****Gunbower Creek Flow Investigations Community Group****

**Expression of Interest form**

### Background

The North Central Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) are investigating the flow constraints along the Gunbower Creek and potential options to address these constraints through *The Living Murray (TLM) Environmental Works and Measures Program Stage Two Project (The project).* The projectis about securing enough capacity in Gunbower Creek for everyone*.* These investigations include work to be undertaken in 2019 by a team of specialist consultants.

**The Gunbower Creek Flow Investigations Community Group**

The Gunbower Creek Flow Investigations Community Group (FICG) is a revised form of a pre-existing community group known as the Cockatoo Lagoon Community Working group (CWG). In early 2018, North Central CMA and GMW established the Cockatoo Lagoon CWG to provide community input into the options that were being investigated at the time, which potentially impacted Cockatoo Lagoon. These options involved changes to Thompsons Weir, a known flow constraint, and developing a plan to improve the health of Cockatoo Lagoon. The main role of the Cockatoo Lagoon CWG was to provide input to options being investigated and assist with the development of the environmental plan for the Lagoon. However, investigations revealed several issues, including the need to investigate constraints further downstream of Thompsons Weir. The project has now expanded scope to investigate multiple constraints along the length of Gunbower Creek in more detail, with a focus on those between Gunbower Weir and Hipwell Road Weir. As the project is now focussed on multiple flow constraints, it is appropriate to provide the opportunity for community members with an interest in and knowledge of the broader Gunbower Creek to also be involved in the community group.

Role of the Community Group

The purpose of the FICG is to provide local input into the Gunbower Creek Capacity Constraints Investigation Project and an avenue to increase community understanding of the project*.* It will not be a decision-making group, but members will work collaboratively with the North Central CMA and GMW by providing local knowledge and advice relevant to the project as it develops.

Membership and period of operation

Membership is voluntary and the number of members will reflect the resources available for running an effective engagement process. The period of operation is currently uncertain. North Central CMA anticipates at least two meetings will be held between approximately May and August 2019. The future course of the project and the role of the FICG will become clearer following the consultant’s investigations, which are expected to be completed by August 2019 at the earliest.

Once the project has progressed to a stage at which the FICG is no longer required, the group will be dissolved, and on-going communication with the community regarding the project will occur through the Gunbower Island Community Reference Group.

#### *Expressions of Interest Form*

Expressions of Interest will be accepted until midday on **Monday 22nd April 2019**. Please email the completed form below to sophia.piscitelli@nccma.vic.gov.au.

**Name:**

**Organisation/interest group represented (if applicable):**

**Postal Address:**

**Email Address:**

**Contact phone numbers:**

**Please provide a brief response to the following selection criteria.**

1. Why do you want to be on the group?
2. What part of the Gunbower Creek are you most interested in? (location)
3. What do you bring to the group? (local knowledge, relevant skills, formal links to the community etc.)

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_