

EAST GIPPSLAND

KEY EVENTS AND INSIGHTS

- MALLACOOTA COMMUNITY EVENT**
 The East Gippsland CMA and Arthur Rylah Institute ecologists hosted a series of well-attended boat cruises and walk and talks for the community in Mallacoota. Participants were able to learn how the catchments are responding following the Black Summer fires and what changes are occurring as the environment recovers. Cruising on the bottom lake and walking a track close to the township, community members learnt about the different phases of flora and fauna recovery, including where animals live during and after fire and the various adaptations and responses plants have to fire as well as the impact on water quality in the region.
- GLOSSY BLACKS**
 Glossy black cockatoos might not be in abundance, but they certainly have a lot of friends! Following the recent bushfires much of their territory was destroyed, reducing food sources and available nesting hollows. Over 30 artificial nest hollows were put in priority locations close to available feed trees, providing additional breeding opportunities for local and displaced glossy black cockatoos. It is hoped that other birds such as powerful owls and masked owls might also use the artificial hollows, as they too lost a lot of their nesting hollows.
- SOWING THE GAP**
 The East Gippsland CMA has partnered with farmers to improve drought resilience for beef and sheep farms. The project, known as Sowing the Gap, commenced in mid-2021 and runs until 2022. A project steering group has representatives from East Gippsland CMA, Gippsland Agricultural Group, Southern Farming Systems, East Gippsland Shire, Wellington Shire and Agriculture Victoria. This group aims to help beef and sheep farmers build their knowledge and understanding of cropping options to manage the impacts of future droughts.
- REMOTE FIRE RECOVERY, WEED CONTROL**
 Targeted woody weed control is continuing along several waterways in far East Gippsland affected by the black summer bush fires. The East Gippsland CMA undertook multiple weed control projects across a two-year funding period, with over 2,000 ha of woody weed control across 14 waterways complete. Targeted woody weed



**EAST GIPPSLAND
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY**

| OUTPUT | TARGET | ACTUAL | | | TOTAL |
|---|--------|--------|-----|-------|-------|
| | | STATE | FED | OTHER | |
| 1. STRUCTURAL WORKS | | | | | |
| 1.2 Water storage (no.) | 14 | 21 | | | 21 |
| 1.5 Waterway structure (no.) | 126 | 2 | | 70 | 72 |
| 1.6 Terrestrial structure (no.) | 35 | | 35 | | 35 |
| 1.7 Terrestrial feature (no.) | 70 | 70 | | | 70 |
| 1.8 Monitoring structure (no.) | 12 | 5 | 7 | | 12 |
| 1.9 Fence (km) | 15 | 117 | | | 117 |
| 1.10 Visitor facility (no.) | 2 | 2 | | | 2 |
| 1.11 Road (km) | 0.1 | 0.1 | | | 0.1 |
| 2. ENVIRONMENTAL WORKS | | | | | |
| 2.1 Vegetation (ha) | 41 | 40 | | | 40 |
| 2.2 Weed control (ha) | 1,389 | 2,032 | 155 | | 2,187 |
| 2.3 Pest animal control (ha) | 4,302 | 4,000 | 550 | | 4,550 |
| 2.9 Rubbish removal (ha) | 5 | 4.15 | | | 4.15 |
| 3. MANAGEMENT SERVICES | | | | | |
| 3.1 Grazing (ha) | 79 | 135 | | | 135 |
| 4. PLANNING AND REGULATION | | | | | |
| 4.1 Approval and advice (no.) | 242 | 368 | 1 | 1 | 370 |
| 4.2 Management agreement (no.) | 15 | 13 | 1 | | 14 |
| 4.3 Assessment (no.) | 126 | 54 | 124 | | 178 |
| 4.4 Engagement event (no. participants) | 941 | 635 | 49 | 15 | 699 |
| 4.5 Partnership (no.) | 148 | 130 | 5 | | 135 |
| 4.6 Plan (no.) | 18 | 15 | 1 | | 16 |
| 4.7 Publication (no.) | 170 | 102 | 26 | | 128 |
| 4.8 Information management system (no.) | 3 | 3 | | | 3 |

control allows for the early detection and management of colonising and transforming species such as willows. These works also contribute to achieving broader river health objectives.

- BUCHAN BUSHFIRE RECOVERY**
 Waterway recovery works are now well underway in the Buchan area. The East Gippsland CMA has been working with landholders to replace damaged fencing

along the river, where a partnership agreement exists. Future work includes weed control and planting of native species to help stabilise the banks. Erosion control structures damaged during the fires will be replaced. These essential structures reduce the risk of the river cutting new channels in floods. Design and repair works on these sites will be completed over the next two years.