

Date: 19 January 2010

Winton Wetlands Committee appoints CEO

Bill Hill, Chairman of the Winton Wetlands Committee of Management is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Vanderzee to the position of Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Vanderzee joins the Winton Wetlands Committee with more than 20 years experience in environmental and natural resource management.

Mr Hill said "Mr Vanderzee's wide range of experience means he is ideally suited for such a challenging position".

Since graduating with a Bachelor of Science (Hons) from the University of Melbourne majoring in plant ecology and geomorphology, Mr Vanderzee has worked as a researcher on coastal wetlands, as an environmental consultant and in a range of senior environmental management roles with the Victorian Government and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in Queensland.

Before joining the Committee, Mr Vanderzee worked on national water reform including the restoration of environmental flows to the Snowy and Murray Rivers, the establishment of Water for Rivers and water savings projects in the Goulburn Murray Irrigation District.

Mr Vanderzee has been working with the Committee for the past six months as Interim Executive Officer helping to get the Committee established and operational and will commence in the Chief Executive Officer role on 3 February 2010. He will be based at the Committee's offices at 89 Sydney Road in Benalla.

The Committee looks forward to working with Mr Vanderzee in 2010 to finalise the Committee's Strategy Plan and to formally take on the management of the Winton Wetlands, once the land and management responsibility has been transferred from Goulburn-Murray Water.

Mr Hill said "I expect that the transfer of the land to the Committee of Management will take place in the next few months and I wish to assure the community that the Committee is well advanced with its Strategy Plan and Business Plan that will enable it to commence the planning and restoration immediately on finalisation of the handover".

Further information contact:

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