

# Upcoming consultation activities for all VMFRP projects

## Consultation Plan Addendum – Last updated 24 June 2021

This is the addendum to the four consultation plans developed by the Victorian Murray Floodplain Restoration Project (VMFRP) to guide the engagement during the environment assessment process.

The addendum provides a more detailed monthly schedule of our proposed engagement activities across all nine VMFRP sites from June to September 2021.

The VMFRP will restore Murray River floodplains at nine ecologically significant sites across north-east Victoria. The nine sites are being assessed through either an Environment Effects Statement (EES) or an Environment Report (ER). Project sites have been divided into four zones for the assessment process:

Zone	PROJECT SITES	ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT
West	Lindsay Island and Wallpolla Island	Joint EES
Central (EES)	Hattah Lakes North and Belsar–Yungera	Joint EES
Central (ER)	Vinifera, Nyah and Burra Creek	Joint ER
East	Gunbower and Guttrum–Benwell	Joint ER

The four project zones have separate consultation plans reflecting the different engagement needs at these locations, but one addendum to make it easier for the community to see project-level activities alongside site specific activities.

The four consultation plans and this addendum are considered as live documents that are subject to change and will be updated as needed during the project consultation process. Activities are also subject to change based on COVID-19 restrictions.

To find out more visit [vmfrp.com.au/get-involved/](http://vmfrp.com.au/get-involved/)

Month & EES/ER stage	Activity	Proposed timing	Relevant site(s)	Stakeholder	Engagement purpose
June (Preparing the EES/ER)	Community reference group (CRG) meeting online (to replace postponed site tour)	8 June	West and Central	CRG members	Update CRG members on EES/ER process and Traditional Owner engagement
	Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting, Koondrook (16 June subject to COVID restrictions)	16 June	Guttrum–Benwell	Guttrum–Benwell Stakeholder Advisory Group	Update members on projects, EES process and get feedback on planned engagement approach
	Update VMFRP website with EES scoping requirements and	18 June	All	All	Update on EES/ER process and opportunities to get involved

Month & EES/ER stage	Activity	Proposed timing	Relevant site(s)	Stakeholder	Engagement purpose
	opportunities to get involved				
	Site visit to Hattah (postponed due to COVID restrictions)	21 June	West and Central	West and Central Community Reference Group	See watering in action at Hattah Lakes and discuss project need
	Project e-news published and circulated	21 June	All	All	Promote project and provide updated on EES/ER process and opportunities to be involved
	Gunbower forest site tour (24 June weather dependent)	24 June	Gunbower	Gunbower Stakeholder Advisory Group	See forest and discuss project need
	Fieldwork	Ongoing	Various	Landholders	Provide information on the project
	TRG meetings	Ongoing	All sites	TRG representatives	TRG meetings to provide update on project information, key milestones, understand potential issues, impacts and opportunities
July (Preparing the EES/ER)	Interactive maps on project website	TBC	All	All community and stakeholder advisory groups	Allow people to investigate project areas
	Community roadshow (to be listed on VMFRP website)	TBC	West and Central	Local community (incl. special interest groups), Traditional Owners and other interested stakeholders	Provide information on the project. Get community feedback to help further refine the project.
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various		Identify where consultation and engagement should be modified.
	TRG meetings	Ongoing	All sites	TRG representatives	As above
	Fieldwork	Ongoing	Various	Landholders	Provide information on the project
August (Preparing the EES/ER)	Community info session on biodiversity and habitats	TBC	All	Interested stakeholders and community members	Provide information on the technical studies. Get community feedback to help further refine the project.
	Community info session on water, catchment values and hydrology	TBC	All	As above	As above

Month & EES/ER stage	Activity	Proposed timing	Relevant site(s)	Stakeholder	Engagement purpose
	Community info session on cultural heritage	TBC	All	As above	As above
	Community info session on social, economic, amenity, land use and infrastructure	TBC	All	As above	As above
	Temporary signage installed at floodplains to inform users about the project	TBC	All	Park visitors, recreational users	Provide information to park users about EES/ER process, upcoming investigations and where they can find more information
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various	Local community (incl. special interest groups), Traditional Owners and other interested stakeholders	Provide information on the project.
	Site tours (dates TBC and to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various		Get community feedback to help further refine the project. Identify where consultation and engagement should be modified.
September (Preparing the EES/ER)	e-news update	15 Sept	All	All registered subscribers	Update to keep people informed about project activities
	Community Reference Group meeting	TBC	West and Central	Community Reference Groups	Wrap up of events and feedback, and reporting approach
	Stakeholder Advisory Group meeting	TBC	East	Stakeholder Advisory Groups	Update members on projects, EES process and get feedback on planned engagement approach
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various	Local community (incl. special interest groups), Traditional Owners and other interested stakeholders	Provide information on the project.
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various		Get community feedback to help further refine the project. Identify where consultation and engagement should be modified.
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various	Local community (incl. special interest groups), Traditional Owners and other interested stakeholders	Provide information on the project.
	Community site tours (to be listed on the VMFRP website)	TBC	Various	Local community (incl. special interest groups), Traditional Owners and other interested stakeholders	Get community feedback to help further refine the project. Identify where consultation and engagement should be modified.

Month & EES/ER stage	Activity	Proposed timing	Relevant site(s)	Stakeholder	Engagement purpose
<b>Ongoing activities</b>					
Ongoing	Website news and social media updates	Ongoing	All	Community and interested stakeholders	Increase community awareness of projects and opportunities to get involved with EES process.
Ongoing	Traditional Owner engagement	Ongoing	All	Traditional Owners	Direct face-to-face engagement to hear any concerns or suggestions, to better understand their broader landscape and objectives and how the project can support these, and to identify Traditional Owner preferences on how they would like to be involved in the project
Ongoing	Direct contact with key stakeholders and interest groups	Ongoing	All	Stakeholders and interest groups	To update stakeholders on the status of the project and the next steps
Ongoing	Landowner engagement	Ongoing	All	Directly affected landowners	Provide regular updates on the project, direct briefing opportunities and maintain dialogue with stakeholders
Ongoing	Targeted briefing sessions	Ongoing	All	All interested stakeholders	Milestone briefings to inform and brief key stakeholder groups and decision makers