

Southern ACT Catchment Group Coordinators Report August 2010

'The World of Tidbinbilla; a resource and memento for Tidbinbilla visitors':

- Heritage Project, "The World of Tidbinbilla" is running to timetable, with a copy currently being reviewed by the Heritage Unit and the edited, proof-read and illustrated text at the book designer for printing in August-September. The Office of the Chief Minister has agreed in principle for Chief Minister Stanhope to launch the book in October.

Living with Lovegrass:

- 'Living with Lovegrass': following on from the forum a working group convened by the Southern ACT Catchment Group has met to discuss how we can promote recommendations out of the forum. As a result Southern ACT Catchment Group is currently seeking funds (including Community Action Grant) for a project that will work with project partners to:
 - * Identify areas to target for priority control through analysis of existing data to produce a map indicating the ALG distribution in 2000, undertake surveys to map the 2010 distribution, and provide an estimate for the likely 2020 distribution, based on current control levels;
 - * Produce a poster explaining ALG impacts and how rural landholders and urban dwellers can take action to reduce these impacts;
 - * Place articles in local press with same aim as poster (above), place ads in local press and targeted newsletters when conditions for the control by herbicide is optimal;
 - * Conduct Field days to demonstrate best-practice control methods on nearby farms where trials on ALG control are established;
 - * Add to existing information to ACT Landcare, Parkcare and catchment group websites and encourage community groups to add links to their websites.

The Scrivener Hill Lookout project:

- Isaacs Ridge/Mt Mugga Mugga Park Care Group is coordinating the Scrivener Hill project. Scrivener Hill sign wording is approved and will go to the sign makers next week.
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Community Action Grants:

- The current community action grant project for Tuggeranong Homestead woodland is progressing. As well as understorey plantings next Spring (plants ordered) the project also includes some weed control. The Patterson's Curse will be boom sprayed next month.

Canberra's Nature: NRM Council Small Grants project:

- The Canberra's nature project banner is complete & project will be acquitted shortly.
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Website

- Working with Rod Dickson to update the website.

Office

- All current accounts paid as of 20/08/10.
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Other Activities

- Continued production and distribution of fortnightly email news;
- Attended UMCCC meeting and launch of Look After Your Natural Assets (3rd Edition)
Willow Management - A Strategy for the Upper Murrumbidgee Catchment
Peri-urban Weed Management Study

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- Nominated the 'Trees in Trouble' project with Youth Haven for the NSW/ACT Regional Achievement and Community Awards 2010
- Attended meeting of the UMCCC forum/planning steering group. UMCCC will host its Biennial Forum on 29 October 2010 at University House, ANU. This year's theme "The Upper Murrumbidgee – making it work" will bring together speakers to talk about current issues in the catchment, and what needs to happen for the catchment to improve.
- Met with Kerrie Aust, Business Manager of the Institute of Applied Ecology and various others from Applied Ecology Canberra Uni to discuss African Love grass project.
- Attended Radio Landcare.
- Met with ACT Roads personnel at Arminel's home to discuss Cooleman Ridge drains.

Still to do:

- Canberra's Nature acquittal
- CAG mid term report due 30 September 2010
- Multilingual pamphlet
- Promote a Urambi Hills Park Care Group
- Promote a Uriarra Village Park Care Group
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