

Corangamite CMA

Board Meeting -18 December 2008



CHAIRMAN

DR PETER GREIG

a full-time beef and wine producer in Murroon.

COMMITTEES:

*Staff & Remuneration
(Chair)*

Ex-officio on all other committees



MEMBER

DR KAYE RODDEN

farms beef and sheep in the Barwon Valley, west of Geelong.

COMMITTEES:

*Staff & Remuneration
Water Statutory Functions
Barwon River Users Group
Coastal Liaison*

This newsheet is placed on the CMA website to better inform the community of the discussion and directions arising from the Corangamite CMA Board meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW RELEASE

The Corangamite CMA, in partnership with Central Highlands Water and Barwon Water, released its second 80 megalitre environmental flow release in the Moorabool River between 29 November and 8 December 2008. Given the recent rain and the supply of water released down the river to Meredith by Barwon Water, the environmental benefits of this release have been further enhanced with increased flows being reported further downstream than previously experienced.

Further, a fish survey carried out on the Moorabool River has identified a number of fish species, including blackfish and Yarra Pigmy Perch, which are existing in substantial numbers within the deep pools which rely on these environmental releases. The information gathered from this survey will be used to assist Corangamite CMA work with water authorities to protect remaining ecological values.

FUNDING 2009/2010

With the recent introduction of the Victorian Investment Framework and the release of the Caring for our Country Business Plan, future investment in natural resource management will be targeted towards government policy driven priorities. As a result, CCMA management and staff will be continuing to work with our partners and investors in looking for opportunities to maximise funding into the region through large scale integrated bids which align with investor priorities.

In addition to this, the Authority is taking advantage of its contacts with Federal and State politicians to further promote this region's substantial natural resource assets including presentations to the Federal Minister for the Environment & Arts, Minister Garrett during his recent visit to the region. The need for some flexibility to address regional community needs is also being emphasised.

FARM FORESTRY

Farm forestry, as trees in the landscape, was again discussed as an increasingly important issue but not one that is gaining much recognition or support through government programs such as in the climate change area.

Our Vision:
Every community member inspired, empowered and actively contributing to land, water and biodiversity health



DEPUTY CHAIR

VAL LANG

mixed farming business at Lismore.

COMMITTEES:

*Business Planning
Implementation
Staff & Remuneration*



MEMBER

JULIE HANSEN

lives in Anglesea and has extensive local government and environmental knowledge.

COMMITTEES:

*Audit
Business Planning
Staff & Remuneration*



MEMBER

ROGER HARDLEY

primary producer and has lived in the Otway Ranges near Apollo Bay for more than 20 years.

COMMITTEES:

*Audit (Chair)
Business Planning
Staff & Remuneration*



MEMBER

HEDLEY THOMSON

currently working as a freelance planning and environmental consultant in the Ballarat region.

COMMITTEES:

*Audit
Water Statutory Functions
Central Victorian Farm Plantations*



MEMBER

DEBRA TSILFIDIS

based in Creswick and grows Abbacchio milk-fed lambs.

COMMITTEES:

Business Planning

COMMERCIAL USE OF THE BARWON RIVER

Following a number of recent applications to undertaken business activities on the Barwon River through Geelong, a set of guidelines will be developed for use in assessing each proposal. These guidelines will take into account:

- Potential for environmental impact
- Potential for impact on passive users
- Potential for impact on existing traditional and cultural users
- The risks associated with accommodation of multiple users and should ensure the continued social, environmental and economic benefits of the river.

REVIEW OF DRAINAGE SCHEMES

Through the development of the Western Region Sustainable Water Strategy (WRSWS), a working group has been established which will pick up on the review of our drainage schemes and will use the WRSWS platform to pursue a resolve to the review. The CCMA Floodplain Manager, Tony Jones, will represent the CCMA on this working group.

TOUR OF TORQUAY

With the Board meeting being held at the Surf Coast Shire Offices, members were taken on a tour of coastal hotspots in and around Torquay including existing and proposed subdivision/development pressures. An inspection of the works undertaken to reinstate tidal flows into the Karaaf wetlands was also inspected.

CARING FOR COUNTRY COASTAL GRANTS

The CEO attended a launch by Minister Garrett of the Caring for our Country Coastal Grants held recently in Torquay. Seventeen applicants were successful within the Corangamite region receiving \$880,000, the fourth highest regional allocation in Australia, which acknowledges the region as a 'coastal pressure point'. While the CCMA did not directly apply for funding, it had supported and encouraged others in the development and submission of applications, a position supported by Minister Garrett.

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

In December 2008, Victoria's inaugural Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability, Dr Ian McPhail, released Victoria's first State of the Environment Report. In discussing the report, Board members agreed that a detailed review of the document should be undertaken to investigate its implications for the Corangamite region. A copy of the report can be downloaded at:

<http://www.ces.vic.gov.au/>



MEMBER

ALAIN PURNELL

living in Lorne, former General Manager Environmental Affairs of BHP and former director of Landcare Australia Limited.

COMMITTEES:

*Implementation (Chair)
Business Planning
Coastal Liaison*



MEMBER

SUSAN SALTER

a teacher at Bellarine Secondary College for more than 20 years.

COMMITTEES:

*Water Statutory Functions (Chair)
Committee for Geelong*



Australian Government

