

## Bega Valley Shire Community Environment Grants Program

### Year 5: 2015-16

2015-16 was the fifth year of Bega Valley Shire Council's Community Environment Grants Program. ten projects were funded with the aim to encourage and assist community involvement in the management of the Shire's environment for the benefit of the whole region. More specifically, the Program addressed the need to:

- Support community groups and organisations to enhance, protect and restore the natural environmental assets of the Shire.
- Increase community awareness and understanding of the Shire's environmental assets.
- Support conservation strategies currently undertaken by Council.
- Assist in the provision of innovative environmental management projects.
- Council funds the Program through Bega Valley Shire Council's Environment Levy.

#### Bemboka Landcare Group Inc. - Bemboka River Reserve Infrastructure Project

\$3650

Bemboka Landcare Group successfully re-instated a flood fence on the junction of Colombo Creek and the Bemboka River. The flood fence plays an important role in preventing cattle from accessing the Bemboka Reserve which contains one of the finest examples of Lowland Grassy Woodland in the South East Corner Bioregion - an Endangered Ecological Community.



#### Bermagui Flora and Fauna Reserve Trust -Bermagui Flora and Fauna Reserve - Weed control at Bermagui North Lagoon and re-vegetation at Long Swamp

\$2946

The project was successful in increasing biodiversity and decreasing weed levels at Long Swamp. It was also successful at removing weeds such as blackberry and bridal creeper, turkey rhubarb, watsonia and African scurf pea

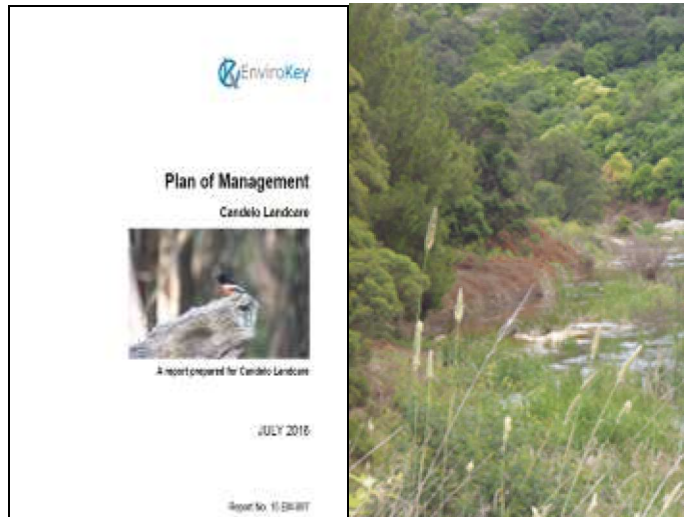


on the cycle/path way to the west of North Bermagui Lagoon. A contractor was used to ensure appropriate plants were obtained, mulched, watered and protected; and that weeds which required specialist treatment were removed.

**Candelo and Districts Landcare Group –  
Candelo Public Lands Biodiversity  
Survey and Management Plan**

\$5130

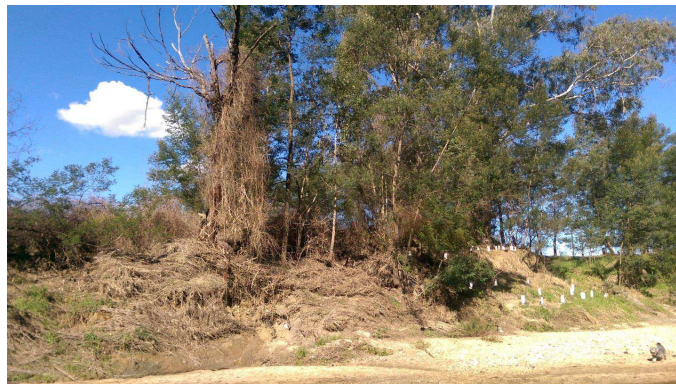
Candelo and District Landcare Group undertook a survey of the local environment with a focus on biodiversity issues and potential opportunities. The survey was undertaken by a local environmental consultant. This follows 12 years of willow control. The document will serve as a useful resource in the coming years in guiding management of the river reserve and surrounding environment.



**Cobargo Community Action Network -  
Narira Creek Stabilisation and Walkway  
Project - Cobargo**

\$4400

Cobargo Community Action Network (CCAN) received funding to stabilize sections of the Narira Creek at specific erosion points that are contributing to significant sedimentation in the Narira Creek system. This year's project was to extend on the previous works by council and CCAN further downstream between Banks St and Hillview St. It also extended the work the private property owners between Narira St and Bank St had also completed which was partially funded by a LLS project in 2015.



**Dry River Landcare Group Inc - Reclaim  
Our Riverbank Stage 2 - weed control on  
Dry River reserve, Quaama**

\$6000

The group continues its work controlling a heavy load of nasty river weeds such as willow, English ivy and honeysuckle to name a few. There were 11 working bees undertaken over the life of the grant. This has resulted in approximately 240 hours of volunteer time invested in the project. To complement this is the weeding around seedlings undertaken by walkers as they move through the reserve. There is good evidence of increasing patronage to the river reserve by the local community which will hopefully translate into better protection and enhancement in the future.



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**Friends of Glebe Wetlands - Glebe  
Wetlands Interpretive Signage Project -  
Bega**

\$4280

The group successfully completed the design and manufacture of three high quality interpretive signs which are to be installed around the foreshore of Glebe Lagoon. The signs will provide interpretive information about the cultural and environmental significance of the wetlands as well as information on wetland birds and flying foxes which inhabit the wetlands.

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**Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project Inc. - Protecting and Enhancing Panboola - Pambula**

\$3360

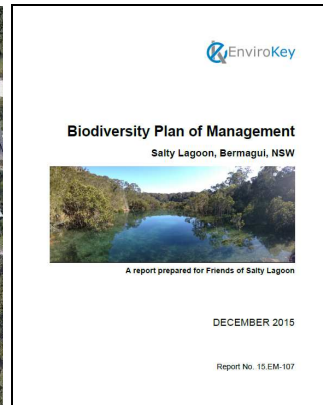
On-going weed control was successfully undertaken through the use of a local weeding contractor and the employment of goats. Some of the major weeds tackled included turkey rhubarb, kikuyu and cape ivy. The goats were particularly good at reducing the turkey rhubarb and kikuyu infestations. The works go towards restoring and enhancing the Panboola wetlands environment which many locals and tourists come to enjoy.



**Salty Lagoon Nature Reserve Action Group - Salty Lagoon Nature Reserve Flora and Fauna Survey, Weed Eradication and Rehabilitation/ Revegetation Project - Bermagui**

\$6000

Salty Lagoon Nature Reserve Action Group successfully completed a Biodiversity assessment and Plan of Management through a local ecological consultant. The plan will assist in guiding the group activities for years to come and ensure the natural values will be enhanced and maintained in a strategic manner. The group also undertook weed control focusing on the infestations of asparagus fern on the boundary of the reserve.



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**Tura Beach Flora Reserve Management Committee - Vegetation Management – Tura Beach**

\$4200

The group has received several years of funding which has been used to successfully manage the native vegetation with the aim of encouraging ecological diversity whilst also reducing the fire risk to residence. Activities included removal of some dead trees, tree pruning and ecological burns.



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**Tura Mirador Landcare Group - Continued conservation of the Tura/ Mirador Coastal Reserve**

\$860

The coastal reserves around Tura Mirador continue to benefit from the coordinated efforts of the Tura Mirador Landcare Group. During the 2015/2016 period the group kept on top of polygala and bluebell creeper and continued their maintenance and promotion of the Mundooi Track.



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To keep up to date with Council's Community Environment Grant Program visit Council's website.