

Dundonnell Wind Farm

Newsletter
Edition

34

July
2023

We are proud to have supported an array of community initiatives over the past 12 months.

Round 2 of the Dundonnell Wind Farm Community Fund opens this month and will remain open for applications until the end of October. Applications for the Education Fund will be opening on 1 September 2023 and will also close at the end of October, so put the date in your calendar if you are interested in applying!

We are moving to email-only newsletters, so please make sure you are signed up to receive our newsletter by email by hovering over the QR code. If you don't have email but would still like to receive the newsletter, please call us on 1800 935 458 and we'll include you in our post-only distribution list.



This July newsletter includes updates on:

- What's happening on site
- Compliance activities
- Benefit Sharing

SIGN UP & STAY INFORMED

If you haven't already, please subscribe to our newsletter to ensure you receive all Project updates and information. We understand that not everyone uses email, so we will be working with local businesses to host Project information packs such as the newsletter, fact sheets and maps. Subscribe to receive the newsletter by email, by contacting us at: dundonnellwindfarm@tiltrenewables.com



PROJECT UPDATE

What's happening on site?

In the last 12 months, the Dundonnell Wind Farm generated **1022 GWh** of **clean energy**. That is enough to power **169,000 households** while keeping **981,000 tonnes** of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere.

We are pleased to report that all 80 turbines are operating and we are keeping to schedule for our annual service of the turbines.

Compliance Activities

We continue to implement the Brolga Compensation Plan, with the final Year 2 Report now available on the Project website.

Implementation of the Bat and Avifauna Management Plan is ongoing. In early March 2023, we submitted our Year 2 Report to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action and Moyne Shire Council. Once approved, the final Year 2 Annual Report will be made available on the Tilt Renewables website.

Recently, the second round of noise compliance monitoring was conducted in accordance with the permit. We are preparing a report on noise compliance for the Department of Transport and Planning (previously known as DELWP). Our team is also preparing a Noise Management Plan, which an environmental auditor is reviewing in line with the requirements of the amended *Environment Protection Act 2017*.



Figure 1: Noise compliance monitoring at a private residence

BENEFIT SHARING

Community Fund – Round 1, 2023 recipients awarded

We are pleased to support the following successful groups and initiatives from Round 1 funding.

Organisation	Funding Approved
Dundonnell Hall Committee – funds toward fencing repairs	\$7,000
Dining Room Tales – funds towards the production of Phoenix	\$1,000
Lake Bolac Foreshore Committee – funds toward procuring a larger mower	\$6,000
Lismore Land Protection Group – funds to plant 1120 trees	\$2,000
Woorndoo Chatsworth Landcare Group – to fund safe off-street parking at their restoration site	\$3,000
Mortlake Recreation Reserve Committee of Management – to fund their resurfacing and shed project	\$3,000
Streatham Cemetery Trust – to fund laying gravel along the approach to their parking bay	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$25,000

Thinking of Applying?

Round 2 of Funding opened on July 1st 2023
and closes on 31st October 2023!

**APPLY
NOW**

To find out more about the community fund
visit www.dundonnellwindfarm.com.au or
scan the QR code at right



Planting day with Woorndoo Chatsworth Landcare Group

On Friday, 12 May, a group of Tilt Renewables staff got their hands dirty to assist the Woorndoo Chatsworth Landcare Group (WCLG) by planting a variety of native grasses and wildflowers back into the landscape.

With gloves on and some precautionary hi-vis vests, our team and WCLG representatives embarked on planting over 1,700 critically endangered wildflowers, including the Chocolate Lily and Bulbine Lily, at a section of road reserve managed by WCLG along Woorndoo-Streatham Road.

We learnt that sadly, there is only 1% of this critically endangered vegetation left in the Western Volcanic Plains – the third largest volcanic plain in the world. The WCLG is attempting to reintroduce the native grasses and wildflowers back into the landscape. It's a slow process, not only due to poor access to land but also due to poor soil health from large scale agricultural activities. It also takes years to grow the seedlings to plant in the ground in the hope that they will set their roots and begin to heal the soil. It had taken the WCLG around three years to grow the seedlings we planted on the day.

We were treated to a brief presentation after lunch so that we could learn more about the important work WCLG is doing and a bit more about their approach to re-seeding the landscape with this diverse flora.

We look forward to returning during spring to see the flowers in bloom.



Figure 2 (this page and page 5): Tilt Renewables Representatives with WCLG



Woorndoo Land Protection Group

Native Grassland Restoration Project - 2013 Sowing

The landscape around you was once dominated by vast expanses of diverse grasslands, samaras and grassy woodlands. With modifications to land use following European settlement, native temperate native grasslands and grassy woodlands have become among Australia's most endangered plant communities.

This region is renowned for retaining some of the finest remnants of these communities in reserves and along rural roadsides. Skilled and consistent autumn burning by the local Country Fire Authority brigades is an important factor in the preservation of these remnants. However, the remnants are under constant threat from various forms of small and large-scale disturbances, followed by exotic plant invasion.

The Woorndoo Land Protection Group recognised a need to increase the area of native grassland using recently developed restoration techniques. In 2013, following a concerted community effort collecting seed from over thirty locally indigenous species, and with support and assistance from Wayne Sims Council, this previously ungrazed roadside strip of 1.25 ha was sown with a diverse native seed mix of grasses and wildflowers.

Restoring Diverse Native Grassland To restore temperate native grassland by direct seeding, exotic seeds and buds (bulbs, cones, rhizomes etc.) in the topsoil, along with the elevated nutrients from agricultural fertilisers, must be reduced. Elevated nutrients favour the

growth of exotic weeds and pasture plants, which will out compete and eventually exclude most native species. Once nutrient levels have been lowered sufficiently, native species gain a competitive advantage. To achieve these two objectives, reduced-nutrient species and lowered nutrients, approximately 120 ton of topsoil is removed from a restoration site. The nutrient rich topsoil spoil is spread on nearby agricultural land or used for other productive purposes. Direct sowing of the native seed mix follows, with a focus on spring in this region. The restored native vegetation is managed by burning and/or shearing every one to three years, depending on the growth (boomness) on the site.

Flowering Grassland
Thymelicus ornithina
A widespread and dominant, summer growing perennial grass 1 to 2 m or more in flower. A key and long-lived species of many temperate native grassland communities. Abundant on local roadsides and reserves.

Kangaroo Grass
Themelia ornithina
A widespread and dominant, summer growing perennial grass 1 to 2 m or more in flower. A key and long-lived species of many temperate native grassland communities. Abundant on local roadsides and reserves.

Wallaby Grass
Alysicarpus species
A wide variety of Wallaby Grass species occur in native temperate grasslands. They are an important restoration species, providing early perennial grass cover in newly sown sites. Abundant on local roadsides and reserves.

Common Everlasting
Chrysanthemum leucanthemum
A very variable and widespread daily that may be abundant in highly diverse grasslands and other native species in grassland communities. Abundant on local roadsides and reserves.

Hoary (White) Sunray
Cyanus alba
This daily white 'sunraying' flower heads and leaf foliage make a distinctive display in spring and early summer. It is a nationally endangered indigenous wildflower but it can be abundant on local roadsides.

Lemon Beauty-heads
Cyanus alba
A long-lived perennial daily that has increased in large numbers on this restoration site. It produces an abundance of long-stemmed flowering heads in spring and early summer. It is a nationally endangered indigenous wildflower but it can be abundant on local roadsides and reserves.

Butter Winkiewort
Rudbeckia hirta
A perennial daily that is nationally endangered. Several small-herb populations persist in this region. It has established successfully in several restoration sites.

Bulbine Lily
Asteraceae
A spring flowering bulbous plant with a distinctive seed that has been found to establish. Occurs in large numbers on some local roadsides and reserves.

Chocolate Lily
Asteraceae
A spring flowering bulbous plant with a distinctive seed that has been found to establish. Occurs in large numbers on some local roadsides and reserves.

Clover Glycine
A nationally rare plant that is naturally on this region. Although it is a native species, it is under constant threat from various forms of small and large-scale disturbances, followed by exotic plant invasion.

Images: Yvonne Ingram; Beta Zolinger; Liz Fenton; Julia Delprat

Rural Industry Skills Training (Terang Group) site visit in June 2023

In June 2023, we were pleased to host the Rural Industry Skills Training (RIST) Terang Group at Dundonnell Wind Farm.

RIST is an independent agricultural college with campuses in Hamilton and Terang. RIST approached Tilt about the possibility of a site visit for Terang students completing a Certificate II in Agriculture. This site visit was incorporated in the Terang Group's subject on Environmental Sustainability.

We discussed windfarm operation in local communities by using Dundonnell Wind Farm as an example. Tilt Renewables provided an overview of the Wind Farm Development, Construction and Operational phases to students. The Terang Group and our Operations Lead fielded great questions and discussions about Environmental Planning, Compliance Monitoring and Reporting, Social Licence, Landholder and Community, Contractor Relationships, Employment, Technology and Technical Specifications of DDWF.



Figure 3: The Terang group looking at the end of a blade onsite during the visit

Update on School Tours

As part of the Dundonnell Wind Farm school education program, we have lined up school visits for the second half of the year. A representative from the Federation University careers team will also attend these days to assist in sharing career pathway information. Our visitors are year 10s from Mortlake College, year 8s from Carey Grammar, and students and researchers from Monash University.

Derrinallum Netball courts

We were pleased to assist the Derrinallum Recreation Reserve (DRR) in upkeeping their multipurpose netball and tennis courts for safe use by the local community.

With support from the Dundonnell Wind Farm Community Fund, the DRR was able to professionally pressure wash their courts. This removed moss, mould and lichen from the asphalted areas of the courts.

Game set match!



Figure 4: Derrinallum Netball Courts post-pressure wash



Federation University Foundation Scholarship

On 3 May 2023, we were proud to attend the Federation University Foundation Scholarship awards. At the awards night, we heard from Brendan Letts, the 2022 recipient of the Scholarship.

Brendan Letts' scholarship allowed him to complete basic technical turbine training. Mr Letts developed his knowledge of electrical components of wind turbines and the correct techniques for a mechanical technician to apply to everyday tasks. This allowed Brendan Letts to step into the role of Operations Manager at his current work.

Thank you Brendan Letts for sharing your experience and how it has supported your work.

Figure 5: Brendan Letts, 2022 Federation University Foundation Scholarship Recipient

New Code of Conduct for the Wind Farm Community Engagement Committees

In March 2023, Moyne Shire Council agreed to a Wind Farm Community Engagement Committee Code of Conduct ('the Code'). Community members and Tilt Renewables representatives are governed by the Code whereas Council staff and Councillors who sit on the committee are bound by Moyne Shire's codes of conduct.

The Code aims to create a space for respectful and meaningful dialogue and sharing of information between local communities and wind farm developers. Furthermore, the Code strives to ensure a safe working environment for employees, contractors, volunteers and trainees.



Contact us:

For more information, or to provide any feedback, please visit the project website
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