DRIVE TO SAVE KARAK

A VicRoads number plate featuring the Commonwealth Games mascot 'Karak' is now available as part of a plan to save the endangered Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

Proceeds from sales of the number plates will go to organisations working to save Karak and will be administered by the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

The aim is to sell 1,000 limited edition number plates – roughly a plate per endangered bird - at \$285 each.

The Karak number plate will help promote and commemorate the Commonwealth Games, and help to save the endangered Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

The Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games aim to be the greenest ever and a number of environmental measures are in place – including using recycled water at venues, cleaning up the Yarra, making the event carbon neutral, reducing littering and a six star Games village.

An Action Statement under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act, to be released by the Victorian Government in the lead up to the Games, will outline further measures to protect Karak, including:

- Maintaining areas of existing feeding habitat;
- Increasing seed production in existing feeding habitat;
- Maintaining availability of nest trees;
- Minimising impact of nest predators;
- Increasing awareness and involvement by the local community; and
- Establishing long term support plans for the Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo.

To place your order for the limited edition Commonwealth Games Karak number plates, go to www.dse.vic.gov.au or phone the Department of Sustainability and Environment's Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

For further information: Alex Fisher, DSE, (03) 9637 8911