WODONGA REGIONAL WATERWAY ACTION PLAN

Kiewa River:

Values:

- *Aesthetics – Kiewa Valley views with large River Red Gums, River and floodplain views from Killara.*
- *Recreational Activities* – Swimming, fishing, canoeing, walking, bike riding
- *Vegetation* – Large old trees.

Value	Lower Reach
Aesthetics	✓
Recreational Activities	✓
Native Vegetation	✓

Threats:

- *Stock Access* –is damaging the integrity of the banks and contributing to local erosion and sediment inputs.
- *Bank Erosion* – Exacerbated by stock access and a lack of riparian vegetation. Bank erosion has the potential to lead to meander cut-off.
- *Exotic Flora* – is outcompeting existing native vegetation, preventing natural recruitment, invading the channel and altering the natural stream and riparian ecology.
- *Outflanking of Willows* – Willows encroaching on the river can be outflanked causing channel movement and bank erosion.
- *Loss of Large Woody Habitat* – leads to channel and riparian habitat loss, reduction in stream roughness and bed diversity.
- *Sand Slug* – a sand slug has entered Kiewa River from Yackandandah Creek (see photo 1).
- *Finns Creek Avulsion* – Finns Creek posses an avulsion threat to the Lower Kiewa River.

Priority Management Actions:

- *Stock Access Management and Revegetation* – Manage stock access to Kiewa River to enhance the condition of vegetation, improve the condition of banks, reduce physical pugging and sedimentation, and to improve water quality. Install offstream watering points where stock will lose access to water after fencing. The focus of revegetation should be along outside bends.
- *Bank Erosion Management* – The focus of bank stability works, including hard engineering works, should be areas where there is a threat to assets or the risk of mender cut-offs occurring. Revegetation should accompany all bank stability works.
- *Exotic Flora Management* – Undertake exotic flora management activities with the aim to eradicate seeding woody weeds. Implement a recurrent work program to manage the phased removal of willows along the lower sections of the Kiewa River. Target other highly invasive weed species including Poplar and Blackberry. Priority areas: 1) Willows and poplars around and upstream of the Murray Valley Highway, 2) woody weeds downstream of the Murray Valley Highway through to the Murray River, 3) Continue works on woody weeds upstream from the Murray Valley Highway through to the bridge upstream of the Middle Creek confluence.
- *Revegetation Following Weed Management* – Undertake revegetation along Kiewa River to improve bank stability and the habitat and aesthetic value following the removal of weeds.
- *Stakeholder Engagement* – Engage key stakeholders including rural landholders and new residents of Killara to discuss land management practices/improvement opportunities.

Threat	Lower Reach
Stock Access	✓
Increased Bed Instability & Bank Erosion	✓
Exotic Flora	✓
Loss of Large Woody Habitat	✓
Urban Development	✓

Action	Lower Reach
Fencing and Revegetation	✓
Increased Bed and Bank Instability Management	✓
Exotic Flora Management	✓
Revegetation Following Weed Management	✓
Stakeholder Engagement	✓

WATER TECHNOLOGY