



**INSIDE
THIS
ISSUE:**

Farm Water Program 1

EOIs 2010-11 Update 1

GB Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2

Community Education and Awareness Grants (CEAGs) and CEGs 2

FRRR Bushfire Grants Program 2

Key Dates 3

Contacts 3

Other Funding Opportunities 4

Farm Water Program

The first round of the Australian Government's \$300 million On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency program was recently announced, with the Goulburn Broken CMA receiving \$25.8 million for its Farm Water Program bid.

The Program aims to fund water saving activities such as automatic irrigation, laser grading, re-use dams and other onground works on irrigated farms in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID). In return for the works being fully funded by the Program, 50% of the water savings achieved (minimum 10 megalitres of permanent entitlements) will be transferred to the Australian Government.

Farms must also have a current Whole Farm

Plan which reflects the proposed works. If you do not have a Whole Farm Plan, please contact Eamon Reeves at DPI Tatura on 5833 5272 to discuss further.

Further details surrounding the Program will be released in the coming weeks, but please contact Rabi Maskey at DPI Tatura on 5833 5378 if you wish to be added to the mailing list.

The full list of successful applicants from the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency program is shown below. More information on this program and *Water for the Future* is available at www.environment.gov.au/water

Applicants	State	Potential number of Irrigator sub-projects	Funding (\$)
Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc.	VIC/NSW	22	\$11,710,000
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resource Management Board	SA	21	\$1,659,000
Lachlan Catchment Management Authority	NSW	46	\$3,846,000
Ricegrowers Association of Australia Inc.	NSW	52	\$24,179,000
Murray Irrigation Limited	NSW	124	\$32,786,000
Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority	VIC	291	\$25,820,000

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) 2010-11 Update

All 97 EOIs for 2009-10 have been extensively reviewed by technical panels and Implementation Committees for inclusion in the Goulburn Broken Investment Plan 2010-11.

EOIs directly access CFOC Regional base funding, Second Generation Landcare and other State dollars, and includes funding for Landcare facilitators, Community projects & larger works incentive programs (such as Water Use Efficiency, Whole Farm Plans and Environmental Management Grants).

A draft Investment Plan was submitted for assessment to the State and Commonwealth Governments in March.

In May we will be writing to all groups who submitted EOIs and feedback as to whether projects are included in the main regional investment plan. If projects have not been included alternative sources of funding will be suggested to the groups where possible.

For any queries regarding your EOI or to be added to the 2011-12 mailing list, please contact Casey Damen on 5820 1114 or email caseyd@gbcm.vic.gov.au

GB Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy (IPAS)

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority has commenced preparation of the Goulburn Broken Invasive Plants and Animal Strategy (IPAS).

The IPAS will set the direction, and guide investment, for pest management in the Goulburn Broken region. Similar strategies are being developed across the state.

The goals of the IPAS are:

- Support state action to prevent the establishment of new high risk invasive plants and animals in Victoria.
- Support state action to eradicate infestations of State Prohibited Weeds and other high risk invasive plants within Victoria.
- Support statewide programs to eradicate prohibited, controlled and regulated pest animals and other high risk invasive animals in the wild within Victoria.
- Contain high risk priority established invasive plants to prevent further spread within the region.
- Contain priority invasive animals currently restricted in distribution but with the potential to expand across the region.

- Protect high value regional assets from the impact of invasive plants and animals.
- Integrate invasive plant and animal management with sustainable agriculture and other natural resource management activities.
- Improve coordination of invasive plant and animal management across land tenures through increased community capacity and effective partnerships.
- Continuous improvement in invasive plant and animal management in the region through effective monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

Once the draft IPAS has been prepared it will be released to interested stakeholders for comment. This will occur during April-May 2010.

Preparation of the IPAS will not change the primary responsibility of the land manager for on-ground pest management.

Please contact Casey Damen at the GBCMA on 5820 1100 if you require further information or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

Community Education Awareness Grants & CEGs

Applications for the Catchment Education & Awareness Grants (CEAGs) in the Shepparton Irrigation Region opened April 1 and close April 19. These grants will fund up to \$8,000 for projects undertaken in the SIR that contribute primarily to awareness & education of regional issues including salinity, water quality, biodiversity, and pest plants and animals. Projects that involve a number of groups & have wide community benefits will again be given a higher priority.

For further information about the CEAGs please call Nickee Freeman at DPI Tatura on 5833 5370.

The Broken Goulburn (Dryland) region also have a similar program called the Community Education Grants (CEGs) which will open mid 2010. CEGs will fund up to \$4,000 for projects that contribute primarily to awareness & education of the catchment & related environmental issues. Projects that involve a number of groups & have wide community benefits with broad promotion of catchment issues will be given a higher priority.

Examples of activities that CEGs will **not** provide funding for include:

- Catering/meals/accommodation;
- Salaries ie. consultants;
- Tree planting or pasture establishment; and
- Purchase, maintenance or repairs to equipment.

For application forms & further information on the Broken Goulburn CEGs, please contact Rhiannon Apted at the Yea office on 5736 0100 or email rhiannona@gbcma.vic.gov.au.

GO TO OUR WEBSITE TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON!

Check out www.gbcma.vic.gov.au under the 'Funding Opportunities' section for more information on funding sources, incentives for landholders & our annual Expression of Interest call for projects in October.

FRRR Bushfire Grants Program

The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) has developed a collaborative grants program supporting 2009 Victorian Bushfire affected or impacted communities - The Repair Restore Renew Grants Program.

Grants are available from \$1,000 and up to \$30,000 will be provided to organisations that can clearly demonstrate:

- Projects are for a charitable purpose ie: for the broader community benefit. All applications for projects with a charitable purpose will be received and considered.
- Projects which contribute to community renewal & or rebuilding in the areas of social & community wellbeing, economic, health, environmental, education & cultural areas will be considered.
- Projects which are identified as part of the community recovery plans & by Community Recovery Committees in bushfire affected communities will receive priority.
- Projects requiring assistance and can demonstrate a benefit in the medium to long term (12-36 months after the fires).
- Not for Profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate, will be eligible for consideration.

Closing dates for remaining funding rounds are 24 May, 23 August and 22 November 2010. Application forms & further information is available at www.frrr.org.au. Enquiries can be made on free call 1800 170 020 or e-mail: info@frrr.org.au.

Key Dates & Contact Details.

FUND SOURCE	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
Caring For Our Country Open Grants. See www.nrm.gov.au	15th – 2010-11 Round closes			
The Myer Foundation – G4 Fund. See www.myerfoundation.org.au	21st – Round 2 closes			7th – Round 3 closes
Woolworths Community Grants See www.woolworths.com.au	5th – 2010-11 Round opens	2nd – 2010-11 Round closes		
Catchment Education & Awareness Grants (SIR only).	19th – Round closes			
Volunteer Grants. See http://fahcsia.gov.au/sa/volunteers	16th – 2010-11 Round closes			
Coles/Yates Junior Landcare Grants. See www.landcareonline.com		14th – Round 2 (of 4) closes		
FRRR Bushfire Grants Program. See www.frrr.org.au		24th – Round 3 (of 5) closes		
CFOC Community Action Grants. See www.nrm.gov.au				Call for projects set to open
Victorian Volunteer Small Grants	Call for projects open year round.			
Community Support - Strengthening Communities	Call for projects open year round.			

For information on Funding & Projects please contact your Regional Landcare Coordinator, your local Landcare Coordinator, or see our website www.gbcma.vic.gov.au

Megan McFarlane - Regional Funding Coordinator 5820 1100

Tony Kubeil - Regional Landcare Coordinator 5761 1619

Casey Damen - Business Development Coordinator 5820 1114

Karen Brisbane - Landcare Corporate Partnership Facilitator 5820 1134

Mark Cotter - Dryland (ex Mid and Upper) Strategy Manager 5736 0101

Bertram Lobert - UGLN Network Coordinator 5790 8606

Bridget Clarke - UGLN Murrindindi Shire Landcare Coordinator 5736 0100

Ian Julian - South West Goulburn Landcare Coordinator 5734 6200

Janet Hagen - Hughes Creek Catchment Coordinator 5790 4268

Melanie Haddow - Up2Us Landcare Alliance 0429 148 828

Kerri Robson - Southern Mid Goulburn Landcare Facilitator 0418 140 710

Charlie Sexton - Northern Mid Goulburn Landcare Facilitator 5761 1560

Carl Walters - SIR Executive Officer 5833 5360

Andrea Montgomery - GMLN Landcare Facilitator 5832 1133

Nickee Freeman - SIR Landcare Communications/Irrigation Modernisation Officer 5833 5370

Rhonda Day - Campaspe Shire Landcare Coordinator 5481 2804

If you have any comments, suggestions or ideas for future Funding Newsletters, please email Casey Damen at caseyd@gbcma.vic.gov.au or call 5820 1114.

Other Funding Opportunities.

Funding Title	Details	More Information	Critical Dates
Caring for Our Country	The new \$2.25 billion program over five years. Replaces Regional NHT, NLP, the Environmental Stewardship Program, elements of the Working on Country program, and Envirofund. Priorities include a national reserve system, biodiversity & natural icons, coastal environments and critical aquatic habitats, sustainable farm practices, natural resource management in remote & northern Australia, and community skills, knowledge & engagement. Funds will be accessed through our normal EOI process or groups may apply directly online.	See website www.nrm.gov.au & www.gbcma.vic.gov.au .	The 2011-12 Round is expected to open mid October 2010. Community Action Grants set to open July 2010.
Second Generation Landcare (SGL)	State funding for community group projects. In the Goulburn Broken region we have generally targeted pest plant & animal projects, as these are high priority activities for our community & there are few other fund sources are aimed at these activities. Submitting an EOI will access this fund source.	See website www.gbcma.vic.gov.au .	The 2011-12 Round is expected to open mid October 2010.
Norman Wettenhall Foundation	The NWF has funded projects ranging from supporting local communities to maintain or restore habitat; to the production of education kits; and the publication & widespread dissemination of research information essential to species preservation. It aims to build capacity in local communities to effect long-term beneficial change in the natural environment, & to support and encourage research, monitoring & knowledge sharing relating to all aspects of Australia's natural environment. See website for further details.	See website www.nwf.org.au or call 5472 1316	Closing dates in 2010 are March 31, June 30 & September 30.
Smart Water Fund (SWF)	The SWF will invest in projects that deliver broad environmental, community and commercial benefits across Melbourne & regional urban Victoria. Projects focus on water conservation, water recycling and/or biosolids reduction or reuse that provides a benefit to urban areas.	See website www.smartwater.com.au or call 1800 882 432.	The call for Round 7 projects closed November 20 2009.
Community Support — Strengthening Communities	State funding for organisations, networks & partnerships to implement projects that will advance the interests of their communities. Projects that encourage greater participation & increased diversity of participants will be supported. There are four funding rounds annually & depending on the category amounts of up to \$30,000, \$50,000 or \$500,000 may be awarded.	See website www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au or call 1300 166 356	Applications can be made anytime.
Junior Landcare Grants Program	The Junior Landcare Grants Program is a grant scheme open to schools & other youth organisations Australia wide. It provides up to \$1,000 in funding (through Yates and/or Coles Supermarkets) to enable young people to participate in local Landcare projects.	See website www.landcareonline.com	Closing dates in 2010 are March 5, May 14, August 6, October 22.
Australia Post Stretching the Envelope	A small grants program for rural and regional Victorian communities will offer grants of up to \$1,000 to benefit people in regional areas who implement community development projects that address issues for young people especially in the areas of education, literacy and arts and culture.	See website www.frrr.org.au	Closing dates for 2010 are yet to be announced.
Volunteer Grants	Volunteer Grants 2010 provides funding of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to help non-profit organisations to: provide training, contribute to fuel costs or purchase equipment that contributes to making volunteering activities easier, safer or more enjoyable	See website http://fahcsia.gov.au or call 1800 183 374	The current rounds closes April 16 2010
Victorian Volunteer Small Grants	Grants of up to \$5,000 aim to encourage local community organisations to attract new volunteers from diverse backgrounds & create new volunteering opportunities. Community organisations can apply for funding of projects which improve their capability to manage, develop & maintain programs.	See website www.grants.dvc.vic.gov.au or call 1300 366 356	Applications can be made anytime and will be assessed within two months.
Local History Grants Program	Local History Grants Program provide grants of up to \$12,000. Preference will be given to applications that are able to: demonstrate the sharing of local history information across multiple local communities; describe the ongoing community benefits of the project; and demonstrate efficient use of funds & aligning budget costs to community benefits. Examples include preparation & printing of local history books, & recording of oral histories.	See website www.prov.vic.gov.au , call 1800 657 452, or email daniel.wilksch@prov.vic.gov.au	The 2009-10 call for projects closed November 30, 2009. The 2010-11 round is likely to open in the second half of 2010.
The Myer Foundation — G4 Fund	The G4 Fund supports community-based projects in the priority areas of environmental education, capacity building for youth organisations, youth driven events & youth health. Grants of up to \$5,000 may be awarded.	Call 9207 3040 or see www.myerfoundation.org.au	Closing dates in 2010 are: April 21, July 7 & October 27.
FRRR /Gardiner Foundation Working in Dairy Communities	The grants program of up to \$5,000 per grant for dairying communities in Australia will make available around \$100,000 in grants to benefit people in rural and remote communities who are seeking to implement community development projects that address demonstrated local needs.	See website www.frrr.org.au , email info@frrr.org.au or call 1800 170 020	2010 annual round closes September 30 2010.
FRRR Small Grants for Small Rural Communities	A small grants program offering grants up to \$5,000 a year for not-for-profit organisations to benefit people in rural & remote communities. Projects supporting the following areas will be given preference: Community hardship in drought effected areas, Retention of young people in Rural & Regional Australia; Resettlement of immigrants in rural Australia; & Community Infrastructure.	See website www.frrr.org.au or call 1800 170 020	Rounds close March 29 2010 and September 30 2010.