

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO TAKE PART IN A REVEGETATION TRIAL FOR GIPPSLAND EARTHWORM HABITAT

Background

Revegetation projects provide challenges for Giant Gippsland Earthworm (GGE) conservation. GGE colonies require sufficient soil moisture all year round to survive. While revegetating stream banks, for example, has a multitude of benefits, revegetation of habitat occupied by GGEs dries out soils and may make areas no longer suitable for colonies. Without action to avoid or mitigate these effects, revegetation projects can inadvertently result in harm, or even local extinctions, of GGE colonies.

The Triholm Landcare Group has recently received a Community Government Grant to undertake a project titled – *Building capability to manage GGE habitat on farms*.

We are looking for a small number of landowners who would like to take part in this exciting project and serve as demonstration farms to showcase modified revegetation strategies that help protect the soil moisture levels of GGE habitat.

The project will involve:

- Identification and mapping of GGE colonies on your property by a GGE expert
- Designing revegetation works around these colonies
- Planting and fencing of sites with modified designs (volunteers)
- Field days to showcase demonstration planting design and techniques
- Potential for long term monitoring of site

If you are certain that you have GGEs on your property and are interested in becoming involved in this project, please provide the information requested below so that we can determine the suitability of your property for this trial (see over page).

For further information:

Dr Beverley Van Praagh - bvpraagh@invert-eco.com.au or Nicole Walsh at the South Gippsland Landcare Network - nicolew@wgcm.vic.gov.au



Expression of Interest to take part in a revegetation trial for Giant Gippsland Earthworm habitat

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact: phone/email _____

Land use: Dairy Beef Crop Hobby Other (describe) _____

How many colonies of GGE do you think you have on your property?

Describe these colonies e.g. One large/small colony, lots of small, scattered colonies etc

Where are the colony(s) found?

Creek bank

Hillslope

Other (describe) _____

How often do you hear them gurgle?

Never

Rarely

Sometimes

Often

When was the last time you heard gurgles? _____

Any other relevant information
