



Myrtle Creek

Corrective Management Action Plan

March 2020 | Newsletter # 10

Progress Report

Tahmoor Coking Coal Operations (**TCCO**) completed coal extraction below Myrtle Creek between 2004 and 2015. Longwall mining has caused subsidence impacts that has resulted in some pools along Myrtle Creek retaining water only after heavy periods of rain.

To address this, TCCO prepared a Myrtle Creek Corrective Action Management Plan (Myrtle Creek CMAP) that outlines proposed rehabilitation works, including pool mapping, photogrammetry and surveying, characterisation and pool rehabilitation works.

Works have been developed in consultation with and approved by relevant government departments including, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) – Resources Regulator, DPIE – Planning, Department of Primary Industries (DPI) – Fisheries, Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR), Wollondilly Shire Council and community consultative committees.

Characterisation Drilling

Characterisation drilling along the banks of Myrtle Creek was completed in November 2019. This drilling allowed for mining induced fractures to be analysed to plan rehabilitation works. Piezometers were installed and have captured data, including the heavy rainfall experience in early 2020. Data is being interpreted to understand the intricate interaction between groundwater and surface water.

For More Information

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Pool 23 Rehabilitation

Remediation of the controlling rock bar at Pool 23 was completed in early February 2020. The works consisted of drilling cored holes to 16 meters below the creek height for geotechnical testing to identify the location and size of fracturing. Fractures were then filled using an approved polyurethane material. Polyurethane has been used successfully for creek rehabilitation in Sydney Catchment Authority areas as it has minimal ecotoxicological effects and has proven highly effective.

With rehabilitation of Pool 23 completed, the pool is now being monitored. Pool levels are being monitored to determine the rate at which the pools recedes compared to its pre-mining rate, factoring in rainfall and evaporation.

Initial results so far have been encouraging. Since works have completed, the pool has filled and overflowed (see photos overleaf).

Pool Rehabilitation Trials

Remediation of pools upstream have used drilling at shallow depths to 2 m and injection with polyurethane and colloidal silica. This has been somewhat effective. It has greatly reduced the rate at which pool levels recede, however additional works may be required to further improve pool holding capacity.

Future Works

Future works are being planned, based on the learnings of recent works. Pool 23 works demonstrated that water can be returned to the surface and pool holding capacity improved. We will continue to keep you updated in future newsletters.







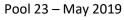


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