

Media Release

The Hon Jaala Pulford MLC

Minister for Employment

Minister for Innovation, Medical Research and the Digital Economy

Minister for Small Business



Thursday, 13 August 2020

CREATING HUNDREDS OF JOBS WORKING FOR VICTORIA

The Victorian Government is creating more jobs to keep our waterways clean and support fire affected regional communities during the coronavirus pandemic as part of the *Working for Victoria* initiative.

Minister for Employment Jaala Pulford was at Gong Gong reservoir today to announce more than 265 new jobs across seven catchment areas and four fire affected council areas in North East Victoria and East Gippsland.

The Government's \$500 million *Working for Victoria* program creates employment opportunities for people who have lost their jobs due to the coronavirus pandemic while delivering valuable community services, with the initiative so far creating more than 9,000 jobs since it launched in April.

Jobs will be created across the Mallee, Glenelg Hopkins, Port Phillip Westernport (metro), Goulburn Broken, North Central, North East and Corangamite Catchment Management Authorities.

These jobs will improve land and catchment health through the removal of rubbish, increased revegetation, pest management control and maintenance to keep waterways clean, safe and healthy.

The works will also include improvements to parks and reserves, such as track maintenance so they can be enjoyed by locals and visitors when restrictions are lifted.

The new agreements with fire affected regional councils East Gippsland Shire Council, Alpine Shire Council, Wangaratta Rural City Council and Wodonga City Council will support land management and bushfire recovery, economic development, infrastructure maintenance and recreation asset maintenance.

East Gippsland Shire Council will undertake an environmental blitz with repair work in council managed reserves and trails. Wodonga Shire Council is taking the quieter time to replace the softfall in more than fifteen parks and playgrounds, undertake landscape plantings within the city and perform street furniture maintenance.

People looking for work and businesses searching for staff are encouraged to register with *Working for Victoria* at vic.gov.au/workingforvictoria.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Employment Jaala Pulford

"We're creating jobs that will allow hundreds of people to keep working while supporting projects that benefit the entire community."

"Through our Working for Victoria initiative, we're helping more people find work now – here in regional Victoria and also in Melbourne."

Quote attributable to Minister for Water Lisa Neville

"Victoria's CMAs do an amazing job managing and keeping our waterways healthy and these roles will help deliver even more important local projects across the state."

Quote attributable to Minister for Local Government Shaun Leane

"We're making sure that fire affected councils have the support that they need and workers that can play a vital role in supporting the community."

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