Urban Grasslands & Local Community Engagement Seminar

Seminar Responses

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## 1 Questions

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<th>Workshop question</th>
<th>Relevance to Community Engagement process</th>
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<tr>
<td>What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.</td>
<td>Clarification of the issue on which you wish to engage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What is your ideal vision for grasslands?</td>
<td>Clarification of the goals of the engagement effort – commitment to a shared vision.</td>
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<td>Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.</td>
<td>Clarification of the communities with which you want to engage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?</td>
<td>Clarification of the goals of the engagement effort.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.</td>
<td>Brainstorming activities which can be cross-checked with the main principles of Community Engagement (see below)</td>
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<tr>
<td>What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?</td>
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<td>What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?</td>
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2 Community Engagement Principles:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Values and Principles</th>
<th>What it means to act on the principles</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Courage</strong></td>
<td>Accept that the aim of whole-of-community engagement is to make a difference. Recognise things need to change, and everyone needs to learn new skills and new ways.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Respect</strong></td>
<td>Talk to others outside the 'Club' and respect their opinion. Listen to people with different ideas from yours. Form a connected network with people from all sectors that contribute to NRM.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inclusiveness</strong></td>
<td>Find people who are not just representing personal views but who will try to represent a wider constituency. People should come from key individuals, community groups, expert advisors, key organisations, including government.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Flexibility</strong></td>
<td>Set up rules for dialogue that allow everyone to hear and work with each other. Work together towards fresh solutions that include the diversity of contributions.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mutual obligation</strong></td>
<td>Recognise that no-one has all the answers, and no-one can do it alone. Everyone has something to learn and something to give.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Practicality</strong></td>
<td>‘Walk the talk’. Apply the values listed here in your own sector, and evaluate the outcome for continual learning.</td>
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<td><strong>Commitment</strong></td>
<td>Establish common ground in the form of a vision of a shared future. Accept and collaborate with the many pathways and skills needed to achieve that vision.</td>
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“[Community engagement principles] are general statements of good practice for use by governments, industry and communities. These principles do not prescribe how to specifically engage as it is recognised that many factors, including the type, scale and location of each individual operation create unique conditions requiring a specific application of the principles to achieve the most practical outcome. The principles are intended to assist the sector to ask the right questions and find the appropriate answers to improve its engagement skills. Similarly, if this information helps a company recognise when they should be seeking the assistance of experts, then that knowledge is a positive step forward. “

3 Target community: People building in new outer zone suburbs

Bandicoots R Us

3.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- Lack of recognition
- Lack of profitability don’t make money eg pastures
- Lack of community concern for biodiversity overall - low on priority list
- Fragmentation & scarcity
- Not as noticeable when gone
- Easy to clear without permits - getting harder but people can still get away with it due to lack of coverage of overlays
- Most of the cuddly animals have gone
- Competitive disadvantage compared with exotics/weeds
- Our land management practices don’t fit grasslands - we don’t burn, we dig up, we fence off and leave for conservation rather than actively manage

3.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- Adopted as standard open space cover rather than cut grass/exotic garden beds - we cant afford cut grass any more
- Well managed remnants cared for by engaged communities
- Sufficient resources to manage remnants properly -
- Grassy species across the landscape as the norm

3.3 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?

- Its part of our history and heritage - people knowing what was in Melb before whites
- the normal for of cover
- That we live in Australia’s most threatened ecosystem - right here so we have responsibilities
to like grasslands as much as we do
- A movement to bring back the animals = especially the small ones bettongs, pademelons, bandicoots, dunnarts, curlews, brolgas, plains wanderers, brolgas, potoroos

3.4 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.

- People building in new outer zone suburbs

3.5 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?

- Programs with kids in schools
- Link kids programs to getting adults involved
- Fun activities for families that happen to be in or next to grasslands
- Involve local groups eg resident associations looking out for their parks, scouts earning badges, mums & young kids on a grassland adventure (safe - no fire or snakes)
- Demonstrating grassland beauty through photography, artwork, storytelling, other stuff
- Taking plants across the fence into their garden rather than just asking them to come out
- Lakes and wildlife and fun and good healthy happy living
- Experiences rich for the time poor

3.6 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?

1 Getting residents engaged with connected community living space: kids do an activity/project on healthy creeks and parks, and other activities for adults support this as well as messages from developer - then a delbration of kids work
2  Kids taking pictures that illustrate healthy creeks & parks for people and wildflowers & critters - or art project. Adult + kids days for learning about creeks & parks and contributing to health. Recognizing kids at work & creek values

3.7  What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
- Lack of current material that integrates grasslands as part of education programs
- Making meaningful connections with support groups in community
- Finding artists who understand grasslands as well as kids and art
- Support from Councils

3.8  What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
- WE are linking Iramoo with Delfin at Caroline Springs to do a Kids in Creeks project

3.9  What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
- We will email one another ideas for the project and set up a meeting
4 Target community: Adjoining landholders

blue devils

4.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- public perception (hazard snakes)
- litter, garden dumping
- weed invasion
- maintenance practices such as fire
- record keeping/ongoing monitoring
- legislation & enforcement

4.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- conservation
- enhancement
- increased value/awareness
- weed free???
- recognised as a natural resource/asset
- understood

4.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- Developers
- FWDs
- Motor Bikes
- Vehicles disturb soil, bring in weeds, compact soil changes hydrology
- Grazing - remove layer of species trample vectors for weed seed
- Friends Groups raise awareness, assist in management
- Friends group provide additional monitoring
- FWD's denude public perception-it's a place not cared for

4.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?
- an understanding and respect towards grasslands

4.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- adjoining landholders

4.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- 10 AL - plantings, walk, talk and gork (field days), brochures, fauna surveys, reptile show, assist in developing interpretation.
- naked rain dances

4.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
1. field based walks and talks
2. know the objective
3. Research - target the demographic
4. Research the demographic
5. Select a suitable site
6. Planning
7. advertising
8. Maslow's hierarchy
9. evaluation
4.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• funding, drought/weather, lack of interest, lack of coordination between stakeholders, timing,

4.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• workshops on creating community interest
• working relationships that can be transferable to different stakeholders ie linear managers, user groups

4.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• Provide access to pictures via website www.nativeplants.smugmug.com
• monitoring the site which is to be visited on 'the walk and talk' activity to ensure it's suitable
5 Target community: Residents in new developments *bunjil*

5.1 *What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.*
- lack of community understanding, support, funding. Needs to be shift to putting biodiversity higher on the agenda.
- Human interventions and impact, eg rubbish dumping, trail bikes,
- Linking fauna, eg golden sun moth

5.2 *What is your ideal vision for grasslands?*
- valued, protected, loved, connected to people and to more grasslands.
- More emphasis on their beauty.
- offering the community a sense of space and location. Connecting people to the earth.
- Indigenous uses - foods, medicine, and understanding how they have been used traditionally.
- making things out of grassland species

5.3 *Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.*
- CALD communities
- show that they are interesting places
- motor bikes
- capitalist system
- rubbish dumpers
- weed harvesters
- governments at all levels
- voters
- nursery industry
- pasturalists
- home gardeners - weed escapees
- new residents who want manicured sites and BBQs
- mown look
- swimming pools

5.4 *What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?*
- direct action stopping freeways and urban sprawl
- motivated community
- understanding biodiversity and the communities impact on the earth
- something that they want to protect and fight to protect
- vigilant community
- well informed, committed community who care about their grasslands
- everyone working together
- appreciation for the fauna in grasslands
- educated community
- respect for what was under their house

5.5 *Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.*
- Residents in new developments

5.6 *What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?*
- community planting, wildflower walks, look at demographic profile to see who the hell they are
- engage at all levels using a wholistic approach
- approach schools too involve students/teachers in projects
- making connections with other community groups
- new uses for plants, eg basket making
- are they safe, eg concerns about snakes
- CALD communities - need to learn from them about their communities
- create a venue that it is safe
- planned engagement

5.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
1. bush tucker tasting in a safe environment.
2. go to school, and other community-based groups to talk, taste and walk and gawk
3. have to advertise a bit in the local community, eg school newsletters about event and suss out the community make up
4. have learnt what turns them on, use what they want to do to undertake some sort of action, which could be a planting or another walk, make sure nit is fun

5.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
- money, money!!!
- on-going funding to support a long term project
- creating a sustainable project with sustainable community relationships

5.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
- increased support, ie $ & capacity, to us do what we want to do and are already doing
- invitations to councilors to see grasslands
- grasslands display at Melb. Show (Garden Show! Eds)
- more networking between agencies
- grasslands community education network

5.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
- sharing site visits with other councils
- share Bronwyn's (MPCCC) experience with others
- evaluation of workshop
- share my learning with my colleagues
6 Target community: Migrant communities
Crreek Critters

6.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- weed invasion
- perception as waste lands and paddocks
- vehicle encroachment
- snake threats
- fires
- fragmentation
- subtle beauty not obvious
- attracts rubbish dumping and litter

6.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- education
- expansion
- change perception to thing of beauty not ugliness
- appreciation through education
- weed eradication
- bringing back fauna
- linking/corridors
- make a priority, not a problem
- increase diversity
- inspire use of plants at home
- house free grasslands

6.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- developers
- friends groups
- councils
- cultural misunderstandings
- local schools - education
- building site debris
- horse riding clubs compaction
- stock, grazing

6.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?
- value grasslands
- want to see more
- get excited by it/enjoy them
- recognize them
- get involved
- lobby actively to keep them
- want their vision to be the same as OUR vision

6.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- Migrant communities

6.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- Utilising interpreters for walks and talks
• Hold multicultural planting days
• target culturally specific community groups i.e. the cooking group
• Councils to provide information in many languages
• Information signs with symbols rather than words
• use Brian's ideas like reciprocation, points of similarity, relevance to lifestyle
• info on ways they can use their knowledge in their own homes

6.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
• contact multicultural dep. (council)
• establish the major groups
• activities to reciprocate attitudes
• contact bilingual parks
• practical hands on rather than written material
• address hierarchy
• determine mobility, disabilities, ages
• provide interpreter
• prepare talk to reflect basic understanding

6.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• interpreter unavailable
• weather inclement
• no one interested
• bad choice of season - unpredictable conditions preventing planning ahead
• unpredictable conditions i.e. construction works/repairs on paths

6.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• can now contact the bilingual parks group
• can take Maslow's hierarchy into consideration when taking walk and talk tours
• draw on others' ideas for community liaison

6.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• contact bilingual parks guides
7 Target community: Trailbikes

d&d

7.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- weed control, community awareness

7.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- Protection, conservation, weed free!

7.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- trail bikes
- revegetation
- animal collectors

7.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?
- more respect for indigenous culture and history
- grassland pride

7.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- trailbikes

7.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- Education, police presence talk to motorbike/ trailbike groups, restricting access to sites.

7.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
- education contact rider groups suggest areas that they can ride in, educate parents about damage to grasslands take tours

7.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
- funding, entrenched culture, indifference, lack of police presence, time restrictions

7.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
- keep on educating
- national grassland day!

7.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
- keep on spraying
- keep educating
8 Target community: Farmers and politicians

Delma dynamos

8.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- Litter dumping and blown rubbish
- Climate changed
- Weeds and more weeds
- Linear land managers e.g., railway line, roads, creeks
- Pest animals - rabbits and foxes, feral cats
- Lack of awareness re grassland issues and apathy
- Tree planting - I call it National "Plant" day!!!!!!
- Ecological fire regimes

8.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- Connected and cared for
- Ecologically viable
- Urban grasslands having same diversity levels as rural grasslands
- Return to pre-European state (not possible)
- Make weeds an endangered species
- Well interpreted for the wider community
- To have grassland exist
- Privileged to have a grassland named after you

8.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.

- The Australian dream to own your own home - MacMansions
- Teenagers
- Traditional farming practices
- Grassland regenerators
- Snakes are cool
- Gardeners of the world unite for indigenous plants
- Parks mowing crews
- Hoons destroy grasslands without thought
- Council staff are doing the best job they can with budgets provided
- Naturalists loving nature

8.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?

- Triple AAA appreciation, acceptance awareness
- Knowledge base and transfer between peers
- Frolic naked in the long grass
- Not be afraid of grasslands
- Wanting to be involved and engaged
- Want indigenous plants in garden

8.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.

- Farmers
- Politicians

8.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?

- Field days
- Grants - plains tender
• one on one contact
• enforcement
• awards and recognition
• landcare projects, pest control projects
• influential role models in community
• promotion of values of native pasture
• land for wildlife - connections for eco-experts
• pray for rain
• promotional materials

8.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
• Field Day Rain dance
• Field Day
• choose landholder who is role model with good grassland to show
• contact target audience through landcare network, media, postal, one on one contact
• Book it
• do it
• done

8.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• finding a landholder willing to be a role model
• Getting agreement to participate
• How to entice landholders to come to the field day
• Choosing a suitable day - hopefully good weather!
9 Target community: Councilors

Highgrass

9.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- Weed infestation, competition from human uses such as housing & industrial development
- Weed competition
- Damage due to infrastructure maintenance. fire trail, overhead powerlines, gas pipeline
- Lack of local adjoining community support/involvement

9.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- Actively maintained
- Valued by the community
- Biodiverse
- Predominantly indigenous vegetation
- Resilient
- Community is interacting & utilising the grassland
- A grassland is a grassland forever

9.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- Builders who dump
- Friends groups- sense of ownership leading to improved care
- Student involvement leading to research that improves management
- Infrastructure managers whose impact is generally negative, unintentionally increasing weeds, disturbance and destruction

9.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?
- If you don't like it, at least respect it and leave it for those who do.
- Taking responsibility for grasslands

9.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- councilors

9.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- Meetings
- Seminars
- Field trips(overseas?)
- social events where they could hobnob
- Email bulletin about grassland events
- hotline to media events around environment

9.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
- Field trip for local councilors.(just the local grassland in this case). Organise an appropriate date (g'land in a visually stunning state, comfortable weather likely).
- Check councilor availability
- organise appropriate speakers
- catering
- Organise members of he community to be there
- ensure that the media will be present, including photographer
- organise the bus/transport
- clarify the message/theme/issue of the internally
• Provide a briefing paper to ensure councilors are prepared
• try to have a high profile /celebrity available to act as spokesperson
• Incorporate a good news announcement that they can announce/launch/positive
• have a small child available to kiss

9.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• lining up the availability of the councilors
• dealing with inclement weather
• overcoming individual councilors ignorance/lack of interest/priority

9.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• Establish a network of like-minded people
• Learn how to seek the services of a bilingual parks guide, learn what services they offer
• develop/assist groups to share resources-a grassland resources catalogue

9.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• Will talk to my local councilor/ invite them to the grassland
• will share some of the resources developed to individuals who have requested them
10 Target community: Primary age children

**kadd lillies**

10.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- Fragmented - poses management and other challenges
- community ignorance of values - lack of awareness
- safety and amenity issues and perceptions
- poor public image
- litter trap - eg Malcolm creek - changes perception
- pest plants and animals
- scarce
- many sites very small - more than other ecosystems

10.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- native wildflowers to replace colourful weeds as seasonal indicators (and be prevalent) carpets of wildflowers in spring!
- community passionate about grassland
- grassland talked about like rainforests
- grassland to be part of childhood experiential learning
- abundance of grasslands - not just to look at

10.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- motorbike riders - negative
- 4wd
- cats, dogs and foxes
- farmers - clearing rocks, pastures...
- land development community
- custodians
- schools - learning places
- indigenous - bringing different understanding
- backyard encroachment from vegie gardens
- mountain bikes

10.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?
- people to be as precious about grassland as hey are about the beach
- understanding that grasslands have been fundamental to human society as a food source - grasslands are nature's first bread basket
- community to have a depth of knowledge about what grasslands contain and their seasons and complexities
- seasonal indicators valued

10.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- primary age children
- older residents
- industry - corporations
- 2.

10.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- wildflower planting
- hands on learning - field exploration
• seed and plant propagation
• discovery walks
• pd for teachers
• Theme based unit that fits with curriculum
• learning about koori use of plants
• resources on internet
• sensory activities
• fauna surveys - frogs birds
• guided walks with aboriginal community
• fun and adventure activities
• bush tucker and crafts

10.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
• school engagement - teacher pd - collaborate between - school, land manager, enviro group
• collate resources - people, electronic and print
• identify target site/s and schools
• invitation to key people
• field day to introduce grassland to the participants and to each other
• workshop possibilities
• funding to enable participation during work hours
• target school council and principal, councilors, community leaders - eg scouts, comm. orgs., local MP

10.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• availability of key stakeholders
• b funding
• human resources
• disinterest - crowded curriculum
• share workload
• getting grassland education on the agenda / curriculum
• safety issuers

10.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• contact list of participants in this seminar- who, what they do and contact details
• list of names of people interested in working on teacher PD
• follow up session with grassland engagers (ie all of us) to build on today
• big project on grassy ecosystem engagement - collaborative - sustainability funding opportunities
• network on email - eg heritage vic

10.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• liaise with Bronwyn (MPCCC) about education
• finish signs at grassland
• promote a grassland ecology course for adults
• develop a joint project for funding
• email list - circulate request
11 Target community: Primary age children

11.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- Community perceptions of the land's use
- Vacant block to dump on
- High grass indicates it is not being used
- Maygar grassland was unfenced and residents were told it was going to be a soccer field
- Fences cut to allow dumping and vehicle access
- Grasslands are perceived as ugly (from a distance)
- “Let's translocate it”
- Dumping rubbish or litter, lawn clippings, garden waste, etc., wind-blown building materials
- Lack of support

11.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- Community appreciation
- No more loss
- Acceptance of this part of our natural heritage
- Plants more widely used in the landscape
- More community involvement
- Global warming will allow the natural expansion of grasslands
- New option for managing landfill sites
- Seed orchards
- The landscape of the future

11.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.

- Service authorities
- Contractors
- Human beings
- New developments
- Legislation by not being enforced
- Bushland crews managing sites properly, improving values
- Passionate friends of groups by caring
- Management of council's not allowing enough funds to manage them properly
- Researchers, TAFE students, etc., who conduct important research, managers of the land, etc.
- MCMC
- HUME
- Whittlesea
- Growth

11.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?

- Provide alternative sites for undesirable activities, 4wd's, trail bikes, etc.
- Not an issue
- Education appreciation from all levels of the community
- N consideration of others

11.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.

- Primary school kids are our big hope for the future, we need to fill them with the passion
- Teenagers - too late to educate
11.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?

- Wildflower talks and gawks
- planting Plant ID
- fauna associated with grasslands
- Aboriginal history associated with past management & culturally historic sites within our community
- Do’s and don’ts of grasslands (grassland etiquette)
- get Bindy involved Crikey!!!!!!
- Wiggle grasslands

11.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?

- Aboriginal cultural heritage = establish good contacts and working in partnerships with the aboriginal community
- devise program utilising local sites and vegetation communities with local aboriginals
- engaging kids imagination through dreamtime stories
- invite Michael long and Sheedy to engage kids about grasslands etc
- event date location budget etc letter drop publicity aaa with Cathy freeman
- get kids burning grasslands with the traditional owners

11.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?

- inspiration
- ideas
- budget
- resources and support for project
- required celebs
- convenient time of year grasslands are best when managers are busiest
- Committed long term funding to these programs competing priorities
- apathy
- The ability to market like NIKE just do it !!!
- finding the time
- Fun police get involved and stop all good things

11.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?

- Implement some of the ideas from today
- new ideas about signage and engagement
- have online chat group to discuss these ideas etc
- Start a “save the grassland” coalition
- more information about kids on local environmental issues via the web
- spends some of the 17 billion dollars surplus on this issue

11.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.

- get up earlier
- engage
- new local law to impound illegal cars and 4wds on open space
- care
- pies
- thanks
12 Target community: Horse-riders
Team Themeda

12.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- Ignorance, Perception (fear, not aesthetically appealing??), Increasing respect, understanding value
- ENDANGERED

12.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- household species
- no fences
- streetscapes
- part of a general education
- Changed perception from an inferior aspect of the landscape to a superior
- not just reduced to street names

12.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.

- industrial
- the weed warriors
- Bugs Bunny
- Dirt-bike riders. DESTRUCTION, Noise Pollution
- Landcare, Friends Groups - restore the natural environment
- Corporate Groups doing activities through Greening Australia etc
- Kids - soak up the knowledge that is fed to them
- Rural Landholders - some activities detrimental, others positive

12.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?

- They are at least respected and not disturbed
- Build a community of naturalists
- Interaction by the community being high
- same as mine
- be able to name at least some spp
- love, value, respect
- A desire to take part in their management beyond attending field days etc
- on everyone’s my space
- and facebook

12.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.

- Horse-riders

12.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?

- Establish a protocol with the Horse groups. Install infrastructure that permit horses while excluding bikes
- Explain implications of horse-riding activities and offer suitable non-invasive alternatives
- Poo-bags to catch the excrement

12.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?

- Poo-bag. Consultation with groups, Design, availability, advertising on the bags/instructions, subsidising the cost, collection points, disposal strategy,
• approval by councilors and exec management
• establish enforcement procedures

12.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• Disposal of bags - ensuring they are not dumped/left on site (enforcement/education)

12.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• Copies of some of the presentations to assist with brainstorming ideas
• getting an understanding of what information and ideas are out there.
• understanding some of the barriers/limitations in regards to community engagement

12.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• HR) stay more connected, have more input into the management of the activity
13 Target community: Kids

the future savers

13.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.
- undervalued, unknown, bird habitat, protection, ignorance, complexity, vulnerable, building appreciation
- connection to space, apathy

13.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?
- expansion, sustainability of grasslands with endangered fauna returning with a holistic, community approach to management
- retain what we have left

13.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.
- local residents good and bad
- industrial encroachment and dumping - bad and ugly
- exotic weed and pests
- kangaroos entice visitors and more appreciation
- friends groups - nurture

13.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes des towards grasslands?
- respect
- appreciation
- encouraging fascination and joy in grasslands
- sense of responsibility
- grassland visits regularly
- developers and government acknowledging values
- cradle to the grave involvement and further education ongoing

13.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.
- 2 kids

13.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?
- spotlighting
- bug survey at different times of year then draw your fav bug
- blindfold and get kids to 'listen'
- treasure hunt and then show and tell
- make u a story of the life of a grassland creature
- draw 4 plants/flowers you have discovered in the grassland
- birds and frog survey listen and see
- plant your own plant and tag it with your name

13.7 What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?
- identify a group close to grassland
- liaise w school and teachers
- enthusiastic and involved teacher
- -treasure hunt then show and tell
- talk about flora and fauna
- safety awareness
- identify an area not high quality
• kids look and discover
• tell class what they b found

13.8 What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?
• damaging the enviro
• weather
• safety
• attention span
• learning disabilities
• levels of confidence
• ensuring kids can only find 1 thing each

13.9 What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?
• a list of enviro activities that others are conducting
• include this level of education at school curriculum
• a bushfood tasting day held at local grasslands

13.10 What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.
• put idea forward to colleagues
• continue to share and listen to others’ excitement about environment
14 Target community: local community

Zeberdy

14.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- preserving our natural heritage
- weed invasion - soil disturbance, rubbish dumping
- destruction!
- human relationship with grasslands - lack of, learning to value grasslands
- loss of processes - natural and traditional management
- eg; fire, soil disturbance
- loss of pollinators leading to loss of plant species
- fear of open space

14.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- weed free and self sustaining
- genetically and ecologically viable
- pretty and everywhere!
- full of snakes
- traditionally managed and celebrated
- full of legless lizards
- intrinsic values recognised
- values as a resource appreciated
- resource values = pollinator source, etc

14.3 Which communities impact on your grassland? Describe their impact.

- friends of
- friends are the community...engage further with community
- polluters. chemical releases. 'burns' foliage

14.4 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?

- that they are considered sacred places - not to be desecrated
- people feel part of grassland ecosystem, as opposed to viewing them as pristine or human less
- love

14.5 Choose a target community to engage with in order to bring about change in their impact on or relationship with local grasslands.

- Local community

14.6 What are the different activities you can conduct to engage with that community?

- wildflower walks
- Encourage a sense of excitement
- grassland
- grassland games
- foster a sense of custodian ship through continuity of involvement
- Education activities aimed at instilling confidence to be independently involved
- utilising local media
14.7 **What steps will need to be taken to have your chosen activities implemented?**

- Wildflower discovery walks, Experienced guide. Planning! Chose guide on ability to motivate & make it fun, exciting, unfold the story. eg Vox Bandicoot/natural history expert + storyteller.
- Media & advertising, radio, newspaper, school newsletters, community grp newsletters, word of mouth, email, web!!!!
- address basic physiological needs on the day ie food, drink loo stops! raincoats sunhats etc!
- follow up...further activities/meetings (need contact list)....make a plan together
- ...set priorities & targets together
- follow up media ie good news story ...celebration...reinforce positive messages...community involvement

14.8 **What steps may be difficult or what difficulties might you encounter to implement this step?**

- scarcity of people who understand the grasslands
- - resources, time, money
- - public interest - getting people there
- - coordination of the event - harder to implement complex activities

14.9 **What actions would you like to see arise out of this workshop to help you to take on the next steps?**

- - tour to view parkland signage - esp. visual signage
- - copies of Brian’s little brown book
- compulsory grassland tour for Wyndham councilors
- community assistance lobbying gov for funds to work on grassland management & protection

14.10 **What is one step you will take to implement an activity you have chosen.**

- wildflower walk/picnic for DOI development team (railways)
- three letter acronym (TLA)
15 Facilitator - summary

15.1 What are the issues we are dealing with regarding grasslands? Be specific, give local examples.

- Themes: weeds, rubbish and litter, fragmentation, apathy, undervalued, perceptions, management practice

15.2 What is your ideal vision for grasslands?

- Themes: people, wildflowers not weeds, outcomes of good management and conservation, and education. Valued!

15.3 What is your ideal vision regarding community attitudes towards grasslands?


16 What's your favourite story. Name, author and why?

- The Lorax - Dr Seuss
- The Hobbit Immersion in another world, escape
- Peter Rabbit, Beatrix Potter, his snappy blue coat
- Bringing Back the Bush, The Bradley Sisters, inspiring
- Rabbit proof fence - unknown - insight in understanding and injustice, and a journey,
- The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath I like it cause she was interesting.
- Helen Keller
- Red dog don't know author good Australian story
- Dirt Music Tim Winton Crayfisher goes Kimberly
- Tom Sawer Mark Twain Boy with no cares go river
- Mozart & the Whale, unknown, Because of the way they overcame an affliction
- The star bellied sneetchers. dr Seuss. Explores that people are all the same under the skin
- Eucalyptus About trees
- Future eaters Tim Flannery scary future?
- The Last Cry, Mick WoIwood, First black-white interaction in Melbourne
- true history of the Kelly gang. Peter Carey. Ned Kelly stuff
- Catch 22 can't remember author. Laughed out loud many times
- Pilgrim at Tinker Creek Annie Dillard Being nature!