

AEE Biennial Conference 2023

Listen, Learn, Transform

25-27 September 2023, University of Wollongong



Abstract Submission Form and Speaker Profile

Complete your details by typing in the **green** sections of the digital form below. If there are multiple presenters, please include their details where applicable (name, organisation, personal bio)

Save your completed form in PDF format and submit via the [submission form on the website](#).

Title	Dr.	First Name	Steven	Family Name	Andrews
Position/Role	Marine Habitat Conservation & Restoration - Academic Manager & Lead Trainer				
Organisation you will represent	Envirotech Education				
Personal Bio Max. 100 words	I am a lecturer and marine ecologist and am passionate about fostering and building a regenerative society and economy, especially focused on marine environments. My current work is developing, delivering and managing vocational marine educational programs and managing partnerships to build regenerative projects. I aim to develop innovative educational and regenerative projects to inspire a new generation of marine conservationists and would like to support more Indigenous youth to connect to their sea country, empowered with scientific skills and knowledge combined with traditional ecological knowledge.				
Title of Presentation	Healing Sea Country - Marine Habitat Conservation & Restoration Certificate II & III Vocational Education Programs				
Format of Presentation (please select)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation (20 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 60 minutes (eg interactive indoor session) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 120 minutes (eg outdoor activity) Indicate your preferred presentation types (you may select more than one) NB: We may not be able to offer your preferred option				
Which theme would you prefer to present under? (please select)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1: Listen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 2: Learn <input type="checkbox"/> Theme 3: Transform				
Introduction	Discuss the potential for vocational education for marine ecosystem regeneration Discuss Certificate II & III programs in Marine Habitat Conservation & Restoration Discuss the 'Healing Sea Country Program', Indigenous youth trained in marine conservation				

	<p>How vocational education can support training of Indigenous ranger programs</p> <p>How student participation on regeneration projects can boost capacity of the industry</p>
<p>Presentation Abstract: max. 300 words</p>	<p>The Certificate II and Certificate III in Marine Habitat Conservation & Restoration (MHCR) programs are Australia’s first government accredited vocational courses for marine regeneration. There is a need to develop practical learning outside of a university setting for marine habitat conservation and restoration, especially for students whom a university degree may not be accessible or the best fit. Envirotech Education, a Registered Training Organisation, has registered and written these courses and is currently running the Cert II with an Indigenous cohort and the Cert III with domestic and international students. Cert IV and Diploma programs are currently in development.</p> <p>The Certificate II MHCR program called ‘Healing Sea Country’ is a National Indigenous Australians Agency funded course for Indigenous youth that is in its second year, with graduates of the first cohort mentoring the new students. The recent graduates are also supported to participate on local conservation and restoration projects. Three of our graduates of the Cert II program were nominated as Indigenous VET student of the year for QLD. It’s our aim to get Indigenous youth back on country and to care for sea country, supporting the expansion of Indigenous ranger programs.</p> <p>The Certificate III MHCR program focuses on domestic and international students. Students study and participate on conservation and restoration projects with coral reefs, mangroves, sand dunes, shellfish reefs, and seagrass. They learn how to make diversity enhancers and how to use underwater tools and cameras. Students learn how to collect data to support the implementation of real-life coastal and marine regeneration through a range of collaborative projects including Envirotech’s partner organisations. Students also have the chance to learn from and work on projects with Traditional Custodians. The program has work placement opportunities so that students connect with the industry and build their networks. Students also get scuba certified.</p>
<p>Key Message: A short summary of presentation</p>	<p>The Certificate II and Certificate III in Marine Habitat Conservation & Restoration (MHCR) programs are Australia’s first government accredited vocational courses for marine regeneration. There is a need to develop practical learning outside of a university setting for marine habitat conservation and restoration, especially for students whom a university degree may not be accessible or the best fit. Envirotech Education, a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) has registered and written these courses and is</p>

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All abstracts must be received by 5pm **Friday** 28 April 2023 (AEST).

We expect to notify speakers by mid June

Note: confirmed presenters will be required to register for the conference and pay the relevant registration fees.