



MEDIA RELEASE

26 October 2017

Platypus populations to benefit from Grange Burn works

Recently Glenelg Hopkins CMA undertook large scale revegetation along the Grange Burn including the planting of over 3500 native trees, shrubs and grasses.

As these plants mature they will improve river health, enhance recreational use, and benefit wildlife, including Platypus, fish, wallabies, invertebrates, bird species and the endangered Glenelg Spiny Crayfish.

These recent plantings throughout the urban section, are part of the Grange Burn Restoration Project, funded as part of the Victorian Government's \$222 million investment to improve the health of waterways and catchments across Victoria.

Over the past two years, banks along the Grange Burn have been cleared of woody weeds and created habitat corridors through plantings. Past sites have been maintained, stock have been excluded from the waterway and off stream water systems installed.

The CMA is planning further activities throughout the Grange's urban section with a focal area alongside the walking track between Pierrepont Street and Greed Street.

From November 2017 to April 2018, sections of woody weeds will be removed and chipped along the banks to suppress weeds. Elm species, ash trees and poplars are among the woody weeds present that are planned for removal.

"These weed tree species pose significant environmental risk to our waterways and have a high likelihood of spreading and adversely impacting river health. Woody weeds out-compete our native plants, restrict access for recreation, have large autumn leaf drops which degrade water quality and support fewer invertebrate assemblages in which instream animals such as platypus feed on" said Chris Wilson, Project Manager for the Grange Burn Restoration Project

"Following weed removal, all cleared areas will be replanted with native species during May through to October 2018. Existing vegetation beds will receive additional planting to increase diversity and plant numbers, and maintenance activities will be occurring on an as needed basis. Over time, these works will improve access for recreational fishing, biodiversity and overall river health, boosting platypus, fish and bird populations", said Mr Wilson.

Glenelg Hopkins



C M A

Protecting our future - Naturally



MEDIA RELEASE

To ensure public safety during works, the walking track between Pierrepoint Street and Greed Street will be closed between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm from Monday 6th to Friday 10th of November 2017.

Private landholders with Grange Burn frontage downstream of Portland Road have also been given the opportunity to be involved in river restoration projects. Landholders in the priority area received a letter offering assistance for fencing, revegetation, off stream water systems and weed control activities.

If you wish to find out more information on this project or if you have property frontage to the Grange Burn and would like to become involved, please contact Chris Wilson on (03) 5571 2526 or via email at c.wilson@ghcma.vic.gov.au.

END

Media contact: *Janette Albert Glenelg Hopkins CMA, (03)5571 2526*



Glenelg Hopkins



C M A

Protecting our future - Naturally