



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Date: 9 March 2021**

### **LOCALS WORKING FOR VICTORIA AND THE REGION.**

Mallee Catchment Management Authority's (CMA) Working for Victoria crews are kicking goals in the region said Acting General Manager Operations and Community, Nicole Wishart. The employment program is helping Victorian jobseekers find work and employers find workers. The program focuses on people who have lost their jobs and organisations who need workers due to the impacts of COVID-19.

The program currently employs 50 participants including field staff in the agricultural and environmental sectors and also some office administration staff. Mallee CMA is working with a number of local employers who are hosting the participants.

Participants are carrying out important work in the field including GPS monitoring of rabbits and weeds, tree watering, fencing, rubbish collection, irrigation repairs, roadside maintenance, and National Park visitor camp ground and picnic area maintenance.

Mallee CMA's Nicole Wishart said "Participants have benefited by gaining new skills and experience in different fields, developing important skills to gain future employment. The program also offers a financial benefit with many participants impacted by COVID-19 now working full time as part of the program."

Local participant Team leader Peter Hill said "The program has provided me with a great opportunity to learn new skills and experience a different type of employment in the agricultural and horticultural industry. We head out to work each day and it's just a lot of fun, we all just have a good laugh, I have made a lot of good mates through the program."

Crew member Steph Black stated "I have been involved in the Working for Victoria program for a while now and it has really helped me financially and provided so many learning opportunities along the way. I was also involved in the Drought Employment program through Mallee CMA so between the two programs I have made a lot of new friends. It has been really good."

To find out more about the program visit our website [www.malleecma.com.au](http://www.malleecma.com.au) or follow us on our social media channels.



**Ends**

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**MEDIA INQUIRIES**

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**Background information:**

The Mallee Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is a statutory authority established to ensure that natural resources in the region are managed in an integrated and ecologically sustainable way. Its work is based on science and delivered through meaningful partnerships with local organisations such as Landcare, community groups, and government agencies in the Victorian Mallee.

For more information visit [www.malleecma.com.au](http://www.malleecma.com.au)