

Attachment C - Communities Environment Program

End of project report

Project number	CEP82432
Grantee name	Molonglo Conservation Group
Project title	Conservation of Wetland Habitat

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.

1. Project achievements

a. Please confirm:

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

*Contact us at 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.

The project improved wetland habitat at the Copperfield Bushland Reserve through extensive revegetation of three dam sites and significant earth works to control erosion and structural repair at one of those dams. This will prevent erosion of the landscape surrounding the structures, create natural water filters and provide new habitat for threatened wetland species within the Jerrabomberra/Googong region. Covid restrictions resulted in withdrawal of schools from planned participation during the earlier stages of the project. However, after heavy earth works were completed in June, and it was COVID safe to do so, local landholders (urban and rural) and landcare group members participated in a community field day led by Molonglo Conservation President Karen Williams and QPRC's Coordinator of Natural Landscapes Simon Holloway. Field day participants explored and discussed the issues being addressed at the site while broadcasting seed to assist regeneration of reeds at the water's edge.

b. Complete the following table on community participation.

	Question	Number
1.	How many people participated in your project (excluding employees)?	16

	Question	Number
2.	What was the total area (ha) over which your project on-ground activities were undertaken?	3 ha
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?	3
4.	Has your organisation completed similar activities prior to participating in the Communities Environment Program? If yes,	Yes
	(a) how many activities/events were held in the 12 months before this project?	2
	(b) on average, how many people participated in each activity/event?	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)	1 field day 14 participants	number of community participation and engagement events
	3	number of community groups participating in project activities
	3	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	3 ha	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) To avoid double counting, report either weight <u>or</u> volume for any given item.		total area over which waste was removed from the environment (ha)
		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 ³)
Waste reduction – recover/recycle		total kilograms of waste recovered for re-use or

Activity	Unit	Unit of measure
(e.g. recycled waste drop off / clean up day / litter collection trap materials)		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 ³)

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.

Erosion control works, including repair to a ruptured dam wall at one site and stabilising areas of active erosion nearby were conducted. Fencing off parts of the wetlands to restrict access by mammals along a gravel surface by QPRC has enabled the establishment of groundcover plants and habitat for aquatic and semi-aquatic animals. Riparian habitat was improved through strategic planting of 600 plants - Aculeata, Indigofera Australis, Leptospermum Continentale, Leptospermum Obovatum, Poa Labillardiere and Poa Sieberiana, and the placement of logs to encourage development of a wetland environment.

Contracted earthworks repaired severe soil erosion at one dam site. Dam wall and batters were sprayed with seed where required. A 2mx2m outlet pit was excavated under pipe outlet. Geotex fabric and gabion rock was used to line pit. Filter was installed on inlet side of overflow pipe.

- 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.

The new reserve was previously a grazing property now being converted to a Council bushland reserve. The reserve helps connect conservation bushland including Aboriginal land in the north and private land in the south. The project is on public land adjacent to the suburb of Jerrabomberra in Queanbeyan. The project has enhanced the work the Friends of Mt Jerrabomberra landcare group who regularly conduct weed control on the reserve and the work of neighbouring landholders who are restoring pastoral properties. The wetland sites are accessible to the public and will provide an educational resource on riparian habitat management and management of the surrounding Box-Gum Grassy Woodland. Further engagement with the general community through our soon to be launched Habitat for Wildlife program in the Queanbeyan Palerang Council Region will build a new network from which to channel interested people into FOMTJ activities, which include monitoring and maintenance of the Copperfield Bush Reserve.

- 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 engaged in discussion of the method used in structural works and the use of revegetation to retard waterflow towards and away from the dam. Discussion of new wombat damage to the repaired wall led to sharing of knowledge of successfully deterring Wombats from tunnelling into dam walls. Broadcasting Phragmites Australis seed onto the dam water surface illustrated the use of reeds in stabilising the dam perimeter. It is intended that future programs will use the site to attract the general

public to engage in Landcare activities and potentially revitalise landcare group membership.

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.

Dam 1

Before:



After



Dam 2

Before



After



Dam 3

Before



After



Field Day



5. Certification

I, Karen Williams, President, 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Will.", followed by a horizontal line.

Signature: ...

Date 12/7/2021