

When biomass is reduced by disturbance such as fire, grass tussocks are maintained in a vigorous and healthy state and native forbs (such as daisies, lilies and orchids) are maintained because the intertussock spaces are large, allowing lots of light penetration to the ground. Seeds that germinate are more likely to survive in the canopy gaps, helping to maintain grassland diversity. Additionally, the structure of the grassland remains open and this is the preferred habitat type for many ground-dwelling animals such as the Plains-wanderer (*Pedionomus torquatus*). For good grassland management, the frequency of biomass removal will be dictated by the rate at which intertussock gaps close.

**NATIVE GRASSLAND  
WITH REGULAR BIOMASS REMOVAL**

