

GOULBURN BROKEN

KEY EVENTS AND INSIGHTS

- Local knowledge and connections are critical to the successful delivery of all our projects. An example of this is the community-driven Bogies and Beyond project, funded through Our Catchments Our Communities. The Bogies and Beyond citizen science water bore monitoring sub-project continues to provide information on changes to this valuable, and often only, source of water for farmers in the area. Another citizen science subproject, Tree Storey, identified that many of the area's trees are showing signs of severe stress. This phenomenon has attracted state-wide interest with University of Melbourne researchers now looking in to the extent of the canopy collapse and possible causes.
- We took a pro-active approach to planning for low and no-flows in the catchment's creeks by trialling aerators and working with our partners to prepare to relocate fish to other sites if they became stressed during the hot, dry summer and autumn. Fortunately, much of the work we've done with landowners and the community over the years to revegetate and install in-stream habitat to create shelter paid off and our native fish populations found shelter in the deeper pools despite difficult conditions. This planning by agencies will not go to waste with the forecast for dry conditions to continue.
- Our relationships with councils, agencies and industry allowed us to recycle and re-use timber cleared for road widening projects, solar farms and other infrastructure projects as snags in the Broken Creek and lower Goulburn River. These snags help restore valuable habitat for native fish and other aquatic wildlife and complement the many other works we do to improve the health of our rivers. This initiative to reuse timber has been formalised across the state with an MoU signed between VicRoads and the 10 CMAs in May.
- In a classic case of persistence paying off, it was fantastic to finally complete the Mosquito Drain 40 project. It's taken more than 25 years but this 120km drain, servicing 200 landholders is now finished and will help combat water-logging issues in the Tatura/Girgarre area. This project involved multiple agencies and extensive community engagement, including with Traditional Owners, which saw the drain design altered to protect significant cultural and environmental sites.
- The Tri-State NRM Murray Alliance, which is made up of NRM agencies from either side of the Murray and from SA continues to get runs on the board. This year another very successful Indigenous business forum was held, this time in Renmark, to further explore opportunities to promote Indigenous economic autonomy through social enterprises. Examples of successful WA Indigenous businesses were shared and an MoU creating an East West Alliance will allow ongoing support and mentoring for this approach.



OUTPUT	TARGET	ACTUAL			
		STATE	C'WLTH	OTHER	TOTAL
1. STRUCTURAL WORKS					
1.1 Channel (km)	10	37			37
1.2 Water storage (no.)	17	16		1	17
1.4 Irrigation structure (ha)	500				0
1.5 Waterway structure (no.)	325	581			581
1.7 Terrestrial feature (no.)	202	254			254
1.8 Monitoring structure (no.)	20	22			22
1.9 Fence (km)	46	67	1	2	70
1.10 Visitor Facility (no.)		7			7
2. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS					
2.1 Vegetation (ha)	450	418	207	0	626
2.2 Weed control (ha)	2,687	1,613	459	28	2,100
2.3 Pest animal control (ha)	15,490	282	1,147		1,429
2.5 Threatened species response (no.)	1	1			1
2.8 Earth works (no.)	2	3			3
3. MANAGEMENT SERVICES					
3.1 Grazing (ha)	271	414	83		497
3.3 Water (no.)	29	30			30
4. PLANNING AND REGULATION					
4.1 Approval and advice (no.)	853	1,030		1	1,031
4.2 Management agreement (no.)	58	59	49		108
4.3 Assessment (no.)	1,442	1,631	157	2	1,790
4.4 Engagement event (no. participants)	10,537	16,362	1,416		17,778
4.5 Partnership (no.)	114	136	12		148
4.6 Plan (no.)	124	79	48	1	128
4.7 Publication (no.)	309	424	148	1	573
4.8 Information management system (no.)	2	6	1		7