

JULY
2019

Biodiversity Response Planning VICTORIAN COASTAL WETLAND RESTORATION PROGRAM

ISSUE 2
VOLUME 01

#VicWetlandRehab • BI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



Program 2 on-ground works site in Western Port. At this site Thierry Rolland from Parks Victoria will be fencing grazed saltmarsh on private land. The power of the fence can be seen in the photo with grazed land on left and protected saltmarsh on right. Photo taken by Melissa Wartman.

THAT IS A WRAP ON YEAR 1 OF BRP PROGRAM!

We have wrapped up Year 1 (2018-2019) of the Biodiversity Response Planning (BRP) Program. Thanks to all the project partners for their support in getting the project up and running. We have achieved a lot since starting the program, and the Blue Carbon Lab (BCL) team is looking forward to continuing to achieve many more positive outcomes in the year ahead (2019-2020).

This year started off in meeting rooms, but we have since progressed into the field. We have completed site scoping and site assessments for all 3 programs. We have begun the pre-restoration biodiversity surveys for Program 2 sites, prior to commencing the on-ground works, which will occur over the coming year. It has been great working with all project partners, and we are excited to continue to restore wetlands over the next two years.



Avalon Coastal Reserve (225 ha)

PROGRAM 1 ACHIEVEMENTS WETLAND RESTORATION STRATEGY

- Found a new site for hydrological assessment, moving from Moolap to Avalon Coastal Reserve
- Worked with Parks Victoria who manages Avalon Coastal Reserve, and received approval for new site in April 2019
- Ran 5 workshops/meetings to develop project plan and select new site
- Site visit with University of New South Wales Water Research Lab (Will Glamore and Tino Heimhuber) at Avalon Coastal Reserve to look at the various ponds, channels, tidal gates and determine study area within the reserve
- Fieldwork data collection to occur August 05-09, 2019



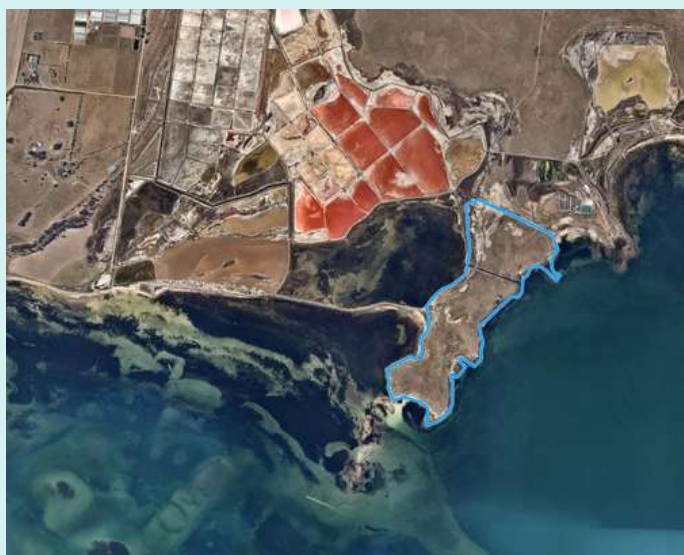
Western Port, Bass River (10 ha)



Lake Wellington, Sale (90 ha)

PROGRAM 2 ACHIEVEMENTS ON-GROUND WORKS

- Ran a workshop with project partners (Greening Australia and Parks Victoria)
- Applied for additional funding (Community Climate Change Adaptation (3CA) Grants Program) to develop a citizen science program for monitoring changes at Lake Wellington
- Site assessment in Western Port with Parks Victoria
- The BCL team completed initial fieldwork/data collection (June 24-28) at Lake Wellington and Western Port sites.
- Completed initial vegetation biodiversity surveys, and collected 68 carbon flux measurements and carbon cores alongside Martin Potts (Greening Australia) and Thierry Rolland (Parks Victoria).



Point Lillias (50 ha)

PROGRAM 3 ACHIEVEMENTS PROTECTING ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

- Ran 4 workshops/meetings
- Completed 2 on Country visits at Pt. Lillias with Traditional Owner Melinda Kennedy from Wadawurrung Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation.
- Archaeologist David Rhodes, author of the 2012 PPACH reports attended an on Country visit and provided critical insight from the reports and direction to move the project forward.
- Developed a Traditional Owner Engagement and Participation Plan (TOEPP), which was described by DELWP as a benchmark example. Thanks to Pete Galvin for leading the charge on putting it together and everyone who contributed to it.

SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE #VicWetlandRehab

You can stay up-to-date on how the project is progressing between newsletters via social media. Follow the Blue Carbon Lab and its members on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram. Included on this page are some examples of posts that we have posted since the project began. If any project partners are posting please remember to use the **#VicWetlandRehab** and tag the Blue Carbon Lab and any project partners involved in that particular component of the program. Please also acknowledge the **Victorian Government** for funding the project.



#VicWetlandRehab
@BlueCarbonLab
@PeterMacreadie
@PaulCarnell
@MelWartman
@PWaryszak
@DrWillGlamore
@TinoHeimhuber



- Blue Carbon Lab
- Peter Macreadie
- Will Glamore



- Blue Carbon Lab



STAY TUNED! BRP VIDEO COMING IN 2019

We are in the process of filming and developing an information video about the Victorian Coastal Wetland Restoration Program. If you are interested in being interviewed for it, please e-mail m.wartman@deakin.edu.au and we will arrange a suitable time. Thanks to Paul, Martin, Thierry and Pawel for already completing their interviews, and Noyan for filming.

PHOTOS FROM YEAR 1

Photos will be available to access in the BRP shared Google Drive for high resolution copies



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PHOTOS FROM YEAR 1



FUNDING FOR THIS PROGRAM:



This project has been funded by the Victorian Government's Biodiversity Response Planning program and is helping to ensure that Victoria's natural environment is healthy, valued and actively cared for.



The Nature Conservancy provided partial funding support for the project which included a contribution from Dow Australia.



Deakin University provided partial funding support for the project.

PROJECT PARTNERS:

