



## **Kings Billabong Regulator – Community Update 7**

**January 3, 2013.**

### **Project on schedule**

Planning for the construction of the Kings Billabong regulator is progressing and it is expected construction will commence in April 2013. Due to maintenance of the Mildura Weir scheduled for May 2013, the Kings Billabong regulator won't be operated until 2014 for environmental purposes (i.e. if draw downs are experienced in Kings Billabong during 2013 it will be as a result of the Mildura weir maintenance and associated river heights).

### **Geotechnical survey to be conducted early January**

A geotechnical survey will be conducted in the first or second week of January 2013. This will involve assessing the foundation of the construction site of the Kings Billabong regulator. It is expected the survey will take a couple of days to conduct.

### **Kings Billabong Open Days**

The Mallee CMA held two Open Days at Kings Billabong in August 2012 which gave neighbours and the broader community, the chance to share knowledge and better understand and enjoy the values of the billabong.

The open days were held on Saturday August 18 and Sunday August 19 and included a presentation from the Iain Ellis from the Murray Darling Freshwater Research Centre (MDFRC) on the ecology of the billabong. Iain's informal discussion touched on wetland ecology and Kings Billabong fish, water bugs and vegetation communities, which were the focus on monitoring undertaken by the MDFRC during 2012.

Approximately 15 people attended each day, with people getting a chance to undertake some water bug identification and witness a fish sampling demonstration (see pictures on the following page).

### **Broader community consultation**

Wider community consultation regarding the Kings Billabong regulator is continuing, with a number of local community groups showing interest in the project. Mallee CMA staff have presented to three local groups about the project, with more groups requesting presentations in 2013. If you or someone you know would like to receive a presentation from the Mallee CMA, contact 5051 4377.



**Above:** Fish sampling demonstration at Kings Billabong, August 18, 2012.



**Above:** Enjoying the activities at the Kings Billabong open day in August.



### ***Who receives these Community Updates?***

- The Community Updates are produced by the Mallee CMA to keep the wider community up to date about the Kings Billabong Regulator project.
- The Community Updates are posted on the Mallee CMA website on the day of release ([www.malleecma.vic.gov.au](http://www.malleecma.vic.gov.au))
- Community Updates are emailed to the database of people interested in this project. (Names and emails were given to the Mallee CMA on the night of the February 8, 2011 Community Information Session. This list has been added to over time.)
- If you would like to be added to the distribution list for these updates, please contact Louise Searle on 5051 4322 or email to [louise.searle@dpi.vic.gov.au](mailto:louise.searle@dpi.vic.gov.au)

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