

gully management

Landholder	Kevin & Leeanne Coonan
Map reference	2
Land use	Beef cattle grazing and dairy farming
Soil Erosion Solutions Grant	\$9,800 (earthworks)
Landholder's in-kind contribution	\$10,260 (earthworks, labour, fencing materials)
West of the Ranges Landcare Inc. (WORLI)	\$500 (trees, labour and administration support)

The site

A failing dam within a gully line in remnant bushland had increased erosion. Access by cattle to the gully had contributed to the erosion and the failure of the dam.

The project

- The failing dam in the gully line has been decommissioned.
- An existing larger dam upstream of the gully was extended to increase water storage capacity, and so reduce water flows downstream.
- New fences were constructed and existing fencing repaired to exclude cattle from the watercourse, protecting the works area and existing remnant bushland.
- 50 local native trees were planted by the local landcare group to improve soil stability and biodiversity.
- Weeds are being managed in the rehabilitation area.



Erosion in the gully

The benefits

- The risk of a major failure of the dam has been averted; well planned decommission works removed the dam wall safely.
- Soil loss from the gully has been reduced.
- The stabilised and fenced gully will offer better habitat value for wildlife in and around the stream.
- Tree planting has enhanced the existing remnant bushland.

Landholder's experience

What was the **best thing** about this project?

"We have water – the dam is full and overflowing – it has provided peace of mind to have an additional supply of water."

What was the **most difficult** aspect of the project?

"Getting the contractor to complete the work on time, and timing the works with favourable weather conditions."



Kevin Coonan inspects the new dam