

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Overview



March 2016

Who are we?

The Goulburn Broken CMA works with communities and government agencies to manage activities to protect and improve the Catchment's land, water and biodiversity. This work is guided by the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS).

The current RCS emphasises building resilience in our biodiversity, land, water and people. It recognises that the Catchment's communities fall within six broad geographical areas or socio-ecological systems (see map), which share environmental, economic and social characteristics.

Goulburn Broken CMA staff support individuals, groups and communities in each of these regions to identify and deliver natural resource management (NRM) actions and priorities. We then use this information to influence government and other investors to help shape policies and programs to build the resilience of the Catchment's natural resources and people.

What do we do?

We work with landholders, community groups, agencies and Traditional Owners to deliver activities across the Catchment within the following broad program areas:

- **Sustainable Irrigation** – Promote best-practice irrigation activities through extension programs, whole farm planning, farm irrigation modernization, surface and sub-surface management and water-quality improvement activities.
- **Waterways** – Carry out activities (eg fencing, revegetation, re-snagging) to improve river and wetland health (including after natural disasters).

Floodplain management – Build flood resilient communities by capturing and sharing flood knowledge to ensure future developments are not unduly exposed to flood hazard. Protect waterways through works on waterway permit.

- **Biodiversity and Land Health** – Carry out activities (eg fencing, revegetation, cultural surveys) to improve and protect habitat, threatened species and soil health (including after natural disasters).

Where to next?

The RCS recognises the Catchment is dynamic and affected by four key drivers of change:

- land use changes
- water policy reform
- climate change
- increased farm production.

That's why we're taking action now to influence and drive policy and on-ground activities to continue to improve and protect the Catchment's land, water and biodiversity for the future.

Innovative programs under way or in the pipeline include:

- The Tri-State Murray NRM Regional Alliance – six NRM agencies from Victoria, NSW and SA are developing projects to secure the Murray River corridor environment and grow the region's economy.
- Statewide climate change adaption priorities—identifies priority landscapes and NRM actions for climate change adaption and mitigation.
- The \$200 million Farm Water Program—helps irrigators to achieve water savings by improving on-farm irrigation systems. At least half the water saved is transferred to the Australian or Victorian governments for environmental watering purposes.
- Plan and manage environmental water deliveries to improve the health of the catchment's rivers and wetlands and the plants, animals and communities that rely on them.

