

MEDIA RELEASE

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Grants available to assist community with worthy environmental projects

East Gippsland Water is now inviting applications for Round 5 of its Native Vegetation and Habitat Creation Grants – open to educational and not-for-profit groups across the region.

The initiative is part of the organisation’s ongoing commitment to bolster the liveability and resilience of local communities.

East Gippsland Water’s Executive Manager Customers, Carol Ross, said, “We see this program as particularly important at the moment. We have the ongoing impact on our natural environment of drought and bushfires, along with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, with all this continuing to affect the economic and social wellbeing of our communities.

“This a great opportunity for educational and not-for-profit groups to push forward on something really worthwhile and positive, with a great environmental outcome.”

Grants are available for new and existing projects that focus on native vegetation planting or habitat creation. For more information, including the eligibility criteria and an application pack, go to the website www.egwater.vic.gov.au/grants, or contact East Gippsland Water’s Community Engagement Team on 1800 671 841.

Applications need to be submitted by **4pm, on Friday 20 November, 2020**, with the successful recipients to be announced on East Gippsland Water’s In the Flow page in the East Gippsland News, as well as on the organisation’s website and Facebook page.

Since the program’s launch two years ago, 18 projects totalling \$234,000 have been approved. These projects are located in Lakes Entrance, Paynesville, Raymond Island, Bairnsdale, Swifts Creek, Toorloo Arm, Buchan, Orbost, Swan Reach and Orbost.

Ends.