Managing Mining Legacies
a newsletter for stakeholders interested in abandoned/legacy mine challenges and opportunities

The Eden Project is a sustainability theme park built in a former china clay mine in Cornwall England. The Eden Project Post-Mining Alliance is based here.

Value proposition for a National Hub for Abandoned Mines

Version 1 of the value proposition for a national hub was emailed out to participants and invitees of the Managing Mining Legacies forum held in July at CMLR, UQ.

Thank you to those who have sent questions and feedback. Version 2 has been completed and will be emailed soon. This is a work in progress. We welcome ongoing input.

Any questions or feedback, please contact Corinne Unger.

Visit the Managing Mining Legacies web page here.

Biodiversity Fund

“The Biodiversity Fund will invest around $946m over the next six years to help land managers store carbon, enhance biodiversity and build greater environmental resilience across the Australian landscape.”

If you would like to develop a collaborative project to address one or many abandoned mines in Northern Australia you may be able to access funds to address biodiversity impacts. Expressions of Interest are due by 4 December 2012. So hurry!!

To find out more, please go to the webpage or send an email.

Life after Mining - The Eden Project

Caroline Digby, Director of the Eden Project Post Mining Alliance Director presented a seminar at the Sustainable Minerals Institute (SMI) during September while in Brisbane for the Mine Closure 2012
This seminar series, currently organised by Dr Daniel Franks from the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining (CSRM) is a wonderful opportunity for Centre researchers to meet and learn from overseas expertise. CMLR’s Director, David Mulligan and Senior Research Officer, Corinne Unger (photo) enjoyed the inspiring presentation and caught up with Caroline while she was in Brisbane.

Caroline’s focus is on the socio-economic aspects of communities after mining. Based at Cornwall’s iconic Eden Project, Caroline hosted, with Peter Whitbread-Abrutat, Corinne’s visit during her Churchill Fellowship. A range of innovative landmark projects have emerged in the Cornish peninsular to regenerate communities abandoned after mining. Eden Project is a ‘wow project’ which provides a catalyst for change within this region.

Mine Closure 2013 will be hosted by the Eden Project Post Mining Alliance. See the youtube clip and for more information contact Caroline Digby.

Meet the Team

Dr Thomas Baumgartl

Soils are a non-renewable resource. With increasing pressure on productive agricultural land by users other than the agriculture industry (such as the mining or coal seam gas industries), it has become necessary to understand to what extent disturbed or mined soils can be rebuilt to productive farmland. Dr Thomas Baumgartl leads a research team investigating the best practice procedure for the rehabilitation of mining affect land funded by ACARP. Little experience exists in Australia, although international expertise suggests several years of careful soil and climate adapted farm management is necessary to regain productivity. In his research, rehabilitated soils will be compared with productive farmland under the same environmental conditions. Parameters related to productivity like yield and soil carbon content, as well as soil property development, will be analysed in space and time.

For further information contact Dr Thomas Baumgartl.

Ros Howse

Visit the Dig Database today

The Dig Database is a single source of bibliographic information on all aspects of coal-mine rehabilitation which has accumulated over several decades. Awareness of this large body of information can be used for future reference in the development of best practice mine rehabilitation.

The project has been sponsored by ACARP (Project C19030) and managed by CMLR.

Visit the Dig Database here.
For more information contact Melina Gillespie

Ros Howse

Fitzroy Basin Association
Corinne Unger was invited by Paul Birch, CEO Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA) to give a presentation on abandoned mines/mine rehabilitation at the ‘Muster’ in October. She returned to her old stomping ground of Rockhampton where she worked as “Manager, Mount Morgan Mine Rehabilitation Project” for the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (NRM). The media responded well to her presentation. Check out the following links:

**ABC TV news interview:**
http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-11-02/expert-calls-for-old-mines-to-be-cleaned-up/4350828

**Radio interview:**

Her presentation was also reported in the Ruralweekly (9 November, 2012) with a focus on the legislative inconsistencies which exist in the management of environmental impacts of abandoned mines as highlighted in the QLD Flood Commission of Inquiry.

The FBA is a community-based organisation that works to protect natural assets, improve adoption of modern and environmentally-friendly land management practices, and promote sustainable development. In 2011-12 RBA delivered $10.8M for on-ground projects, improved management across 570,000 ha and protected 412 kilometres of streams and river. FBA is one of 56 regional groups across Australia working to care for natural resources.

The full program of FBA Muster presentations, including Corinne’s, is available via:
http://www.fbamuster.org.au/program-speakers/

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**An abandoned mine remediation success story**

**Fish Return to Britannia Creek**

Rivers Institute Update: “Salmon Miracle on Britannia Creek”
A global telecast with renowned river conservationist Mark Angelo, Chair of BCIT’s Rivers Institute, and others, was made recently on the miracle return of pink salmon to Britannia Creek. Before a recent clean-up of the acid leachate that severely contaminated the stream and surrounding area, this waterway and the marine environment it runs into on BC’s coast was once considered Canada's most notorious toxic hotspot. This story represents a remarkable and inspirational turnaround and is some welcome good news in the run-up to BC and World Rivers Day.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDeeqM7-5cI&feature=em-share_video_user&noredirect=1

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