



# MEDIA RELEASE



13 February 2015

## Get your vote in for the #SoNotCrap People's Choice Award

Everyone is invited to view and vote for their favourite entry in the #SoNotCrap photo exhibition, with a People's Choice Award of a GoPro going to the most popular photo.

The exhibition is running at key locations across the region until 28 February. On display are some fantastic images submitted by the public to tie in with #SoNotCrap's thought-provoking exploration of how East Gippsland is safeguarding its beautiful, natural environment using recycled water.

People can view and vote at any of the following venues during business hours:

- Bairnsdale Library (22 Service St)
- East Gippsland Shire service centres in –
  - Bairnsdale (273 Main St)
  - Lakes Entrance (18 Mechanics St)
  - Omeo (179 Day Ave)
  - Orbost (1 Ruskin St)
  - Paynesville (55 the Esplanade)
  - Mallacoota (70 Maurice Ave)
- Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance Visitor Information Centres

Alternatively, votes can be submitted via East Gippsland Water's Facebook page by sending a private message, or by emailing [education@egwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:education@egwater.vic.gov.au).

The winner will be announced on 18 March using Facebook, Twitter and East Gippsland Water's 'In the Flow' page in the East Gippsland News. A media release will also be issued.

Hundreds of people turned out for events to mark the opening weekend of #SoNotCrap (7 and 8 February), with the inside of the historic water tower in Bairnsdale's Main Street providing the canvas for a captivating audio and visual experience to stimulate the senses. This was the work of artist Sue O'Connor, who conceived the #SoNotCrap initiative, with starring roles going to East Gippsland Water's Bairnsdale Wastewater Treatment Plant and the adjacent, internationally significant Macleod Morass. She set out to capture the interdependence of both sites, with the flora and fauna of the morass thriving on recycled fresh water produced by the treatment plant.

There were also tours of the plant itself and the morass – led by East Gippsland Water staff and rangers from Parks Victoria.

Sue O'Connor said of the initiative: "We don't like to think about sewerage, but East Gippsland is showing that if you manage it well, you make your towns more liveable and you protect and enrich endangered habitats such as the Macleod Morass.

"The public's response to #SoNotCrap has been terrific, with some great entries in the exhibition. We invite the community to further embrace #SoNotCrap by casting their vote for the best. I also encourage you to post your photos and stories on social media – using #SoNotCrap hashtag of course!"

#SoNotCrap is sponsored by East Gippsland Water and East Gippsland Shire Council. For more information contact the communications team at East Gippsland Water on 5150 4434.

Ends