CARING FOR THE CAMPASPE RIVER

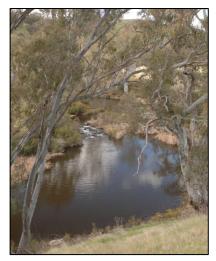


THE CAMPASPE RIVER

The Campaspe River extends over 220km from the Great Dividing Range near Ashbourne to Echuca on the Murray River.

Containing many threatened flora and fauna, the river is highly valued for the social and economic benefits it provides to adjacent landholders, towns and surrounding communities. Lake Eppalock, located midway along its length, provides domestic and irrigation water for north central Victoria and is popular for recreational pursuits.

In 2012, the North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) secured Victorian Government funding through the *Securing Priority Waterways* program to protect and enhance the river's important riparian vegetation.



Campaspe River, Redesdale Photo: Courtesy Stephen Malone Photography



NORTH CENTRAL Catchment Management Authority Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People

PROJECT GOALS

This four-year project aims to complement the river health improvements to be gained through the delivery of environmental flows (downstream of Lake Eppalock).

The riparian (streamside) vegetation plays an important role in the health of the river. A diversity of native trees, shrubs and grasses shade (cool) the water, hold the banks together and filter runoff from adjacent farmland. It provides a source of food and shelter for both terrestrial and aquatic fauna, including Murray Cod, Platypus and threatened terrestrial species, e.g. Swift Parrots (pictured) and Squirrel Gilders.



Endangered Swift Parrot *Photo: Courtesy Chris Tzaros*

PROJECT REFERENCE GROUP

Given the broad geographic area through which the river winds, a Project Reference Group containing representatives of the community, Indigenous groups, local government and Goulburn-Murray Water has been established.

The Group will guide the North Central CMA Project Manager in the planning of community engagement activities and prioritisation of on-ground works throughout the life of the project.

ON-GROUND WORKS

Landholders along the river banks will be contacted regarding opportunities to be involved in the project. This may be directly through the uptake of incentives or involvement in community engagement activities. The project has been funded to deliver the following outputs:

- 80km of riparian fencing
- 163ha of woody weed control
- 48ha of willow control
- 80ha of revegetation
- community engagement activities



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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