



Upper Goulburn Muster

The Newsletter of the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee
Vol 5. No 1.

May 2004

Community Landcare Strategy Seeks Input

Landcare Coordinators and Facilitators will contact Groups over the next few months to arrange discussions on the Community Landcare Support Strategy.

Landcare members will have the opportunity to express their views and have important input into the document which will be the backbone of Landcare support in the Goulburn Broken catchment.

This document will sit as a sub-strategy of the Goulburn Broken

Regional Catchment Strategy, which is the blueprint for all funding and natural resource management in the Goulburn Broken.

The strategy forms part of the CMAs' commitment to the Victorian Action Plan for Second Generation Landcare, which was launched in 2000. Some issues have already been addressed. A Regional Landcare officer was appointed in 2003 and has been instrumental in facilitating

appointment of three Landcare coordinators over the past three months.

There are around 105 Landcare Groups representing at least 3,500 people in the catchment, all of whom have had some responsibility for spending \$2 million of funding since Second Generation Landcare was formed.

Groups are urged to take part in this process.

Fox fills big shoes

Gary Fox has recently been appointed Community Program Manager at the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

Gary works from the Yea office and whilst his position does not directly replace Matt Crawley, he will work closely with and assist Landcare Coordinators.

Gary is originally from Yarck and has most recently worked with Mission Australia on the Regional Environmental Employment Program (REEP).

The position will entail working more closely with local Shires to facilitate the community engagement program as well as supporting Landcare through support of the Landcare Coordinator network.

Aerial Photos and Satellite Imagery

NEWS BREAK

Your newsletter is now available in PDF format so all members of your group or organisation can receive it in colour.

If you have not already sent your primary email address please do so now so The Muster can be distributed throughout your membership and staff.

popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Aerial photos and satellite imagery are important tools to inform, plan and implement natural resource management programs or to engage our community.

'Everybody loves to pour over maps and aerial images of their patch to see detail as well as the BIG picture' Chris Doyle UGIC Chairman said. *"Our landcare groups identified the need for this imagery 18 months ago - and very shortly we will be pleased to deliver it"* he proudly announced.

Russell Wealands Exec Officer has been working closely with staff from DSE (Ballarat) and the National Action Plan office to secure multiple user license imagery enabling areas of interest to be provided to and accessed by community groups and several agencies. Russell said, *"The only area of the dryland where air photo images are yet to be acquired are in the Shire of Mansfield."* He hopes that all interested parties in that area can join the CMA in a collaborative approach to acquire aerial imagery for that area next year.

Landcare Groups will be able to view the images, measure distances and areas of interest this July using shareware that will be provided to them under license by the GBCMA.

Satellite imagery over the South West Goulburn catchment was also captured this April. This SPOT 5 imagery, and the spatial analysis of the red, green, blue and near infrared bands will be used to investigate salinity, water quality, vegetation, biodiversity and river health issues. Unfortunately coverage of adjoining areas was not able to be acquired this 'flying' season before the cloud set in and the sun angles fell to unacceptable levels for image capture.

The UGIC hopes the CMA in partnership with municipalities and other agencies can extend this coverage in the future. Other agencies interested in capturing / or acquiring a license to access the aerial imagery in this area should contact Russell on 57972001.

IN THIS ISSUE

Aerial antics	1
Landcare Support Strategy	1
Awards coming soon	2
Expo for 2005	2
Landcare Forum 2004	3
Seeking groundwater	4
Biodiversity program	4

SALT WEEK activities

This years Salt Week was celebrated from 9th to 15th May. Activities in the upper Goulburn included Salty Sports Days for primary students in the Longwood, Tallarook and Ruffy area plus Broadford, Seymour and Kilmore. Schools also enjoyed a classroom presentation on salinity and students brought water samples for testing. Over 600 students participated in the activities and were treated to a visit by Ellie the Saltwatch Emu at the end of Saltwatch Sports event.s

Mark Cotter from the Salinity Program presented at a community forum in Broadford.

THE UPPER GOULBURN MUSTER

IS PREPARED FOR THE

UPPER GOULBURN IMPLEMENTATION
COMMITTEE

EDITOR

POPPE M DAVIS

PHONE 5797 2001

SHOP 5, 10 HIGH STREET, YEA 3717

EMAIL: popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au

FAQ

Get to Know...

Gary Fox

Main job. Community Program Manager, integration of Landcare, local government and CMA to engage the community around sub Catchment NRM.

Where. Yea GBCMA Office

How did you get involved with NRM. From early Landcare days & RMIT Studies in Landscape Architecture.

Favourite colour.

Blue **Favourite food.** A bit of every thing

Reading at the moment. Listen to the Land, Listen to the people

Like listening to. Mix of music

Best band/singer ever. Paul Kelly

How do you see the environment in 10 years time. Under continued pressure.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years time. Mixing farm life & CMA work together

Do you have a pet and what is its name. Boarder Collie called Kate

Hobbies. Restoring furniture & cars

Ever been overseas. Yes

Where. Holland & Germany

What is your favourite destination. Holland

Have you observed environmental issues we could learn from. Yes, How to farm below sea level.

If you had the chance what would you do to make a difference. Be apart of whole of landscape change.

How do you see CMA progress in NRM. A conduit between agency and the community.

Where will you holiday this year. WA- Broome to see some old friends.

Do you support any sport. Local adult riding club – horse riding

Where were you when the World Trade Centre was hit. Getting ready for work and I couldn't leave the TV as the catastrophic event unfolded.



Annual Awards nominations

Each year the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee hosts awards for Excellence in Landcare management and outstanding commitment to community engagement in natural resource management.

This years awards will be held in August and presented during our annual meeting at Trawool Resort.

The day will include annual reports and a workshop to discuss issues that impact on the environment in our catchment.

Nomination forms are enclosed with this newsletter and are also available on the CMA website at www.gbcma.vic.gov.au

Simply click on the above address for a link, or type the address into your search engine.

Check the conditions for the Upper Goulburn Award for Excellence and the Hubert Miller Perpetual Trophy, and nominate someone you know for an award to show your respect for their work.

EnviroExpo next year

Following positive feedback from the 2003 inaugural **EnviroExpo** the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee has given 'in principle' support for a bigger and more broad-based Expo next year.

Held in the Goulburn Broken dryland the event will seek exhibitors from the public sector showing and demonstrating state of the art natural resource management technology. We will add another dimension to the mix by encouraging companies with environmentally sensitive agricultural and

domestic products to show and demonstrate the value of their range.

Exhibitors will not sell products from their stand but will be able to adequately demonstrate their qualities.

Look for future information on **EnviroExpo**. We plan to hold the event in July, when landholders have a slightly lesser workload on the farm so we can maximise the opportunity for visitors to attend.

***MasterFoods** in NSW has developed an on site native wetlands to treat its industrial waste water.

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY—JUNE 5th

Celebrate World Environment Day by doing something extraordinary in your catchment.

Your Group could create a project to assist your local area and turn it into a festive occasion.

Plant some more trees, fence off some remnants, protect a threatened species by creating a vegetation corridor and have a 'hoot-nanny'!

YOU CAN MAKE IT A SPECIAL DAY FOR YOUR AREA.

Paddock TREES



Information brochure available on saving the grand sentinels of farm paddocks across the country.

Paddock trees are disappearing fast due to clearing for subdivision and natural attrition.

For your information brochure please contact the CMA on

5797 2001

Fox proof fencing.

Now is the time for landholders to address their fox program. Fox control forms an important component of sustainable farm management and protection of native wildlife.

Foxes were introduced into Australia 120 years ago and now occupy most areas except Tasmania, although that State is also now under threat from colonisation.

In agricultural landscapes an average density of 4-8 foxes per square kilometre is common and females can produce in excess of 20 young over an average life span of 4 years.

Foxes consume approximately 375 grams of food in a single day. Given the above densities of 4 foxes per km², this equates to over half a tonne of food consumed per year over a 10sq km area.

That consumption generally consists of small native animals and farm stock. Landholders should be well into their fox control program at least 6 weeks before lambing.



*Fox—(Renard) Fr.
Cunning and deadly*

VALE -

Sir Rupert Hamer.

A long standing supporter of natural resource management and the Upper Goulburn Implementation Committee.

Paul Gilmour.

Past Chairman of the Alexandra River Improvement Trust, Mayor of Alexandra and an inaugural member of the Upper Goulburn Waterways Authority.

Book for Forum *Now!*

The Landcare Forum 2004 offers an excellent opportunity for Landcarers to voice their opinion on the direction that Landcare will take into the future.

For almost 20 years Landcare has been the focal point for natural resource management projects and has created a forum for people on the land to discuss and find ways to address issues that affect their properties and their livelihood.

The future direction of Landcare is in the hands of the community and Groups should take the opportunity to be a part of the decision making process in this ever evolving National movement.

To book your place at 2004 Forum, June 3-4 in Bendigo contact landcare.forum2004@dse.vic.gov.au or call Mark Costello, Statewide Landcare Facilitator on Ph 5430 4526.

Landcare—it's in your hands.

TOURISM CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Tourism and Conservation Partnership is an initiative of the Tourism White Paper, which identified the need to build partnerships between conservation and tourism to protect special environmental areas and create new eco-tourism products.

Information on the Tourism White Paper can be accessed at www.industry.gov.au/tourismwhitepaper

Goulburn Broken Water Olympics.

This years Water Week activities in October will focus on Water Olympics to capitalise on the theme of the International Olympic year.

The GB Olympic Committee from Goulburn Valley Water, GBCMA, Goulburn-Murray Water, participating Shires and Impress Publicity have guaranteed a

“Best Ever” Water Olympics 2004.

Watch out for more information.

Short Bites

Paddock trees are disappearing at a rate of .54%-2.5% annually which means they will all be gone in 40-185 years.

•

Changes are being made to the National Dryland Salinity Program, which will shortly introduce a new integrated communications initiative.

•

Windbreaks protect crops and can increase yields between 25% and 47% depending on the crop.

•

As much as 50% of crop pollination is carried by native insects that fly out from nearby bushland.

•

The Landcare Australia Ltd Board of Directors meeting was held 18-20th April 2004 at Sydney. Highlights from the meeting in the LAL Communiqué can be accessed at www.landcarefacilitator.com.au under Info & Publications, then Updates.

•

Review of Salinity Mapping Methods in the Australian Context is available at www.ndsp.gov.au (click on Salinity Mapping)

FAREWELL

Matt Crawley has left the CMA after a short stay, due to ill health.

Matt and his family had relocated from the Mildura area and intended to settle in Yea however unforeseen illness forced them to make the difficult decision to move on and settle closer to family and friends.

The Crawleys have settled in the Geelong area and the CMA staff and Implementation Committee wish them the best for the future.

available soon

Free Upper Goulburn Booklet

**“Wildlife Guide for
Landholders”**

Further information

Debbie Colburn

5761 1611

Groundwater *drilling*

Promotion of the Goulburn Broken Dryland Pumping Incentive Scheme is currently focussed on the Kilmore area in the South West Goulburn catchment.

The program is managed by Goulburn-Murray Water and designed to identify the best location for groundwater pumps on private land. It offers financial assistance for successful investigations and after operating for around 8 years has already helped many farmers to locate additional irrigation water. The added benefit is that successful landholders have noticed considerable improvements to salinity levels.

Properties must be in the priority salinity area identified by the GBCMA and conditions do apply.

The offers only applies to commercial irrigation enterprises and at this stage there is no similar scheme for stock and domestic use.

A new brochure to promote the scheme will be delivered to properties in the target areas in the next few weeks.

Community *Salinity* Grants

The Grants are provided by the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) for small but important projects that are designed to reach the local community.

Projects should be educational and have the ability to engage the community in the fight against salt in our region.

There are many small salinity based projects that could be managed from the Salinity Grants pool for Landcare Groups in the upper Goulburn catchment.

Groups should work closely with their Landcare coordinators to identify issues in their area and apply for funding to create a salinity control project that will be visible and educational for the whole community.

Conditions apply and are available from the DPI office in Tatura.

One of the conditions of receiving Community Salinity Grants is that progress must be reported back each year.

If your group has received a Community Salinity grant in the past year, you must furnish a report on how the money was spent and the success or otherwise of your project.

Contact: Raechel Ballinger at the Department of Primary Industry Tatura. Ph 5833 5373



For further information please contact:

**Sudath Herath or Stephen Feiss at
Goulburn-Murray Water
Ph 5833 5527 or 5833 5680**

**The GBCMA website is
under constant renewal**

Use our site to link with other environmental sites and Landcare Groups.

Goulburn Broken CMA at



www.gbcma.vic.gov.au

Website updates—call for information

Some time ago we offered landcare groups the opportunity to place a Home Page on our website and take advantage of our links with other natural resources managers.

Response has been rather thin and since our own site has just undergone a major face –lift we are offering the opportunity again.

Landcare groups can put as much or as little as they see fit in their web page but there are some items that definitely should be there.

For example your group name, the area you service and how often you meet. Also how to become a member, what your main

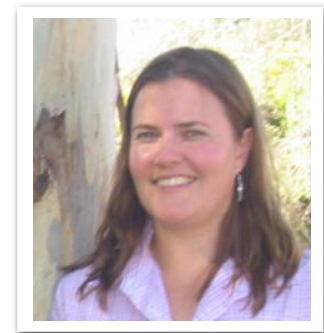
Biodiversity program expands

Carla Miles has joined the Goulburn Broken CMA to develop a landscape restoration trial in the Mid Goulburn Broken catchment (MGB).

To address the CMAs' desire for landscape change, the initial priority is development of guidelines for the delivery of landholder management payments where large-scale natural regeneration of native vegetation can be achieved.

The trial will concentrate on the MGB catchment and seek ways to change management practices to benefit biodiversity and improve viability of the land overall.

Carla is based at the Yea office and can be contacted on 5797 2001.



Carla Miles—looking at natural regeneration options for landscape change.

Has your Group had a change of Executive members recently? Please let us know so you don't miss out on all the catchment news.

*Call 5797 2001 Or email
popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au*

environmental issues are and your contact details.

We have previously sent out a pro-forma to capture these details, however there is another sheet enclosed with your newsletter in case the original has gone astray.

Please take this opportunity to create a link with the rest of the Landcare movement . Your Goup will also have access to constant updates from many other Groups and natural resources agencies.

There is no charge for this link. It is a simple as giving us the information and advising of any personnel changes.

For further information contact:

popped@gbcma.vic.gov.au

Remember your newsletter is now available in PDF format so *all* your members can access the news and information.