot                      | 8919                           | +1482                 | +1955                 | +1498                 |
| International Student Vol. 2007 | 8619                           | +1663                 | +1664                 | +1856                 |
| Bio-calendar *                  | 8209                           |                       | +3271                 | +938                  |
| Leatherback Turtle *            | 8029                           | +1268                 | +1893                 | +1427                 |
| Rufous Bristlebird              | 8012                           | +1251                 | +1377                 | +975                  |
| Threat Flora SW page *          | 7895                           | +1027                 | +1313                 | +777                  |
| Heath Mouse                     | 7866                           | +1158                 | +1202                 | +2057                 |



| <b>Species /Pages</b>   | <b>Page visits</b> | <b>2011-12</b>  | <b>2012-13</b>  | <b>2013-14</b>  |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Corangamite Water Skink   | 7654               |                 | +3715           | +939            |
| Metallic Sun-orchid *   | 7592               | +1043           | +1743           | +1378           |
| Full list threat flora SW page  | 7589               | +1168           | +1702           | +1228           |
| Regent Parrot   | 7540               |                 |                 | +7540           |
| White-footed Dunnart  | 7540               | +1179           | +1495           | +1376           |
| Spiny Rice-flower   | 7174               | +1062           | +1578           | +1261           |
| Elegant Spider-orchid   | 6993               |                 |                 | +6993           |
| Mellblom's Spider orchid  | 6806               | +807            | +1553           | +1018           |
| Swamp Skink   | 6635               | +850            | +1184           | +639            |
| Ancient Greenling Damsel fly  | 6539               |                 | +1420           | +1119           |
| Squirrel Glider   | 6268               |                 |                 | +6268           |
| Eltham Copper Butterfly   | 6180               |                 | +1417           | +763            |
| Square-tailed Kite  | 6102               | +1364           | +1802           | +759            |
| Adamson's Blown -grass  | 5876               |                 |                 | +5876           |
| Australian Mudfish  | 5832               |                 |                 | +5832           |
| Basalt Rustyhood  | 5783               |                 |                 | +5783           |
| Woodland Blind Snake  | 5713               |                 |                 | +5713           |
| Lewin's Rail  | 5690               |                 |                 | +5690           |
| Spot-tailed Quoll *   | 5642               |                 |                 | +5642           |
| Variegated Pygmy Perch  | 5403               |                 |                 | +5403           |
| Grey-headed Flying-fox  | 5312               |                 |                 | +5312           |
| Dwarf Galaxias  | 5137               |                 |                 | +5137           |
| Button Wrinklewort  | 5053               |                 |                 | +5053           |
| <b>Totals for popular pages</b><br><i>(pages with over 5000 accumulated visits)</i> | <b>923,348</b>     | <b>+137,207</b> | <b>+200,010</b> | <b>+256,508</b> |
| <b>Total page visits to new site April - Nov 2014</b>                               |                    |                 |                 | <b>+9488</b>    |

The SWIFFT pages are equivalent to producing Fact Sheets for 115 species with the advantage they can be viewed many times more efficiently, updated easily and use far less paper resources.

Visits to SWIFFT pages is a reflection how many thousands of times people have sought out information on threatened species and viewed information about threatened species and actions in Victoria. Without the SWIFFT the flow of information to the general community and within conservation partners would have been substantially diminished.

#### **Features of SWIFFT web pages:**

Images – the SWIFFT pages contain many images which are not found on other comparable web sites. The sourcing of images has created many new contacts and has been a means of engaging specialist/naturalists in the network.

Facts – the SWIFFT web site contains not only species related information BUT current actions, research and progress towards management outcomes.

Updates and links – the SWIFFT web pages are capable of quick and current updates. They contain many links to other sources of information and current events.



## Video conference and web site synergies

The SWIFFT web site plays an important part in promoting and recording video conferences. It provides the participants and the community with the opportunity to view key messages from the video conferences. The video conference notes also provide many links to SWIFFT related pages. There has been 29,493 visits to the video conference pages in the last year and a cumulative total of 96,930 visits to these pages.

| Video conference topic               | Date of VC | Attended    | Visits to page and change in last 12 months |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|---|
| General                              | 14 -7-05   | 22          | 1228 +254                                   |
| General                              | 13-10-05   | 28          | 1053 +219                                   |
| General                              | 16-2-06    | 38          | 4108 +2402                                  |
| General                              | 18-5-06    | 34          | 2483 +482                                   |
| SW projects                          | 13-7-06    | 34          | 5608 +689                                   |
| SW projects                          | 8-11-06    | 39          | 3265 +558                                   |
| SW projects                          | 14-2-07    | 43          | 3397 +716                                   |
| SW projects                          | 23-5-07    | 40          | 3287 +1022                                  |
| SW projects                          | 22-8-07    | 43          | 2535 +1224                                  |
| Native grasslands                    | 14-11-07   | 48          | 9343 +1748                                  |
| Bird monitoring                      | 31-1-08    | 74          | 2985 +850                                   |
| Climate change data sets             | 1-5-08     | 42          | 2582 +707                                   |
| VVP conservation mgt                 | 23-7-08    | 51          | 3766 +1110                                  |
| Freshwater ecology & drought         | 23-11-08   | 43          | 2524 +718                                   |
| Ecosystem conservation               | 29-1-09    | 33          | 3340 +864                                   |
| Marine biodiversity conservation     | 22-4-09    | 42          | 2399 +647                                   |
| Fire & biodiversity                  | 23-7-09    | 67          | 1979 +627                                   |
| Managing small reserves              | 29-9-09    | 48          | 2995 +799                                   |
| Biodiversity education               | 28-1-10    | 57          | 2639 +819                                   |
| Fungi mosses & lichen                | 28-4-10    | 65          | 3248 +833                                   |
| Aboriginal land mgt                  | 29-7-10    | 110         | 2636 +890                                   |
| Insect plant associations            | 28-10-10   | 57          | 3072 +894                                   |
| Amphibian ecology                    | 27-1-11    | 77          | 3469 +1149                                  |
| VPP grassland recovery               | 19-4-11    | 65          | 3138 +1063                                  |
| Threat sp reintroductions            | 28-7-11    | 115         | 3661 +1451                                  |
| Threat species cons. Private land    | 27-10-11   | 76          | 2777 +861                                   |
| Habitat enhancements                 | 2-2-12     | 116         | 2298 +810                                   |
| Introduced predators                 | 19-4-12    | 122         | 2676 +600                                   |
| Bat ecology & conservation           | 26-7-12    | 108         | 3542 +1520                                  |
| Biodiversity urban and fringing land | 31-10-12   | 67          | 1820 +919                                   |
| Reptile conservation                 | 18-4-12    | 110         | 1087 +742                                   |
| Community conservation               | 25-7-13    | 77          | 734 +567                                    |
| Conservation of remnant trees        | 31-10-13   | 91          | 884 +841                                    |
| Raptors                              | 6-2-14     | 95          | 136 +136                                    |
| Marine wildlife                      | 24-4-14    | 52          | 139 +139                                    |
| Wildlife on farms                    | 31-7-14    | 97          | 72 +72                                      |
| Wetlands                             | 31-10-14   | 69          | 25 +25                                      |
| <b>Total</b>                         |            | <b>1850</b> | <b>96,930 +29,966</b>                       |

The above table demonstrates the powerful multiplier effect of having the video conference notes on the SWIFFT web site. It means video conference outcomes have reached a far wider audience than to those who attended. Visits to the video conference pages tend to occur well after the video conference which suggests a high proportion of a new audience of people are seeking out the information provided.

## SWIFFT workshops

Federation University Australia, Centre for eResearch and Digital innovation (CeRDI), through the Central Highlands Digital Enterprise supported SWIFFT workshops held in Beaufort, Daylesford and Lake Burrumbeet. The following groups were represented:

- Upper Mt Emu Creek Landcare
- Burrumbeet Landcare
- Lexton Landcare
- Cardigan/Windermere Landcare
- Stoneleigh Landcare
- Invermay Landcare
- Miners Rest Landcare
- Kara Kara Landcare
- Upper Loddon & Avoca Landcare
- Indigenous Caring for Country
- Central Victorian Bio-links
- VicRoads
- St Arnuard Field Naturalist Club
- Wombat Forestcare
- Eurambeen Historic Homestead
- Beyond Bolac Group
- Pyrenees Shire
- Glenelg Hopkins CMA
- North Central CMA

## SUMMARY

- Federation University Australia, Centre for eResearch and Digital innovation (CeRDI) continued to provide essential web support.
- Department of Environment and Primary Industries continued to support video conferences.
- SWIFFT continues to be an efficient and effective means of engaging a wide cross section of people / organisations in biodiversity and threatened species conservation.
- At least 265,000 visits were made to SWIFFT during the last 12 months.
- Video conference notes play an important role in Citizen Science and assist the community to understand issues relating to biodiversity management, with about 29,966 visits to video conference notes in the last 12 months.
- A Business Plan for maintenance and future growth has been prepared.
- A trial of innovative mapping to Visualise Victoria's Biodiversity has commenced but is subject to further funding.
- SWIFFT is facing severe financial constraints in 2015. Future growth will be very difficult unless funding is secured.

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Report prepared by Ian Smith - 29 November 2014