

**YASS VALLEY**

**SUB-CATCHMENT**

**Action Plans**

## 1. DRYLAND SALINITY ACTION PLAN

WHAT WILL WE DO ?

WHY ARE WE DOING IT ?

Manage the landscape to control and ameliorate dryland salinity.	To maintain sustainable productive farmland and to minimise the community impacts of salinity locally and downstream.
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HOW DOES IT CONTRIBUTE TO MURRUMBIDGEE CATCHMENT BLUEPRINT TARGETS ?

Soil Health ✓	Salinity ✓	Biodiversity ✓	Community Building ✓
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HOW WILL WE DO IT ?

(codes in brackets indicate Matching Blueprint Actions)

### Identify the problem

- DS1. Seek expert advice on local causes.
- DS2. Use tools such as the Salt Identification Kit to identify problems and severity.
- DS3. Target priority areas (see Dryland Salinity BMP).

### Implement management practices

- DS4. Retain existing native vegetation. (PrMA3)
- DS5. Manage grazing to promote groundcover & maintain grasses at their highest water using growth stage (BMA2, SMA5)

### On-ground works

- DS6. Fence off and protect remnant vegetation in identified high recharge country. (PrMA3, SMA5, BMA2, BMA7)
- DS7. Replace annual pastures with perennial species (incl natives). (PrMA1, SMA8)
- DS8. Revegetate identified high recharge country (eg Bidgee Hilltops project, Upper-Mid Lachlan & Upper Murrumbidgee Targeted Revegetation project). (PrMA4, BMA7)
- DS9. Revegetate in interceptor areas. (PrMA6)
- DS10. Rehabilitate high priority saline discharge areas by fencing to control stock, revegetate with salt-tolerant pasture and tree species, promote groundcover using fertiliser and gypsum application, mulching and earthworks where necessary. Graze to encourage water use where appropriate. (PrMA16, PrMA17)

### Promote and educate

- DS11. Promote practices that minimise recharge to groundwater, and reduces salt in streams, in both urban and rural situations by developing educational and awareness raising material/activities. (CBMA11)
- DS12. Provide education and information to promote improved grazing management practices (eg PROGRAZE). (SMA5)

### Monitor

- DS13. Monitor salinity periodically to show extent of salinity, long term trends and results of management. Monitor local discharge and downstream river salt levels and promote successes to encourage further action (CBMA11)

## 2. NATIVE VEGETATION ACTION PLAN

### WHAT WILL WE DO ?

Retain and enhance remnant vegetation and increase area of native vegetation.

### WHY ARE WE DOING IT ?

To maintain and improve ecological health to ensure sustainable production and conservation.

### HOW DOES IT CONTRIBUTE TO MURRUMBIDGEE CATCHMENT BLUEPRINT TARGETS ?

Salinity ✓

Soil Health ✓

Biodiversity ✓

Community Building ✓

### HOW WILL WE DO IT ?

(codes in brackets indicate Matching Blueprint Actions)

#### Identify the problem

NV1. Use assessment kits to assess the quality of native vegetation.

NV2. Seek expert advice to establish local reasons for decline (eg dieback).

#### Implement management practices

NV3. Create an extensive network of vegetation to link revegetation and remnant protection activities (eg Wamboin Greenways). (BMA1, PrMA3)

NV4. Protect and manage remnant native vegetation on private land. (PrMA3, PrMA4)

NV5. Promote revegetation of native ecological communities listed as threatened or endangered, through fencing, reducing competition etc. (BMA6, BMA7)

NV6. Develop and encourage the use of local vegetation communities seedstock where possible. (PrMA4)

#### On-ground works

NV7. Enhance the health of remnants by encouraging natural regeneration and re-introducing a large range of local native understorey plants. (PrMA3, PrMA4)

NV8. Manage weeds and feral animals.

NV9. Retain dead standing and fallen timber for habitat. (BMA6)

NV10. Fence areas of important native vegetation & manage grazing appropriately.

NV11. Support more research on germination of native vegetation especially native grasses.

#### Promote and educate

NV12. Raise awareness of the importance of remnant vegetation. (BMA1, CBMA11)

NV13. Encourage local government to identify and protect high quality vegetation, particularly where it will be affected by development. (BMA1, BMA7)

NV14. Encourage financial rebates or incentive schemes for revegetation works (BMA7)

NV15. Develop identification information sheets for native perennial pasture management - grazing techniques, fencing, fires, allowing for seed set. (SMA8, PrMA1)

NV16. Promote native farm forestry through trial farm forestry sites.

#### Monitor

NV17. Monitor revegetation and remnant management activities to improve techniques, species selection and strategies. (BMA5)

## 3. STREAM BANK ZONE ACTION PLAN

## WHAT WILL WE DO ?

## WHY ARE WE DOING IT ?

Manage creek and river corridors.	To prevent loss of productive farmland, minimise sediment & chemical content, and to maintain water quality.
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## HOW DOES IT CONTRIBUTE TO MURRUMBIDGEE CATCHMENT BLUEPRINT TARGETS ?

Water Quality ✓	Biodiversity ✓	Community Building ✓
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## HOW WILL WE DO IT ?

(codes in brackets indicate Matching Blueprint Actions)

**Identify the problem**

SZ1. Use the Riparian Catchment Assessment Sheets to identify and target high priority areas.

SZ2. Seek expert advice on the severity of the problem and possible local causes.

**Implement management practices**

SZ3. Manage stock access to protect areas of identified stream bank erosion, eg large mobs grazing for short periods to maximise ground cover. (WMA4, BMA2)

SZ4. Change practices to include buffer zones near stream banks.

SZ5. Encourage zoning of appropriate stream bank areas for public use, access and environmental benefit. (BMA2)

SZ6. Use 'environmentally-friendly' chemicals near waterways, and ensure other chemicals do not enter the stream bank zone.

**On-ground works**

SZ7. Where appropriate to individual farm plans, fence areas as necessary with the cooperation of land holders.

SZ8. Remove weeds such as Crack willows or Black willows. (WMA5)

SZ9. Improve stream bank vegetation cover and biodiversity. (BMA10)

SZ10. Undertake structural earthworks on severely eroding banks. (WMA6)

SZ11. Control carp populations through participation in regional actions. (WMA15)

**Promote and educate**

SZ12. Develop information kit/guidelines for landholders. (CBMA11)

SZ13. Develop demonstration and sponsor projects. (CBMA11)

SZ14. Encourage voluntary agreements such as land retirement, management agreements and covenants for stream bank areas.

**Monitor**

SZ15. Establish regular assessment and mapping of stream bank conditions (building on existing GIS data).

SZ16. Monitor change and the impacts of management practices (CBMA11)

SZ17. Monitor downstream sediment loads to test impact of actions taken.