

Gellibrand Summer Flows Improvement Project Project Update 3 – August 2017

Welcome to the third project update!

For background information about the project objectives, project partners and stakeholder input, please refer to the [project webpage](#).

Recent activity:

- July 2017 – Project team attended meeting the LAWROC group (see below)
- August 2017 - Test bore construction completed
- Now - Drill observation bores and collect further soil samples for analysis prior to pump test

Activities planned for coming weeks and months:

- 7-day pump trial – to commence 5th September
- Monitoring of sensitive areas (as detailed in the July update) - during the 7-day pump test
- Draft groundwater investigation report (results of the trial) – October
- Meeting with the Stakeholder Reference Group – October
- Final groundwater investigation report – November
- Broader consultation on options going forward – November

Please note: the timing of all the above activities has been delayed due to contractor availability. The original scheduling was upset by more time needed to drill a much deeper bore than originally estimated.

Meeting with the LAWROC Group – risk management for potential acid sulphate soil (ASS) activation

As arranged at the May site visit, representatives from the project team including Wannon Water, the Corangamite CMA and Southern Rural Water met with the LAWROC group July 20 to discuss in detail the results and implication of the soil testing performed by the group (see the May site visit report). The LAWROC soil test results indicates there are potential ASS activation risks in the area and this is an important issue for the pump test and any subsequent groundwater extraction. The project team will manage this risk by monitoring surface water levels and flows (as in the July update) and observation bore levels during the pump test.

Wannon Water will cease pumping immediately if monitoring during the pump test indicates that the water table is declining to an extent that there is a risk of activating ASS.

A further five sites for soil testing were identified to complement the work already completed by the LAWROC group. These will be analysed before the pump test commences.