

CORANGAMITE

KEY EVENTS AND INSIGHTS

- THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S WILD OTWAYS INITIATIVE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT GRANTS PROGRAM**
 The Community Environment Grants Program delivered as part of the Australian Government's Wild Otways Initiative is a \$1M investment to protect and restore native plants, wildlife, and coastal environments between Bells Beach to Peterborough, and the Otways hinterland. Funding to date has supported 23 community projects investing \$855,000 in community-led on-ground works benefitting species including the masked owl, long-nosed potoroos, swamp antechinus, broad-toothed rat and native orchids. This project is supported by the CMA, through funding from the Australian Government's Environment Restoration Fund.
- LOWER BARWON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**
 A new Tidal Barrage Weir and Fishways has been installed on the Lower Barwon Wetlands. The installation involved collaboration with Arthur Rylah Institute, Pensar Infrastructure and Australasian Fish Passage Services. The \$2M project is an investment by the Victorian Government in water infrastructure in internationally significant wetlands and is essential for maintaining fishing and recreational opportunities in the Barwon River through Geelong for decades to come. Three complementary fishways enable migrating fish to pass through the weir. The new cone fishway is the first of



its type to be built on a coastal system in Victoria. A new regulator and fishway have also been constructed at nearby Reedy Lake.

- RCS RENEWAL ONLINE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**
 With the support of the Catchment Partners, the Corangamite CMA delivered a comprehensive community engagement program of 18 online community workshops across nine landscape systems. Over 200 people attended the workshops with 44% community participants. This level of community participation is stronger than we have previously achieved using traditional face-to-face mechanisms such as community meeting, open houses, or community workshops.
- GRASSY EUCALYPT WOODLANDS CULTURAL BURNING PROGRAM**
 The Cultural Burning Program supports the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to conduct cultural burns on public and private land. The project aims to improve the understanding of the use of cultural burning as a management tool in Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and embed Traditional Owner practices in natural resource management. The program is a partnership between land managers and stakeholders including the Corangamite CMA, DELWP, Parks Victoria, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Golden Plains Shire Council, CFA and private landholders.
- ORANGE-BELLIED PARROT PROTECTION PROJECT**
 The Corangamite CMA partnered with DELWP and Zoos Victoria to deliver the mainland release of 36 captive-bred orange-bellied parrots. Fourteen parrots

OUTPUT	TARGET	ACTUAL			TOTAL
		STATE	FED	OTHER	
1. STRUCTURAL WORKS					
1.1 Channel (km)	73	69			69
1.2 Water storage (no.)	0	3			3
1.5 Waterway structure (no.)	11	11			11
1.7 Terrestrial feature (no.)	0	1	27		28
1.8 Monitoring structure (no.)	7	24			24
1.9 Fence (km)	17	34			34
1.10 Visitor facility (no.)	18	78			78
1.11 Road (km)	5	18			18
2. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS					
2.1 Vegetation (ha)	216	437	167		604
2.2 Weed control (ha)	2,314	4,061	424		4,485
2.3 Pest animal control (ha)	266	1,350	48		1,398
2.4 Over-abundant wildlife control (ha)	0	2			2
2.9 Rubbish removal (ha)	0	7			7
3. MANAGEMENT SERVICES					
3.1 Grazing (ha)	1,472	1,265			1,265.29
3.2 Agricultural practices (ha)	811		373		373
3.3 Water (no.)	10	55			55
3.4 Fire regime (no.)	8	3	8		11
4. PLANNING AND REGULATION					
4.1 Approval and advice (no.)	15	1,624			1,624
4.2 Management agreement (no.)	68	44	43		87
4.3 Assessment (no.)	370	373	283		656
4.4 Engagement event (no. participants)	970	6,697	1,052		7,749
4.5 Partnership (no.)	69	182			182
4.6 Plan (no.)	234	11	37		48
4.7 Publication (no.)	64	80	52		132
4.8 Information management system (no.)	0	19			19

were released at Lake Connemara on the Bellarine Peninsula, aiming to attract wild migrating birds to the areas of good-quality food and habitat resources. The program is investigating improved approaches to monitoring the birds, trialling a new Automated VHF tracking system to great success. Just two birds

were observed migrating from Tasmania to the mainland in 2016. In 2021 this number increased to over 180 birds. This project is supported by the CMA, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.