World Wetlands Day in the Koondrook-Perricoota Forest, New South Wales, Australia

The Living Murray's World Wetlands Day activities focused on the Koondrook–Perricoota Forest, which is part of the Gunbower–Koondrook–Perricoota Forest, which is the second largest river red gum forest in Australia. It is also one of <u>The Living Murray's</u> icon sites and a Ramsar site. The Living Murray is funding the construction of major water management structures at the site which will help deliver environmental water to the river red gum forests.

An Indigenous community open day was held in the forest, on the banks of the Murray River, to showcase the work of Aboriginal cultural heritage monitors in helping to protect cultural heritage sites at the construction site.

Two community tours were also organised to provide local community members with an opportunity to view the works that had been constructed to date. The first tour visited the downstream end of the project and the second visited the inlet regulator site at the upstream end of the project. The first tour was welcomed by Norman Moore, a senior Cultural Heritage Advisor and Barapa Barapa Traditional Owner, and the second tour by Des Morgan, a Cultural Heritage Advisor and Yorta Yorta man. The tours were very popular with the local community and were booked out.

The Living Murray is a joint initiative funded by the New South Wales, Victorian, South Australian, Australian Capital Territory and the Australian governments, coordinated by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority. These activities were organised by the <u>Murray Catchment</u> <u>Management Authority</u> and <u>Forests NSW</u>.

For further information, or for a copy of The Living Murray story, contact <u>denise.fowler@mdba.gov.au</u>.