

Harden Murrumburrah Landcare Group



Newsletter 36
18 May, 2004

Another round Envirofund announced & applications close 9 July, 2004

Special points of interest:

- Office Bearers
- New round of Envirofund
- Successful Envirofund
- Drought field day
- Weather System
- FarmLink
- MCMA
- Next meeting 17/6/04

The Envirofund has a specific focus. The 10 areas of activity are:

1. protecting and restoring the habitat of threatened species, threatened ecological communities and migratory birds;
2. reversing the long-term decline in the extent and quality of Australia's native vegetation;
3. protecting and restoring significant freshwater, marine and estuarine ecosystems;
4. preventing or controlling the introduction and spread of feral animals, aquatic pests, weeds and other biological threats to biodiversity;
5. establishing and effectively managing a comprehensive, adequate and representative system of protected areas;
6. improving the condition of natural resources that underpin the sustainability and productivity of resource based industries;
7. securing access to natural resources for productive purposes;
8. encouraging the development of sustainable and profitable management systems for application by landholders and other natural resource managers and users;
9. providing landholders, community groups and other natural resource managers with understanding and skills to contribute to biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management; and
10. establishing institutional and organisational frameworks that promote conservation and ecologically sustainable use and management of natural resources.

HMLG

Officer Bearers 2004

Chairman: David Cusack
V Chairman:
Barry Alcorn
Secretary:
Don Constable
Treasurer:
Mark O'Connor

Binalong

Office Bearers 2004

Chairman:
Shaun Robinson
Secretary/Treasurer:
Glenyse Ings

Management Committee for Galong project:

John McGrath, Andrew
Baker, David Cusack,
Neil McColl, Don
Constable, Chris
Howarth & Louise Hufton

Thanks to outgoing
Chairman of HMLG John
McGrath for the
valuable job he
undertook managing the
changes in natural
resource management
across the
Murrumbidgee over the
past two years

Activities that are eligible for the Australian Government Envirofund include, but are not limited to:

1. native vegetation planting or other works to stabilise soil or dunes, reduce groundwater recharge or prevent erosion;
2. fencing or other management techniques to protect and preserve habitat,
3. controlling stock access to watercourses to protect streamside habitat and improve water quality, such as by installing piping and pumps to locate stock watering points away from watercourses and permanently protecting the area with fencing;
4. native vegetation planting for biodiversity conservation or habitat purposes
5. Awareness raising activities that directly lead to significant local on-ground benefits for biodiversity conservation or sustainable natural resource use
6. Monitoring of water quality, species, habitats or other natural resources where this will have a clear local benefit for biodiversity conservation or sustainable natural resource management

Please contact me asap if you would like to plan a project and apply for funding

Successful Envirofund Round 2 2003-04

Restoring the Upper Reaches of the Jugiong Creek	\$27,172
Barwang Rehabilitation, Revegetation and Revitalisation Project	\$6,000
2004 Wallendoon East Tree Project	\$5,872
Remedying Riley's Creek	\$20,600
Hartfield Gully Rehabilitation	\$2,127
Westborne Creek Rehabilitation and Water Quality Improvement	\$5,963
Reclaiming Wynwood	\$10,795
	\$78,529

FARMLINK-

Canola Plus: 1st sowing at Lockhart, Ardlethan & Dirnaseer have been sown dry

Grain & Graze: grazing wheats; 1st & 2nd sowing at Grenfell into moisture, germinated but attacked by grasshoppers

1st sowing at Marra & Yerrong Creek sown and starting to emerge.

Is a mysterious new weather system causing the drought in southern Australia?

Climatologists are desperately trying to explain the mystery of where southern Australia's winter rainfall is going. They've known the rain is being pulled south by an unexplained force. Now they've devised a revolutionary new theory to explain why. It appears that the circulation of the entire Southern Hemisphere is changing to suck our rain away. The reason is the Antarctic Vortex - a natural tornado of 30km high, super-cold, super-fast winds spiralling around Antarctica. The vortex is not new; it's one of the engines that drive climate in the Southern Hemisphere. But now it appears the vortex is shifting gear, and is spinning faster and faster, and getting tighter. As it does it's pulling the climate bands further south dragging rain away from the continent out into the southern ocean. Most disturbing of all we might be responsible for shifting the speed of the vortex. Scientists at the US Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research believe the speeding up of the vortex is caused by the combined effect of global warming and the depletion of the ozone layer over Antarctica.

Story Contacts:

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Related Sites:

ABC News in Science United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
[Catalyst - Drought Vortex.htm](#)

Strategies for Stock Drought Feeding Q&A

Tuesday 25 May, 2004 - Young Services Club
Phil Graham & Sally Martin - NSW Agriculture
9.00 am — 12.00

South West Slopes Merino Breeders—hosting the morning.

Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority

Another milestone has been reached in the formation of the State's Catchment Management Authorities. Natural Resources Minister Craig Knowles announced the new board members for the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority.

Claudia Nye, Dick Thompson, Mike Schultz and Flo Grant will support Lee O'Brien, Chairperson, to work with the catchment community in the strategic management of natural resources.

The Catchment Management Authority (CMA) now has an online identity with the launch of the new website www.murrumbidgee.cma.nsw.gov.au.

John Searson has been appointed the General Manager.



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- 17 June, 2004—8pm Carrington Hotel, Harden.
- Speaker Scott McCauley, Bureau of Rural Sciences, Canberra.
- Topic: Final report Pilot salt monitoring & strategy for Cunningham Creek sub-catchment.
- Jugiong Catchment has also received \$160,000 in Federal funding for a Community Stream Sampling to identify sub catchments that are the source of salinity in surface waters. The management of this project needs to be discussed and areas for monitoring confirmed now that funding is available.

HMLG thanks Harden Shire Council for their continuing support