Flood Recovery Works Update

North Central CMA Region





November 2011

Key achievements

- \$9.04 million Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding approved on 26 September 2011 for the North Central CMA to cover the cost of flood repairs to previously funded environmental protection works and other assets of the Authority.
- The North Central CMA has received further funding from the Natural Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme (NDRGS) to prepare Flood Management Plans for Carisbrook, Rochester and Donald. The main outcome of these plans will be to determine the potential impact of flood events, assess potential mitigation options and guide the development of flood warning systems.

These plans are in addition to the **Charlton**, **Creswick** and **Clunes** Flood Management Plans and the **Bendigo** Urban Flood Study, which are all well under way.

 The Draft Creswick Flood Mitigation and Urban Drainage Plan was released to the public on 23 November. The North Central CMA will be seeking feedback from the community on the draft flood mitigation recommendations with the aim of finalising the plan in December.

Blockage removal

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- An ongoing program of flood debris blockage removal has been implemented throughout the flood affected parts of the region.
- To date, \$995,108 has been spent removing 71 blockages, including recent works at Carisbrook, Redesdale and Creswick.
- Sites are based on the eligibility criteria for natural disaster arrangements, i.e. the removal of flood debris which poses a threat of damage to works of the Authority or public assets.



Blockage removal works along Tullaroop Creek, Carisbrook before (above) and after (below). Photo: Platypus Ecological Restorations



Erosion control

- 167 of 400 individual sites assessed are eligible for erosion control repair works as previous works of the North Central CMA.
- The North Central CMA has engaged Alluvium Consulting to develop the program of works and provide engineering services.
- Procurement of contractor services will occur over summer 2011-12, with repairs to commence from February 2012.
- The 87 landholders involved will be notified of the timing and scope of works in due course.
- Works involve the repair/replacement of 95 rock chutes and 4 km of rock beaching, battering and contour banking.
- \$3.46M component of NDRRA funding bid to be delivered by September 2013.

Stream gauge repairs

- 8 of 20 flood damaged water quality monitoring sites (toward which the North Central CMA contributes) have been repaired by contractors employed by DSE.
- NDRRA funding bid component \$94,624.

Fencing

 215 properties deemed eligible for assistance for flood damaged fencing previously funded by the North Central CMA (see Figure 1).

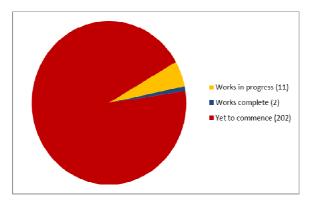


Figure 1: Fencing repairs

- Four North Central CMA staff are currently implementing fencing repairs throughout the region utilising the Flood Recovery Employment Program (FREP) crews, Loddon Prison crew and fencing contractors.
- NDRRA funding bid component \$2.08M.

Levee breach repairs

- 162 levee breaches have been identified to date and more may be identified over time.
- Focus is on following due diligence regarding cultural heritage assessments of sites with the assistance of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.
- Total levee repairs to date have cost \$658,000.

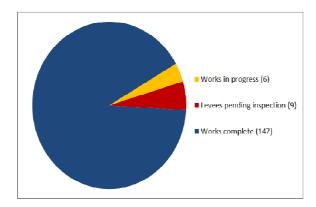


Figure 2: Levee breach repairs

Levee assessment project

- A project to map and assess the condition of 285 km of levees within the North Central CMA region is to commence shortly.
- Coordinated by the North Central CMA, the outcomes will enable the North Central CMA to provide the SES with better information during a flood and will assist DSE in the decision making process about long-term management of levees.

Pental Island levee repair

- A two kilometre section of flood damaged levee on Pental Island will be repaired to current standards.
- Discussions have been held with the landowners and further planning is being completed to enable the levee to be reconstructed.
- The repairs will require Parks Victoria and Swan Hill Rural City council approval and cultural heritage assessment.

Drainage maintenance

- 64 sites along the Bullock Creek Improvement Trust regional drains are eligible for natural disaster funding, comprising 172 km of desilting and reinstatement of 20 culvert structures.
- A Communication and Community Engagement Plan has been developed to ensure all key individuals and agencies are kept informed of the works.
- NDRRA funding bid component \$0.43M.



Regional drain requiring silt removal. Photo: North Central CMA

Natural Disaster Environmental Recovery program

- The North Central CMA has received an additional \$400K of funding from the Australian Government for a program to support the community to undertake environmental flood recovery projects that:
 - Repair flood damage to non-North Central CMA environmental protection works
 - Protect or enhance environmental benefits from the floods, such as natural regeneration
- Grants of up to \$20,000 are available to individuals and Landcare groups.
- For further information, and to download an application form and guidelines, please visit www.nccma.vic.gov.au.
- Applications close 5.00pm Monday 9 January 2012.