

## Attachment C - Communities Environment Program

### End of project report

Project number	CEP80092
Grantee name	Molonglo Conservation Group
Project title	Erosion Control Workshop

*The project number, grantee name and project title can be found in the letter of grant agreement.*

**The amount of detail you provide in this report should be commensurate with the size, complexity and grant amount of your project.**

Submit your completed report to [CEP2019contracts@industry.gov.au](mailto:CEP2019contracts@industry.gov.au).

#### 1. Project achievements

a. Please confirm:

	YES	NO*
<b>All project activities have been completed</b> in line with your grant agreement	X	
<b>You spent the entire grant amount</b> and any financial contribution and cash co-contribution to undertake the approved project	X	
<b>You spent the majority of the grant amount</b> on on-ground eligible activities	X	

\*Contact us at [CEP2019contracts@industry.gov.au](mailto:CEP2019contracts@industry.gov.au) if you cannot answer YES to all of the above questions and/or your project is not complete.

#### 2. Project outcomes

a. Explain how your project:

- delivered positive environmental and social outcomes
- provided communities with the resources, skills and knowledge to care for the environment.

If applicable, outline any lessons learned in delivering your project that have or will lead to improvements in monitoring, managing or conserving your local natural environment.

In November 2021, following a series of delays due to Covid-19, we held a workshop that attracted over 40 community members, who came along to Jerrabomberra Creek in order to learn about the influence of catchment management activities on erosion, soil loss and water quality. Our workshop provided an overview of catchment management, how to identify erosion, the difference between stream, bank, gully and sheet erosion, and practical ways to manage it. Together, we constructed a rock flume, with workshop participants getting their 'hands dirty' by battering banks, rolling rocks and planting carex – this was undertaken with a great deal of enthusiasm by all involved. Enabling people to put theory into practice is the most impactful way to communicate new ideas, and with the guidance of erosion and riparian restoration expert Lori Gould (Australian River Restoration Centre) and Anthony Hart (ACT Parks and Conservation Service) participants came away with an experience underpinned by the science of erosion management. Other PCS Rangers, staff, and the project organisers from ARRC put in an amazing effort to share their personal stories and make everyone feel comfortable and safe. This workshop was part of the Jerrabomberra Creek workshop series and was delivered in conjunction with seed collection and revegetation workshops over an entire day.

The day commenced with a Welcome to Country by Elder Wally Bell from Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal

Corporation, and an introduction to the day by Karen Williams (president of the Molonglo Conservation Group) who set the scene by providing a brief history of the Jerrabomberra Creek cultural landscape. A traditional lunch was later provided, catered by Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation. We also took the opportunity to launch the recently completed Jerrabomberra Creek Catchment Plan which provides an action-oriented approach to coordinate and bring together the significant work being undertaken by a large number of community groups, as well as the ACT and NSW Governments in the Jerrabomberra Creek catchment. There was much discussion during the day and feedback after the event was very positive, with follow up discussions from landholders and community volunteers seeking further advice and support for their personal projects.

In spite of all the challenges of Covid lockdowns (which necessitated 3 rescheduled dates), the workshop was a success, with many partners coming together to educate community and provide practical skills. Molonglo Conservation Group's partners included the Australian River Restoration Centre, Buru Ngunawal Aboriginal Corporation, ACT Parks and Conservation Service, Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, ACT NRM, supported by the Dharuwu Ngunawal Committee.

The Molonglo Conservation Group was pleased to be able to provide these workshops as they enabled people to build their practical knowledge and skills to undertake water quality, erosion control and biodiversity improvement works around the Canberra region. A fact sheet about erosion control specific to the Molonglo Catchment was produced to support the workshop, and this, as well as links to a broad range of related information, was sent out to each workshop participant (including those who could not make it on the day) after the event with an invitation for people to remain connected.

**b. Complete the following table on community participation.**

	Question	Number
1.	How many people participated in your project (excluding employees)?	44
2.	What was the total area (ha) over which your project on-ground activities were undertaken?	1
3.	How many participants had no previous involvement in undertaking activities that monitor, manage or conserve the environment or in training to obtain these skills?	30
4.	Has your organisation completed similar activities prior to participating in the Communities Environment Program? If yes, (a) how many activities/events were held in the 12 months before this project? (b) on average, how many people participated in each activity/event?	Yes
		2
		15

**c. Complete the following table on activities. Choose the activities that best describe those completed in your project. Provide a measurement for all activities using the metrics provided.**

Activity	Unit	Unit of measure
Citizen science activities (e.g. monitoring flora, fauna, water quality, marine debris)		number of participants collecting and contributing information about their local environment
Education activities and raising community awareness / participation (e.g. field days, planting days, workshops)	3	number of community participation and engagement events (1 workshop, 1 fact sheet, 1 event webpage, and social media sharing via Facebook 612 engagements)

Activity	Unit	Unit of measure
	7	number of community groups participating in project activities
	30	number of people who learned a new skill to monitor, manage or conserve the environment
Access management infrastructure (e.g. boardwalk)		total area protected by access control installations (ha)
Disease management (e.g. Phytophthora)		total area managed (ha)
Erosion management	1	total area of erosion treated (ha)
Fencing (e.g. to protect revegetation/sensitive sites)		total length of fence erected (km)
		total area protected by fencing (ha)
Pest management (e.g. rabbit, feral pig/cat control)		total area of pest management (ha)
		total number of individual animals or colonies killed or removed
Revegetation		total area of revegetation (ha)
		total kilograms of seed sown (kg)
		total number of new plants planted
Weed control		total area controlled (ha)
Waste reduction – prevent/remove (e.g. clean up days, litter collection traps)		total area over which waste was removed from the environment (ha)
To avoid double counting, report either weight <u>or</u> volume for any given item.		total kilograms of waste prevented from entering, or removed from, the environment (kg)
		total volume of waste prevented from entering, or removed from, the environment (m <sup>3</sup> )
Waste reduction – recover/recycle (e.g. recycled waste drop off / clean up day / litter collection trap materials)		total kilograms of waste recovered for re-use or recycled (kg)
To avoid double counting, report either weight <u>or</u> volume for any given item.		total cubic metre volume of waste recovered for re-use or recycled (m <sup>3</sup> )

### 3. Project Benefits

Where relevant to your completed project, please respond to the questions below.

- a. What impact has your project had on the extent, condition, connectivity and/or level of protection of natural habitats and / or on the health of native species? Include the following:
- issue addressed
  - name or type of native habitat / name(s) of species addressed
  - what changed and by how much? Where relevant, include details of output amounts that help explain the change.

The construction of a rock flume in an eroding head cut along Jerrabomberra Creek improved environmental condition by stabilising soil and improving water quality. In addition, the skills gained by workshop participants will enhance many hectares of new community driven works in the Jerrabomberra Creek catchment, as well as improving downstream impacts in wider Canberra.

- b. How have management practices / stewardship of the local environment and waste resources improved as a result of your project? Include reference to any anticipated long term improvements / environmental benefits.

Participants attending the workshop included township residents living along the Molonglo River, as well as landholders of properties upstream from the project site. Some of those attending are already doing conservation works in the Jerrabomberra Creek and Molonglo River catchment, while others were new landholders keen to learn more. The Jerrabomberra Creek and the Molonglo River have long-term erosion issues that have been stabilized in some areas, but will require ongoing management as intermittent drought and flood conditions lead to recurring erosion problems. Participants were keen to learn simple techniques to apply to their 'place' and that, in turn, have a flow on effect to water quality in new Narrabundah Wetlands, the established Jerrabomberra Wetlands and, ultimately, Lake Burley Griffin and Molonglo River.

- c. How has your project contributed to improving participants' skills in monitoring, managing or conserving your local natural environment and/or native species? Include the following:
- type of skill(s) learned (e.g. monitoring a threatened species breeding success)
  - how will this skill contribute to future management, monitoring and/or conservation?

Participants learned to construct a rock flume, as well as learning about how these activities relate to catchment management and river rehabilitation for water quality improvements. They also connected to Country with the help of our Ngunnawal Elders who came to welcome us to Country, and immerse us in culture in relation to the messages delivered on the day. It was so much more than a erosion control workshop, with a lot of personal connections made and discussions which went in a variety of directions, shifting between the theoretical to the practical and, sometimes, a more spiritual connection to the land. It was fantastic to see this community coming together and the passion they share in caring for our environment.

#### 4. Attachments

Submit two before and two after photographs showing each project site before and after completion of project activities as evidence of your completed project as specified in the grant agreement. Include two good quality photographs that are representative of the project sites and activities.

##### BEFORE



Erosion expert Lori Gould (ARRC) & ACTPCS Ranger Anthony Hart at an eroding headcut site (Photos Karen Williams)

##### The eroding headcut, battering banks, rolling rocks and planting carex



(Photos Karen Williams)



(Photos Karen Williams)



(Photo by Siwan Lovett)

(Photo by Karen Williams)



(Photos Karen Williams)



(Photos Karen Williams)



(Photo by Siwan Lovett)



(Photo by Karen Williams)

**AFTER**

**Completed rock flume with plantings of Carex to stabilize the soil in the drainage line of the headcut.**



(Photos Karen Williams)



(Photos Karen Williams)



## 5. Certification

I, Karen Williams am a person duly authorised by the grantee to certify that:

- the information in this report is accurate, complete and not misleading and that I understand that giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code 1995* (Cth).
- the grant was spent on the approved project in accordance with the grant agreement.
- I am aware of the grantee's obligations under their agreement, including the need to keep the Commonwealth informed of any circumstances that may impact on the objectives, completion and/or outcomes of the agreed project.
- I am aware that the grant agreement empowers the Commonwealth to terminate the grant agreement and to request repayment of funds paid to the grantee where the grantee is in breach of the agreement.



Signature: .....

Date ...14../..12.../...2021....