

Fact Sheet

March 2010

Riviera Outlet Reconstruction - Environment

The Riviera Outlet is an essential piece of infrastructure that helps protect properties downstream of Seaford from flooding.

The original structure was built 50 years ago to allow excess flows in Kananook Creek to discharge into the bay. It is now being replaced after reaching the end of its useful life.

The project is being delivered for Melbourne Water by the Pipelines Alliance.

Protecting the Environment

Melbourne Water is committed to protecting the environment and carrying out works sensitively. We have worked closely with council and many community groups to develop strategies to minimise the impact of this project on our coast line.

Key environmental controls include:

- Development of a site environmental management plan to effectively manage and control all aspects of the environment during works
- Construction of a coffer dam to contain the work site and provide protection for the Bay from construction activities
- Provision of spill kits on site for use in the event of any liquid spill
- Use of Jersey barriers to minimise dune erosion
- Tracking of fuel usage to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, and
- Separation of waste streams to allow recycling where possible.

Rehabilitation – While it is not possible to undertake a project of this scale and in this location without disturbing some vegetation, we have worked with Frankston City Council and local community groups to identify ways to reduce these impacts wherever possible.

To enable construction machinery and materials to be safely moved to and from the work area, it was necessary to widen the access track to the beach in some places by removing or pruning some vegetation. This included dune grasses, Tea-trees, coastal beard heath and a coast wattle. Plans were altered to ensure no Banksias were disturbed by our works.



Access Track - The access track was created using wooden sleepers (instead of the usual crushed rock) as sleepers will have less of an impact on the environment. This material can also be reused once it is no longer needed on this project.



Vegetation protection zone – Several areas have been identified, fenced and signposted to ensure important vegetation is protected.

Reinstatement – At the end of the project, areas that have been disturbed by our works will be reinstated to a condition as good as or better than before work began. This includes planting the same type of native vegetation in areas where it has been removed, replacing fences and restoring the access pathways to the beach.

Offsets – Special conditions apply where vegetation has been removed. This requires that we not only replant the vegetation, but that we replant additional trees and shrubs to 'offset' the loss of established ones.

Our works required the removal of 7 trees, including one that was already dead and a small stand of immature tea trees. Before the project is complete we will plant around 500 plants to reinstate disturbed areas.

We have worked with Frankston City Council and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) to identify what trees or vegetation should be planted and where.

Turbidity Control – As we are working near and even in the bay, a protective floating silt curtain is ready to be deployed if the water becomes turbid or ‘churned up’ and has the potential to impact on the Bay or its marine life.

Call Wes Turnbull on 1800 792 466 or email pipelinesalliance@melbournewater.com.au for information about this project. You can also call Melbourne Water on 131 722 or visit melbournewater.com.au for general information about other projects to secure a sustainable water future.