



Mid Murray Landcare SA Incorporated

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Activity Update April 2019

Meldanda;

1. Managed volunteers and administrations for Meldanda.
2. Volunteers Bob and Brenton did general maintenance at Meldanda, fitted door seal at recreation hut, collected Eremophila seed, compiled workshop inventory, made and fitted light shields to outdoor lights, repaired ball valve at Bushgarden tank.
3. Was successful with a Small NRM volunteer grant for funding towards a portable toilet paperwork and invoice has been submitted.
4. Had a camp booking through aircamp.com.au they stayed at Meldanda for a night.

Nursery;

5. Ongoing propagating, weeding, watering of the nursery and plant sales.
6. Have had request from SA Water for chenopod see for a Water treatment plant at Morgan, we can provide some of the species required.
7. Received an additional request from, SA Water for tubestock for Morgan Water filtration project for planting this year and propagating some for next year.
8. Was successful with a Small NRM volunteer grant to get some more soil for the nursery, some flags to put out on front sign indicating when we are open and some scales to weigh seed, paperwork and invoice has been submitted



Figure 1 volunteers Brenton and Sheree at the nursery

Committee;

1. Enjoyed a week's leave over Easter.
2. Kept committee informed of relevant correspondence, workshops, and other information. Managed the office, volunteers, staff, and all necessary administrations including monthly accounts, reports.
3. Lyn Carmichael helped go through the accounts to help make them more relevant to current operations.
4. Held our monthly committee meeting at Cambrai Agricultural Museum hosted by Rose Laucke
5. Provided a support letter for a grant to re-roof the Cambrai Agricultural Museum.
6. Volunteer Mick Lowe has still been working in the Marne Valley Conservation Park 2 days a week weeding, mulching the revegetation site.
7. Supported landholder with their Tree paddock project, they used a location app to take photos of the tree guards. The guards have been placed around naturally regenerating trees on their cattle farming property at Keyneton, this will allow monitoring in the future of the effectiveness of the projects.
8. Phone call from landholder from Angas Valley who would like to direct seed 100 acres



Figure 2 Location details photograph of paddock tree

Carpet Python Conservation Collaboration Project

9. Was successful with a Mid Murray Council Community Grant for the development and installation of interpretive signage referring to the Murray Darling Carpet Python at both Towitta Springs and Mannum Waterfalls.
10. The python workshop at Yookamurra has been fully booked and have still been having people ask to attend. Have been letting them know there will be another workshop at the end of June at Lenger Reserve.
11. Received a report of a carpet python that had been caught up in a grape harvester at Cadell. The python was pulled out and had been digesting something at the time, it has been preserved in a freezer. I spoke to the SA Museum about receiving it as a specimen and will coordinate this with the Herpetology Department.

Murray Darling MEGA Microbat Project

12. Supported Bat Identification Workshop at Mt Barker, which was well attended with some participants keen to learn more.
13. Went to Mildura with 2 work colleagues to teach Mallee CMA staff about the project we have been delivering. When we arrived the sign for our meeting said SA FLYING BATS MEETING – which we thought was somewhat amusing. The meeting went well and could lead to some potential consultant work assisting with bat call identification.
14. Was successful with a Small NRM volunteer grant to get a laptop for volunteers to help with bat call identification paperwork and invoice has been submitted.
15. Was sent a bat photo from down near the Coorong way for identification.
16. An article was published about the project in the Hills Herald
17. Analysed bat calls and provided reports to landholders.

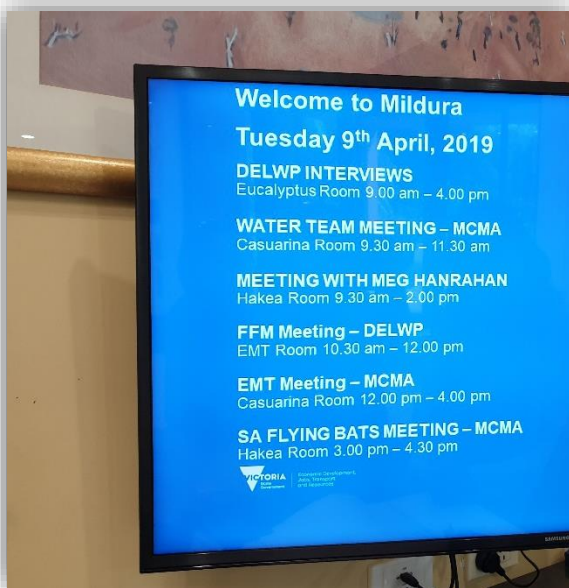


Figure 3 SA Flying Bats Meeting



Figure 4 White-striped freetail bat

Increasing productivity of Irongrass grasslands

18. Organised contractor to undertake threat abatement work at Mannum Waterfalls, Saunders Gorge and Holm Hill, to be completed before the end of May.

Mid Murray Dark Sky Reserve

19. Chris and Epi have been in regular contact with Adam Dalton at the IDA in Phoenix, Arizona, and he has provided comments on our draft application. The most important development has been the endorsement by the council of the Light Management Plan, which is already being used by council staff to assess applications.
20. The Lighting Inventory is almost complete, and is the main requirement remaining for the application. We have requested support letters from the Department of Environment and SA Power Networks and hop to receive them soon. We also aim to complete the requirements for a lighting demonstration site within the next few weeks.
21. The darkness readings taken at Swan Reach Conservation Park have been officially calibrated by Prof. Zoltan Kollath in Hungary and confirm readings of >22, which is outstanding.
22. We have had great support from Eponine Richardson at the council who has been assigned to work with us and are in the final stages of completing all the IDA requirements. We are immensely grateful to the council for their on-going support of this exciting project.

Seed attributes study

23. Worked on propagation calendar for key species for INTG project
24. Received final report template for this project

Spiny Daisy Project

25. Undertook the Wild Pollinator Count on the Spiny Daisy with 2 volunteers, this is a National project conducted twice a year, we only saw one ant.
26. Sheralee re-potted the Thornleigh and Melrose seeds that had germinated.
27. Sheralee started our seed germination trial by counting out 50 of each clone and sowing them. Melrose was sown on the 2/04/19 and 1 seed has come up on the 29/4/19.
28. Spiny Daisy site at Meldanda was watered on 9/4/19.

Mid Murray Council;

29. Invoiced the council for the native vegetation assessment report that was submitted to the Native Vegetation Council, which has been approved.



Figure 4 area north of Lock



Figure 6 old oval surface

30. Site visit to Blanchetown to recommence the Sustainable Recreation Management Plan. The plan will focus on town entrance statement and landscaping at the medical centre, upgrading the oval and surrounds, north of the lock to improve river access.