

Schedule 6

Annual Progress Report

For project: RiverConnect

Between
GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
and
GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY COUNCIL
Funded by
State Government

Organisation Details:

Organisation:	Greater Shepparton City Council	
Project Contact Officer:	Sharon Terry	
Project Phone Number:	03 5832 9542	
Postal Address:	Locked Bag 1000, Shepparton VIC 3632	
Email Address:	Sharon.terry@shepparton.vic.gov.au	
Spatial collection method: (please circle) See Schedule 4A for details	DELWP Output Database in ESRI File Geodatabase Format	GB CMA Online Project Management System (enQuire)
Reporting contact:	Meg Pethybridge	
Contact name and email address:	03 5832 9714 meg.pethybridge@shepparton.vic.gov.au	
ABN:	59 835 329 843	
ABN registered name:	Greater Shepparton City Council	
Are you registered for GST?	Yes	
Incorporation / ACN name:		
Incorporation / ACN number:		
Start date:	1 July 2016	
End date:	30 June 2020	

Project expenditure

Description	Funds Approved 2016-17		Funds Approved 2017-18		Funds Approved 2018-19		Funds Approved 2019-20		Total Budget 2016-20	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RiverConnect										
Employment / Project Management / Facilitation	\$48,159	138,384	\$51,237	61,027	77,404	67,568	\$54,311		\$206,481	
In-kind/volunteer labour		12,925								
Total employment Costs (ex GST)	\$48,159	151,309	\$51,237	61,027	77,404	67,568	\$54,311		\$206,481	
Community Group support	\$25,360	25,360	\$30,000	29,654	19,331	17,058	\$30,000		\$115,000	
Communications/Publications	\$7,633	7,633	\$8,915	6,587	1,633	6,126	\$5,689		\$29,463	
Revegetation	\$8,848	8,848	\$9,848	2,732	1,632	711	\$10,000		\$38,696	
Total Operating Costs (ex GST)	\$41,841	41,841	\$48,763	38,973	22,596	23,895	\$45,689		\$183,519	
Total Budget (ex GST)	\$90,000	193,150	\$100,000	100,000	100,000	91,463	\$100,000		\$390,000	

Comment on variation (10% or greater) of budget vs expenditure:

- Employment cost variation as data is correct to 18th June 2019 (further funds to be paid). Also new project officer began 23rd July 2018.
- Revegetation cost variation as Council One Tree Per Child program provided equipment and plants in 2018.
- Communication cost variation due to delivery of Sustainability Victoria Illegal Dumping Project grant.
- Community group support targets not met due to COVID-19 restrictions on groups and RiverConnect activities.

RiverConnect 2019/2020 Financial Report

Description	Proponent Funds (GSCC)		Other Contributor (GBCMA)		Other Contributor		Total Budget 2018/2019	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Employment/Project Management/Facilitation	\$ 77,403.50	\$ 67,567.75	\$ 77,403.50	\$ 67,567.75			\$ 154,807.00	\$ 135,135.49
In Kind/Volunteer Labour	\$ -	\$ 16,257.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 16,257.00
Total Employment Costs (Ex GST)	\$ 77,403.50	\$ 83,824.75	\$ 77,403.50	\$ 67,567.75			\$ 154,807.00	\$ 151,392.49
Community Group Support	\$ 19,331.50	\$ 17,058.15	\$ 19,331.50	\$ 17,058.15			\$ 38,663.00	\$ 34,116.30
Communications/Publications	\$ 1,633.50	\$ 6,126.40	\$ 1,633.50	\$ 6,126.40			\$ 3,267.00	\$ 12,252.79
Revegetation	\$ 1,631.50	\$ 710.59	\$ 1,631.50	\$ 710.59			\$ 3,263.00	\$ 1,421.17
Total Operational Costs (Ex GST)	\$ 22,596.50	\$ 23,895.13	\$ 22,596.50	\$ 23,895.13	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 45,193.00	\$ 47,790.26
Total Budget 2018/2019 (Ex GST)	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 107,719.88	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 91,462.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 199,182.75

Project Delivery

1. Outputs

- a. Total outputs delivered – Please provide the required information in columns K to Q for each output.
- b. Spatial mapping – When mapping the outputs achieved, refer to columns I and J for guidance. Column I provides for how the output should be mapped (i.e. as a point, a line or polygon). Column J provides for what information should be mapped. Please include all output attributes in the metadata of the mapped spatial object.

(A) Project	(B) Activity	(C) Annual output target	OUTPUT ATTRIBUTES													
			(D) Output title and type	(E) Activity type	(F) Planned management outcome	(G) Planned management outcome direction of change	(H) Region, area or reach	(I) Spatial object type	(J) Spatial object description	(K) Specific attribute 1 (if applicable)	(L) Specific attribute 2 (if applicable)	(M) Specific attribute 3 (if applicable)	(N) Specific attribute 4 (if applicable)	(O) Specific attribute 5 (if applicable)	(P) Annual Output achieved	(Q) Spatial data recorded and provided (Y/N)
RiverConnect	Weed control	0.7 ha each year	2.2 Weed control – Non-woody	Establish	Species control	Increase control of undesirable species	Shepparton	Polygon	Gross area over which weeds were controlled, including the area searched for target weeds and treated where present	Primary treatment method (select one): Chemical Manual	Biosecurity aim (select one): Containment Eradication	Estimate of percentage (nearest 10%) of the output polygon that was treated 80%	Arrangement of the target species within output polygon (select one): Large patches Majority coverage	Species ID using the Victorian Biodiversity Atlas	0.88 Ha	Y
	Revegetation	1 ha each year	2.1 Vegetation – Native indigenous	Establish	Vegetation extent	Increase vegetation extent	Shepparton	Polygon	Area where vegetation has been established, maintained or modified	Specific activities undertaken (select): Seedling planting Mulching Plant guarding Supplementary watering	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.12 Ha	Y
	RiverConnect Paths Master Plan	17/18 - Master Plan Design Route 2 18/19 - Construct Route 2; design Route 1 19/20 - Construct Route 1; design Route 4 20/21 - Construct Route 4; design Route 3	4.1 Approval and advice – Advice	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Point	Location of Organisation’s office	Identify the status of the approval and advice (select one): Support	Identify the specific type of approval and advice (select one): Waterway Works – Route 3 and Route 5 paths Permit – Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act	N/A	N/A	N/A	No. of approvals and advice 3	N
	Assessments	16/17 – 1 RC Strategic Plan Review 17/18 – 1 LaTrobe community engagement; 1 BBR F&F assessment 18/19 – 1 Cultural heritage 19/20 – 1 Cultural heritage	4.3 Assessment - Cultural	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Polygon	Area where assessment has been conducted	Area where the assessment data is stored (select): Agency database	ID for the entries into the database Carbon sequestration project – Gemmills Swamp and Reedy Swamp (Blue Carbon Lab) CHMP for Route 3 and 5 2019/73386	Specific activities undertaken (select one): Survey	N/A	N/A	No. of assessments 2	N
	Community group support	8 each year (GMLN, Shepparton Mooroopna Urban Landcare Group, Field & Game, GVEG, Shepparton	4.5 Partnership – Community Group	Maintain	Governance	Increase governance	Shepparton	Point	Location of Organisation’s office	List the organisations or individuals who are	Duration of the partnership in years, where considered	N/A	N/A	N/A	No. of partnerships 36	N

(A) Project	(B) Activity	(C) Annual output target	OUTPUT ATTRIBUTES													
			(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(I)	(J)	(K)	(L)	(M)	(N)	(O)	(P)	(Q)
			Output title and type	Activity type	Planned management outcome	Planned management outcome direction of change	Region, area or reach	Spatial object type	Spatial object description	Specific attribute 1 (if applicable)	Specific attribute 2 (if applicable)	Specific attribute 3 (if applicable)	Specific attribute 4 (if applicable)	Specific attribute 5 (if applicable)	Annual Output achieved	Spatial data recorded and provided (Y/N)
		Camera Club, BirdLife Murray Goulburn, Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation)								parties to the partnership Goulburn Broken CMA Greater Shepparton City Council Parks Victoria Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative Goulburn Murray Landcare Network Goulburn Valley Environment Group Goulburn Valley Water DELWP DET Word and Mouth Community representatives: Pat Feehan Jay Whittaker Rod McLennan Matthew Crawford Bruce Cumming Kaiela Arts Victoria Walks Birdlife Murray Goulburn Fairley Leadership Program participants GV Mountain Bike Club Shepparton Camera Club Shepparton Historical Society Shepparton Mooroopna Urban Landcare Group Platypus Conservancy Lighthouse Project Disability Advisory Committee Turtles Australia Friends of the Botanic Gardens Shepparton Canoe Club	permanent 99 years should be used 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 99 7 2 16 2 16 7 3 7 3 3 4 99 4 3 4 3 3					

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										Native Fish Australia FamilyCare disability support group Cussen Park Advisory Committee Headspace Scouts Victoria	3 2 2 1 1					
	Engagement events	16/17 – 4,250 participants 17/18 – 4,500 participants 18/19 – 4,750 participants 19/20 – 5,000 participants	4.4 Engagement event - Presentation	Establish	Awareness	Increase awareness of target audience	Shepparton	Point	Location where each event was held	Name of each event Please see table below for detail	Length of each event in hours, to the nearest hour Please see table below for detail	Number of events – where events have identical values for all attributes (e.g. location, type) they can be captured together Please see table below for detail	Target audience of each event (select): Agency staff CBNRM group General community Indigenous Land managers Schools Youth Please see table below for detail	Primary focus of each event (select): Conservation management / techniques Data management & reporting Survey & monitoring Planning Consultation Collaboration Please see table below for detail	No. of participants per event Please see table below for detail	Y

Engagement Events Table

Region Area or Reach	Spatial object type	Spatial object description	Event name	Length in hours	Target Audience*	# of events (where events are similar they can be captured together)	Focus of event ^	# of participants	Location
Shepparton	Point	358390.327 5974462.561	Boulevard Bush Reserve Community Day	2	Community	1	General	22	Boulevard Bush Reserve
			Spotlight Walks	8	Community	4	General	59	Various
		358304.337 5977578.028	Breakfast with the Birds	2	Community	1	General	23	Reedy Swamp, Shepparton
			River Clean Up	4	Community	1	Conservation Management	19	Goulburn River
		360592.982 5971783.656	Mini River Olympics	1.5	Community	1	General	12	Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton
		356260.97 5972596.52	River Heritage Walk	1	Community	2	General	40	Historical Society & Goulburn River
		358304.337 5977578.028	Nature Photography	2	Community	1	General	16	Reedy Swamp, Shepparton
		354302.39 5971313.04	Flats Walk	3	Community	1	General	27	The Flats, Mooroopna
		360592.982 5971783.656	VFA Vic Fish Kids Day / River Festival	6	Community	1	Conservation Management	1000	Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton
			Protecting Turtles Day	2	Community	1	Conservation Management	101	Cussen Park wetland, Tatura
		355465.910 5972192.805	National Tree Day Shepparton	2	Community	1	Conservation Management	176	Kidstown, Mooroopna
			Protecting Turtles Industry Day	3	Agency Staff / Community	1	Conservation Management	15	Cussen Park wetland, Tatura
			Dharnya Family Day	8	Community	1	General	100	Barmah
			Education Program	72	Schools	50	Education	1314	Various
		356105.454 5973654.124	Cubs 1st Mooroopna Spotlight Walk	2	Community	1	Education	22	Gemmills Swamp, Mooroopna
		354743.12 5970312.32	Monthly Makers - Painting and Spotting Birds	4	Community	1	Education	15	Australian Botanic Gardens, Shepparton
			Childrens' Week Council Activities Day	3	Community	1	Education	100	Queens Gardens, Shepparton
		358304.337 5977578.028	Wetland Tea Bag Project Final Retrieval	1	Community	1	Conservation Management	4	Reedy Swamp, Shepparton
		356105.454 5973654.124	Wetland Tea Bag Project Final Retrieval	1	Community	1	Conservation Management	4	Gemmills Swamp, Mooroopna
			JULY - DECEMBER TOTALS	127.5		72		3069	
			Meditation at Jordan's Bend	2	Community	1	General	10	Jordan's Bend, Shepparton
		360592.982 5971783.656	Spotlight Walk	2	Community	1	General	20	Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton
		355465.910 5972192.805	Turtle Talk	2	Community	1	General	126	Kidstown, Mooroopna
		355465.910 5972192.805	Nurture Nature - making pouches for Wildlife	3	Community	1	Conservation Management	111	Kidstown, Mooroopna
			Canoeing on the Goulburn	6	Community	4	General	106	Goulburn River
		354743.12 5970312.32	Breakfast with the Birds	2	Community	1	General	23	Australian Botanic Gardens, Shepparton
			Labyrinth at Stuart Reserve	2	Community	1	General	31	Stuart Reserve, Shepparton
		355465.910 5972192.805	2040 movie screening	3	Community	1	General	130	Kidstown, Mooroopna
		360592.982 5971783.656	Clean up Australia Day - Community day	2	Community	1	Conservation Management	20	Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton
		354743.12 5970312.32	Nature Photography	2	Community	1	General	14	Australian Botanic Gardens, Shepparton
			Online School Holiday Activities ***	4	Community	11	Education	486	Facebook Group

		Online Wellness Sessions ***	1.5	Community	7	General	134	Facebook Group
		JANUARY - JUNE TOTALS	31.5		31		1211	
		TOTALS	159		103		4280	

*****Breakdown of Online Engagement during COVID-19 restrictions (14 March 2020 to 30 June 2020)**

Location	Event name	Length in hours	Target Audience*	# of events	Focus of event ^	# of views	# of engagements (completed activity, liked, commented)
Facebook Group	Make a squirrel glider	0.25	Community	1	Education	116	48
Facebook Group	BeetleMania	0.25	Community	1	Education	445	51
Facebook Group	Making Bunting	0.25	Community	1	Education	11	23
Facebook Group	LoveBug Photography	0.25	Community	1	Education	4	20
Facebook Group	Spider Webs	0.25	Community	1	Education	525	37
Facebook Group	Nature Art	0.5	Community	1	Education	160	79
Facebook Group	Design a bug	0.5	Community	1	Education	54	54
Facebook Group	Bird Count	0.25	Community	1	Education	42	38
Facebook Group	Habitat Tripod	0.75	Community	1	Education	13	40
Facebook Group	Love your Bugs	0.5	Community	1	Education	81	44
Facebook Group	Pollinator Count / Butterflies	0.25	Community	1	Education	38	52
Facebook Group	Arvo tea with AI	1.5	Community	5	Education	459	134

Media Mentions

Article title	Media	Date
Planting Future Foundations	Shepparton News	30/07/2019
Green thumbs make for greener future	Shepparton News	30/07/2019
Kinder in the bush	Shepparton News	9/08/2019
Students help environment (Shepparton High School)	Shepparton News	17/08/2019
Class action for Animals and Plants	Shepparton News	19/08/2019
Community day of bush learning	Shepparton News	7/10/2019
Bush tour proves a hit for young and old	Shepparton News	8/10/2019

River Heritage Walk (interview)	ABC Goulburn Murray	9/10/2019
Eyes to the skies for bird count	Shepparton News	19/10/2019
Bird count starts	Shepparton News	22/10/2019
Vic Fish Kids Day (interview)	One FM	7/12/2019
I Shell Find The Turtles	Shepparton News	10/12/2019
Lured in for big day of fishing	Shepparton News	10/12/2019
Teabags used in huge CO2 study	ABC Goulburn Murray	17/12/2019
Do your bit for fire-hit animals	Shepparton News	14/01/2020
Kids go out of their shell for turtles	ABC Goulburn Murray	17/01/2020
Turtles the talk of the town	Shepparton News	18/01/2020
Crawling with fun	The Adviser	22/01/2020
Nurture Nature	WIN News	22/01/2020
Turtle Talk	WIN News	22/01/2020
Nurture Nature	ABC Goulburn Murray	22/01/2020
Park gets a little spruce up (St Marys Primary)	Shepparton News	28/02/2020
Shepparton's environmentally conscious get dirty to clean up Australia	Shepparton News	1/03/2020
On mission to clean up lake	Shepparton News	2/03/2020
#LoveBugs online activities	Shepparton News	7/04/2020
The great bug count	Shepparton News	9/04/2020
The great bug count	Shepparton News	20/04/2020
Residents to become citizen scientists	Country News	14/04/2020
Pollinator count interview	ABC Goulburn Murray	12/04/2020
Pollinator count interview	ABC Goulburn Murray	19/04/2020
Turtle nest protection interview (Turtles Australia)	ABC Goulburn Murray	1/05/2020
Local residents reconnect with nature during pandemic	The Adviser	13/05/2020
RiverConnect Path awarded \$500,000 grant	WIN News	14/05/2020

5 Year priorities 2017-2022 - progress

Priority	Target	Benchmark	Annual increase to achieve target	2017/18	2018/19	2019/2020
ETC	25% increase in use of shared pathways	95 average daily visits		Data not reported	95 average daily visits	120 average daily visits
	25% increase in participation in river environment activities	Align with CMA targets	250	4978	5832	4280 ** affected by COVID-19

IES	50% COGS schools one class >1,000 students	1,000		1929	3167	1314
	One tertiary education project in the river environment	1		1	1	1
SAC	1,000 participants annually in traditional owner-led events in river environment	1000 p.a (5000 total)		92	47	268
	Significant whole of community events and projects celebrate our shared history			0	0	0
IHW	Shared path extended by 9km			0	0	2km – The Flats Walk
	Opportunities and spaces are created that people actively use			0	0	0
RARE	Extent and quality of native veg & water quality is improved		1 hectare reveg CMA target	2.87 hectares	0.795 hectares	1.12 Hectares
	Access for various sectors improved at 5 locations	1 per year		0	0	1 – The Flats Walk
	75% decrease in volume of illegally dumped rubbish	40m3 / \$112,500 labour /260 reports GSCC only. \$23,000 disposal incl PV		331 reports	339 reports	400+ reports 3+ tonnes removed by community
	Decreased priority weeds on shared path network	Need baseline data.	0.7 hectare CMA target	2.03 hectares	1.275 hectares	0.88 hectares
SPE	One example of social enterprise associated with RC aspirations	0		0	1	0
	One example of private enterprise associated with RC aspirations	0		0	0	2 – Bohollow Enviro Ed and Into the Wild Education
PGG	Key stakeholders continue to endorse and support the partnership and governance arrangements of RiverConnect			Achieved	Achieved	Achieved
	Funding won from government and non-traditional sources consistent w RC aspirations			\$610,740 won from Federal Regional Jobs and Investment Packages. \$10,000 won from Sustainability Victoria	0	\$500,000 won from Regional Development Victoria – Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund
	RiverConnect is accountable and adaptive			Achieved	Achieved	Achieved

2. Acknowledgement of Fund Source

- a. Have you acknowledged the fund source (eg. State Government, Australian Government, etc.)?
Yes/~~No~~ (please circle)

3. Spatial reporting and documentation

- a. The outputs reported in the table above are spatially recorded, reported and provided through:
- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Online GB CMA mapping system | Yes/ No (please circle) |
| ESRI File | Yes/ No (please circle) |

Please provide appropriate files or attachments linking outputs to spatial data.

- b. All documents prepared and/or published as part of the project, including those not publicly released (i.e. technical reports and specifications), attached?
Yes/~~No~~ (please circle)

4. Comments on delivery of each project

a. Overall comments on project progress:

RiverConnect and our partners, as well as the general community, have had a tricky year in 2019-2020. Whilst the July-December period on 2019 progressed as usual, January to June 2020 has severely been hindered by restrictions relating to the COVID-19 virus. This has reduced the amount of engagement with the community that the project has been able to deliver, with 2966 people involved in 53 community engagement activities, 1314 school students from 15 schools and 4 kinders, as well as home schooling networks, youth support programs and 1 TAFE learning about the river environment in outdoor classrooms. 36 partnerships maintained and developed, and features in 33 external media items.

However, other targets were still achieved. A 2km upgrade of The Flats Walk track to a crushed rock path is due for completion in the next few weeks and will allow better accessibility for YYNAC's guided Flats Walks and other visitors wishing to learn about local Aboriginal history from the interpretative signage along the path.

While we have not been able to run classes at the river, RiverConnect has adapted our service delivery. Teachers and parents have utilised the suite of resources for learning from home that the Education Officer shared on our website www.riverconnect.com.au and Facebook "RiverConnect - Greater Shepparton".

The Blue Carbon Lab 2 year citizen science project was completed in December and the final report will arrive in the next financial year. This great partnership with Deakin University and local environment groups assesses the levels of carbon sequestered by our local wetlands, Reedy Swamp and Gemmills' Swamp.

RiverConnect has noticed a significant increase in usage of our shared path network over the COVID-19 lockdown period, with an average of 120 visits per day. We are pleased to see locals out enjoying natural spaces for exercise and will work to see that this continues in the future.

b. Key achievements and highlights:

- Both Revegetation and Weeding targets were achieved.
- Community-led clean up events have removed over 3 tonnes of rubbish from the Goulburn River.
- Ongoing partnership and delivery collaboration with One Tree Per Child which assists to achieve the revegetation target.
- Hosted 53 community engagement events (18 online) with 2966 participants.
- The beginnings of engagement with a new class at GO TAFE, a VCAL class with approximately 20 students who are unable to attend mainstream schooling.

- Renewed engagement with a Home Schooling Network of approximately 8 students.
 - A community event held in January to provide community members with an opportunity to do something to help wildlife affected by the 2019-2020 bushfires was a very successful event, with great media coverage and high interest from community participants.
 - Excellent engagement on Facebook and Instagram, particularly through the COVID lockdown period. We have 775 Facebook followers and 273 Instagram followers. Of the 18 online activities we ran during lockdown, we had 1948 views and 620 likes/comments/shares and completed activities.
 - We have continued to develop our partnerships with community groups, most notably Cussen Park Advisory Committee and Turtles Australia. With these two groups and trained nest-detection dogs from Latrobe University, we surveyed Cussen Park for turtle nests and taught community members and Council staff how to use nest protection kits, which will prevent cats and foxes from eating turtle eggs. We have protected two nests in Greater Shepparton this year with nest protection kits funded by the Hugh Williamson Foundation and put together by community members.
- c. Challenges and issues faced that have directly impacted on project delivery in the reporting period:**
1. Finalisation of assets register of council assets on Parks Victoria managed land remains an on-going activity that has hindered the progress of proposed projects which are located on Parks Victoria managed land.
 2. Engagement with existing VCAL classes and programs was difficult at the beginning of the year due to the merger of the 4 Public Secondary schools which led to both teachers and students changing campuses, and a period of time required for this change to settle.
 3. The emergence of COVID-19 and its associated lockdowns and movement restrictions, then finally schools being closed has severely impacted on the delivery of the school based education program during the January-June 2020 period. A few school events were able to be held just prior to the lockdown, and as some restrictions eased, however the program has been limited to online engagement only, through providing teachers with access to activities for students to undertake within their homes. This will likely continue to have an impact further into the remainder of 2020.
- d. How these challenges and/or issues are going to be mitigated or addressed:**
1. Council senior management are actively working with Parks Victoria senior management to complete the assets register of council assets on Parks Victoria managed land. Individual works agreements were obtained for Route 3 and Route 5 paths projects which will allow these works to be completed within the required timeframes for each grants.
 2. Continue to keep avenues for communication with all schools open, and promote our ability to be flexible to the needs of schools, teachers and students. This includes being available for online activities, Zoom classes, providing activities for teachers to facilitate, and putting together 'how to' video clips.
- e. If previous mitigations have been identified in earlier reports, how successful have these been?**
1. The appointment of a full time ongoing Environment Officer within the GSCC Sustainability and Environment team as seen the One Tree Per Child Project begin to run much more smoothly than in past years, with the Environment Officer having more planning time to get the project running for the year.
- f. A statement about the Project's approach for, and progress towards, supporting aboriginal engagement and collaboration:**
- Increased staffing at Yorta Yorta Nation Aboriginal Corporation over the last few months has resulted in renewed involvement. This has included consistent attendance from both staff and Elders at RC meetings and engagement with projects. The Project Officer has built good relationships with both new and existing staff over 2019-20 and is working to improve communications between Council departments and YYNAC to allow smooth completion of the RC paths projects.
 - Several new projects led by the Aboriginal community are currently being developed. Uncle Ruben Baksh of the Elders Council for Yorta Yorta Nation is working with officers to secure a site and funding to operate an Aboriginal mens shed. This project has been discussed for a long time in the Council and community, and RiverConnect is proud to be supporting the group. In addition, Corey Walker (previous teacher at ASHE) has incorporated an Indigenous Fishing Club and RiverConnect will assist the club to run their launch on December 5th at Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton.

Organisation declaration:

We declare that we are authorised representatives* of the recipient organisation, that the information given on this form is complete and correct and that expenditure of moneys paid under the financial agreement have been solely expended upon the project and in accordance with the terms of the Agreement and Conditions.

Name (please print)		Peter Harriott		Name (please print)	
Position in organisation	CEO	Phone	5832 9700	Position in organisation	Phone
Signature		Date		Signature	
				Date	

* Declaration to be signed by the Organisation’s two responsible officers other than the Project Manager (for example, the Organisation’s President / Secretary or CEO and the Organisation’s Treasurer or Chief Finance Officer).

