

Gippsland natural connection

Newsletter 5/2003



GINRF Meeting Dates

- **30th October** Reference Group meeting, Leongatha, 9.45 am – 4.00 pm
- 11th November Next Executive meeting
- 28th November "Get out of the office bus tour from the top of the catchment to the Gippsland Lakes" Forum Event 2003 – **CANCELLED** – free up your diary.
- 6th February 2004 Regional Information System Workshop
- February 2004 Inaugural GINRF Regional Conference

Events Calendar

- 22nd Sept 2003 – 3rd November West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy Public Exhibition
- 7th and 15th October – "Securing our water future" public meetings
- 17th October – Insitute for Regional Studies, Economic Development seminar
- 17th October – Closing date for AFFA funding

GINRF is Moving

For ease of funding arrangements, the Forum will be moving just down the street to the West Gippsland CMA office, from October 20, 2003. New contact details are as follows:

Location: 16 Hotham Street
Traralgon 3844

Postal: PO Box 1374
Traralgon 3844

Phone: (03) 51 757800
Fax: (03) 51 757899
Email: Carol.Jeffs@ginrf.org.au





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From the GINRF Executive

Forum's role in the Green Paper discussions/submissions:

There are two functions that the Forum can perform in relation to the Green paper discussions/submissions:

1. Facilitate the sharing of information across the Gippsland region to enable individual organisations to make informed submissions.

A discussion paper will be prepared by the GINRF Executive and circulated to Reference Group members on 13th October, allowing time for input to individual submissions.

2. Prepare a Gippsland-wide submission that reflects strategic issues based on the principles developed by the Reference Group, plus some more detailed aspects upon which all agree.

The formulation of the regional submission will be discussed and developed at the Reference Group meeting on 30th October.

Forum Events

The proposed bus tour has been replaced with an Annual Regional Conference, the first of which will happen in February 2004. Exact date, venue and theme to be announced shortly.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER)

East Gippsland CMA, West Gippsland CMA and the Gippsland Lakes Taskforce have joined forces to fund a 12 month MER project for the whole Gippsland Region. Carol Jeffs will be working two days per week during that time to lead the project.

Natural Resources Report Card 2004

Planning has begun to develop the next Report Card. Any input to the 2004 Report Card is welcome. Contact Carol Jeffs.



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GINRF Reference Group Meeting – 30th October 2003, Leongatha

- Who?:** GINRF Reference Group members
- Topic of Discussion:** "Securing our Water Future" Green Paper (changed from Gippsland Vision)
- Time:** 9.45am to 4.00pm
- Venue:** McMillan Institute of Land and Food Resources, University of Melbourne, Nereena Road, LEONGATHA
- RSVP:** Carol Jeffs by 23/10/03, Carol.Jeffs@ginrf.org.au

\$\$\$\$\$ Funding Opportunity \$\$\$\$\$

\$1.5 million for innovative natural resource projects

The Australian Government is making available \$1.5 million to encourage primary producers to continue adopting more innovative and sustainable production practices.

The \$1.5 million comes from the Natural Resource Innovation Grants initiative - part of the Australian Government's \$38 million funding commitment to the National Landcare Program during 2003-04.

The initiative will fund projects in Australia's farming, food and forest industries that encourage the on-ground use of innovative land management practices, production techniques, technologies and products.

Grant funding is available to eligible individuals and businesses, as well as incorporated community groups, involved in Australia's farming, food, forest or related industries. Successful applicants can receive up to 50 per cent of their costs - with a limit of \$150,000 per project.

Applications close on 17 October 2003. Further information is available at www.affa.gov.au/landcare, or by calling the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on (02) 6272 4350.

Securing Our Water Future

Public Information Forum

Securing Our Water Future – a Green Paper for Discussion

The Victorian Government launched its Green Paper, Securing Our Water Future, on 27 August 2003. This paper identified 80 potential proposals to create a more sustainable water future for all Victorians. An important part of the Green Paper process is a series of public forums to be held across Victoria.

These forums are designed to inform you of the proposals contained in the Green Paper and how you can contribute to the Green Paper process, so that we obtain the best outcome for all Victorians.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) would appreciate your attendance and comments at one of the venues listed below.

Tuesday 7th October in:

Bairnsdale (10 am to 12 noon) at St Mary's Hall
Traralgon (2 pm to 4 pm) at Latrobe Convention Centre

Wednesday 15th October in:

Leongatha (10 am to 12 noon) at Leongatha RSL Function Room
Pakenham (2 pm to 4pm) at Cardinia Cultural Centre
Lakeside Boulevard, Pakenham

If you are interested in a sustainable water future, please attend one of the Public Information Forums. Further information on Securing Our Water Future is available from www.dse.vic.gov.au or by calling the DSE customer service centre on 136 186.

www.dse.vic.gov.au





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INSTITUTE FOR REGIONAL STUDIES

SEMINAR

Friday 17 October 2003
12.30 – 1.30 pm

Crofton Hatsell Room
Monash University, Gippsland campus

Assoc Prof Andrew Beer, Flinders University, Adelaide:

“Lessons in Economic Development from Four Nations: Australia, England, the US and Northern Ireland Compared.”

and

Terry Clower, University of North Texas, Denton:

“Lessons in Economic Development from the US: Texas Know-How.”

EVERYONE WELCOME

A light lunch will be available from 12 pm.

To assist with catering arrangements, if you want to attend, **please contact the IRS Administrator, Dr Mardelene Grobbelaar** by email at mardelene.grobbelaar@adm.monash.edu.au or phone 5122 7129.

Call for applicants for the RIRDC Rural Women's Award 2004 Promoting Women in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management

The Award is aimed at helping successful recipients achieve their vision for the future of their industry. It aims to enhance women's skills and capacity to contribute to agriculture, natural resource management and to rural Australia.

Nominations close on 15 October 2003

Further information: www.ruralwomensaward.gov.au

Or contact: Faye Whitehead, email Faye.Whitehead@dse.vic.gov.au (03) 9637 8801

Catchment health, Gippsland's wealth

Monash University

RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS IN STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

The Monash Ethics in Stakeholder Relations Research Unit (MESRRU) invites applications from suitably qualified candidates for research scholarships in the following areas:

- . stakeholder involvement in social and environmental accounting, reporting and governance
- . accountability to stakeholders as a competitive business advantage
- . applications in Tourism, Information or Labour Law relating to stakeholders
- . stakeholder relations in public management of Federal, State or Local Government
- . ethical relations with stakeholders in corporate and public governance structures and processes
- . equity and diversity issues relating to stakeholders, including a focus on gender and ethnicity
- . stakeholder outcomes and relationships in corporate misconduct
- . stakeholder perspectives in social and economic development

The MESRRU is offering scholarships with a tax-free stipend of A\$18,009 per annum (2003), tenable for an initial period of two years for full-time doctoral candidates. Applicants should normally have completed a four year bachelors degree with first class or upper second class research honours or a qualification deemed equivalent by the university.

Applications, with a full CV, certified academic record, research proposal and details of two academic referees, should be forwarded to Professor Carol Adams, Head of School of Business and Economics - Gippsland, Monash University, Northways Road, Churchill 3842 by 17 October 2003.

For further information please contact Professor Carol Adams, tel 03 5122 6486, email HOS.Gippsland@buseco.monash.edu.au

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Catchment Health – Gippsland's Wealth

NOW AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT!

West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy

The Strategy sets out how we can better manage our natural resources that provide us with sustenance and shelter, livelihood and lifestyle, and to protect the health of natural ecosystems for future generations. It encompasses the whole of the **West Gippsland Region that extends from the Gippsland Lakes to Warragul, and from the Great Dividing Range to the Prom.** Some of you may have already taken the opportunity to help shape our *Regional Catchment Strategy* through workshops held in November 2002. Now is your final opportunity to contribute to building the best Strategy for you and the region. If you want to know more, please come to one of our free public information sessions. You can find a copy of the Strategy on our website at www.wgcma.vic.gov.au, pick up a copy at our **West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority** offices at **16 Hotham Street Traralgon** and the **corner of Young and Bair Street Leongatha**, or contact us by telephone on **5175 7800** and we will send you one.

Public Information Sessions will be held in:

Wednesday 1st October

WONTHAGGI – 10am
Wonthaggi Town Hall
Baillieu Street

FOSTER – 2pm
Foster War Memorial Arts Centre
Main Street

LEONGATHA – 7pm
McMillan Campus
Nerrena Road

Monday 6th October

YARRAM – 10am
Old Courthouse
170 Commercial Road

MORWELL – 2pm
Ronald Reserve Hall
Vary Street

TRARALGON – 7pm
West Gippsland CMA
16 Hotham Street

Tuesday 7th October

WARRAGUL – 10am
Warragul Arts Centre
Fountain Room
Access via Civic Place

TRAFALGAR – 2pm
Trafalgar Public Hall
Contingent Street

MOE – 7pm
Moe Town Hall
Albert Street

Wednesday 8th October

MAFFRA – 2pm
Maffra Memorial Hall
Foster Street

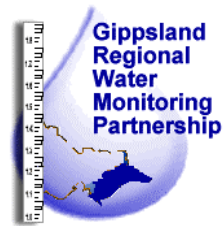
SALE – 7pm
Sale Memorial Hall
Macalister Street

You can send written submissions to *West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority*, PO Box 1374, Traralgon, 3844, or drop them into our Traralgon or Leongatha offices by **Monday 3 November 2003.**

Catchment health, Gippsland's wealth

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Feature Partnership



Gippsland Regional Water Monitoring Partnership

The Gippsland Regional Water Monitoring Partnership is a group of agencies, authorities, local government and industries who have made a commitment to water quality and quantity monitoring in the Gippsland Region.

A joint venture agreement has been prepared by the Victorian Government Solicitor, and has been circulated to the partner organisations for signing. This partnership document provides for:

- a) the employment of a Regional Coordinator
- b) the establishment of a region wide monitoring network with cost sharing arrangements in place so that organisations can jointly monitor a site which meets the objectives of more than one stakeholder

The joint venture agreement provides for the inclusion of additional partners in either project at any time. Organisations that have already agreed to take part in one or both of the projects forming the joint venture agreement are:

Gippsland Coastal Board
West Gippsland CMA
East Gippsland CMA
South Gippsland Region Water Authority
Environment Protection Authority
Department of Sustainability and Environment
Loy Yang Power
Australian Paper
Latrobe City

East Gippsland Water
Gippsland Water
Melbourne Water
Southern Rural Water
Parks Victoria
The Bureau Of Meteorology
International Power Hazelwood
Yallourn Energy
Wellington Shire

Contact: Regional Co-ordinator:

David Meikle acting for Jodie Halliwell
Ph: 5176 1744
Mob: 0407 809 592
Fax: 5174 7851
Email: jodie.halliwell@epa.vic.gov.au