



**GOULBURN
BROKEN**
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY

Protecting Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands

The Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network (CMN) focuses on protecting Box-Ironbark forests and woodlands across approximately 3,500 square kilometers in the Goulburn Broken Catchment.

Community engagement and education underpins the success of the Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network's many programs.



Photo: Orlando Talamo

Nest box monitoring

The past 12 months' monitoring saw approximately 300 boxes on private and public land checked for their occupancy, species present and nests present. This information is sent to the Department of Primary Industries and Environment (DEPI) for inclusion on the Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) database.

The CMN also produced a nest box brochure to promote the importance of nest boxes for wildlife, as well as two information sheets on nest boxes for marsupials and pardalotes.

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Project snapshot:

In 2012, Broken Boosey CMN secured a \$599,000 Communities for Nature grant from DSE for a four-year project: *A Blueprint for Woodland Birds in the Broken Boosey*.

The project complements the Federal Government's Caring for Our Country-funded *Woodland Birds* project, and the Victorian Government-funded *Bringing out the Best in the Broken Boosey* project.

Since 2012, the Broken Boosey CMN has:

- Engaged many landholders to carry out works under the *Blueprint for Woodland Birds on the Broken Boosey* project totaling 120ha of revegetation and 7.5km of fencing, as well as the removal of rubbish, and waterway assessments and improvements.
- Held many successful field days including the Woodland Birds at Waggarandall Walk & Squawk, Dookie Woodland Walk and Geology Talk and several schools activities.
- Held Destination Chesney Vale, a migratory bird information day and tour at Winton Wetlands, attended by 94 people.
- Engaged twenty landholders at environmentally strategic sites to undertake on-ground works, with the number of interested landholders growing all the time.



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'Pop-Up' Field Days

Supported by the Moira Shire Council, the Broken Boosey Conservation Management Network has held two 'Pop-Up' field days at properties in Strathmerton and Numurkah. The philosophy behind these days is to invite a small group of landholders to attend a two-hour succinct paddock walk and talk with an ecologist. During the morning the principles of sustainable property management and farming are discussed and observed. The field day is held at a host-farmer's property, who then invites neighbors he or she thinks will be interested to learn about topics such as the impact of noisy miners on other woodland species of birds, the importance of fallen timber in the ecosystem, ecosystem services provided to the farm through thoughtful management practices, and farming the property to land class.

Bat events

Two bat-focused events were held in March 2013. An evening session in Numurkah involved 64 attendees observing flying foxes and micro bats, using anabats technology which helps people 'hear' the bats, while the second day event at Wunghnu saw 45 people attend a bat presentation and bat box building session.

A total of 22 bat boxes were made by those attending this session. The remaining bat box kits were used by Wunghnu Primary School, where the students built the boxes as part of a wider environmental program, also supported by the Broken Boosey CMN.



Other activities

- The *Woodland Birds at Waggarrandall Walk & Squawk* was held during Biodiversity Month (2012) attracting 70 people. The focus of the event was on the importance of quality habitat and the impact of Noisy Miners on the survival of the woodland bird community.
- Broken Boosey CMN members continue to work with Parks Victoria on weed control along the Broken Boosey as part of the *Beating Weeds on the Broken Boosey* project. The project has mapped 400ha for prohibited weeds, and treats a minimum of 30ha.
- Fox bait kits are sent to 122 landholders each year. The kit streamlines the process of baiting by providing the landholder with the appropriate paperwork and advice.

For more information visit www.gbcma.vic.gov.au or



YouTube

For more information about Broken Boosey CMN projects contact Janice Mentiplay-Smith on 5764 7506 or janicem@gbcma.vic.gov.au or visit www.brokenbooseycmn.com or the group's Facebook page.