



## COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Delivery of the 2013/14 Annual Report and Executive Summary,
- GRCCC website maintenance
- Issue of six media releases and attraction of positive media attention
- Events and community activities including volunteer days, presentations and workshops to diverse stakeholders including Aboriginal communities
- Event launches for the Green Army involving the Prime Minister and Aboriginal Riverkeeper Team with Federal Government MPs

## GRCCC EXECUTIVE GROUP

- During 2014-15, the Executive Group focused on delivery of the Committee's programs in accordance with the GRCCC Management and Implementation Plan which is consistent with state wide NRM targets.
- The Executive Group continues to plan for the long term strategic needs of the Committee and its programming.
- The Executive oversees issues such as staffing, financial, operational and governance matters through regular monthly meetings, bi-monthly Committee meetings, and an AGM rotated across the catchment. This has increased member Councillors engagement with the GRCCC.
- GRCCC Governance framework is in accordance with the GRCCC Rules "Constitution" and Terms of Reference and regular Executive Outcomes Reports are produced
- The Executive continues to support GRCCC advocacy and lobbying efforts including meetings with State and Federal members, submissions and events and media engagement

## ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

### GEORGES RIVER COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CZMP)

- Georges River Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) certified by the Minister for Environment in March 2015 (effective July 2015). Member Councils have been actively implementing the CZMP Action Plan.

### GRCCC INPUT INTO STRATEGIC POLICY DEVELOPMENTS:

- OEH Coastal reforms workshops
- Sydney Water Council & Community workshops
- NSW Marine Estate Management Authority Surveys and Bioregion assessments
- National Adaptation & Climate Change Framework -climate adaptations
- Greater Sydney Local Land Services (GS LLS) –Strategic Plan and Local Government Advisory and Community Groups
- Sydney Water -Georges River Waterway Improvement Plan

### GRCCC ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING ON POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDING:

- Submission on Rural Fire Services review of the 10/50 vegetation clearing bill
- A review and submission on the EIS for the Moorebank Intermodal Terminal
- Submission on EPA Sydney Water license review and Senate Stormwater Inquiry
- Letters to State and Federal Environment Ministers
- Submission on Sydney Airport Corporation draft aviation toolkit
- Meetings with State and Federal Members and the Attorney-General/Minister for Justice

### GRANT APPLICATION:

- Successful grant application to the GS LLS for funding to undertake bush regeneration



# ANNUAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2014 - 2015

[www.georgesriver.org.au](http://www.georgesriver.org.au)

Georges River



Corrective Services  
Local Land Services Greater Sydney  
Office of Environment & Heritage



## GRCCC ACHIEVEMENTS



The GRCCC's strength continues to grow as we deliver core programs on behalf of our nine member Councils. Program improvements have been implemented, which were informed by studies and external reviews. We have also seen the addition of substantial new program resources over the year. These include the Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund grant, Aboriginal Riverkeeper Team and also three Green Army Teams working across the Georges River catchment. Member Councils and our partners and stakeholders who share the collective responsibility for protecting and improving the Georges River are working together to ensure we fulfill our vision and mission:

**VISION:** For the Georges River to be a balanced ecosystem that an engaged community can enjoy

**MISSION:** For the GRCCC to be an effective not-for-profit organisation which advocates by developing programs and partnerships, and by lobbying government organisations and other stakeholders to protect, conserve and enhance the Georges River

I extend my appreciation to all member Councils, community representatives, volunteers and stakeholders for your continued support of the GRCCC and its programs.

**Councillor Naji Peter Najjar**  
GRCCC Chairperson



## RIVERKEEPER PROGRAM

- 99 tonnes of rubbish removed from Georges river catchment
- 155 work sites approved by Corrective Services NSW
- 169,280m<sup>2</sup> in bush regeneration area
- 42,815 plantings
- 38,417 volunteer hours contributed to Councils
- Community Engagement Events e.g. Riverfest and Clean Up Australia Day
- \$1.78 million Biodiversity Fund grant, project management, monitoring and six monthly reporting
- Release of Annual Riverkeeper Report Card November 2014
- Coordination and contract management of multiple on ground teams:
  - Corrective Services NSW
  - Three Green Army Teams employed by Conservation Volunteers Australia
  - Aboriginal Riverkeeper Team employed by Ecological Australia



## RIVER HEALTH PROGRAM

- 186 Community volunteer hours contributed
- 50 sampling sites in the Georges River-freshwater and estuary
- River Health Spatial and Temporal Statistical Study delivered
- Two River Health cluster Group workshops
- Implementation of review recommendations
- Partnerships with Australian Museum, Office of Environment and Heritage and Georges River Environment Education Centre
- School engagement in the program
- Alignment of estuary monitoring with state wide OEH estuary monitoring program
- River Health Report Card and Technical Report released October 2014