



**GOULBURN
BROKEN**
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY

Community engagement advisory groups in the Goulburn Broken Catchment - an overview

A message from the CEO

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) is responsible for the management of critical land and water resources across 2.4 million hectares of northern Victoria. (11 percent of the State).

The Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) 2013-2019 has adopted a resilience approach to embed adaptive management in natural resource management around local 'systems'. These Social-Ecological Systems (SESs), whilst not having sharp boundaries, do have similar characteristics that create a unique identity.

Planning in SESs supports tailored decision making around activities at the local scale. Community engagement structures are evolving to integrate these SESs with CMA Programs, supporting implementation of the RCS and SES local plans.

Advisory groups across our catchment provide advice and feedback on the challenges and opportunities for natural resource management. I encourage you to contribute to an advisory group as a community representative.

Chris Norman
Chief Executive Officer

About community engagement advisory groups

A range of community engagement structures are adopted by CMA delivery programs to meet program and/or project needs.

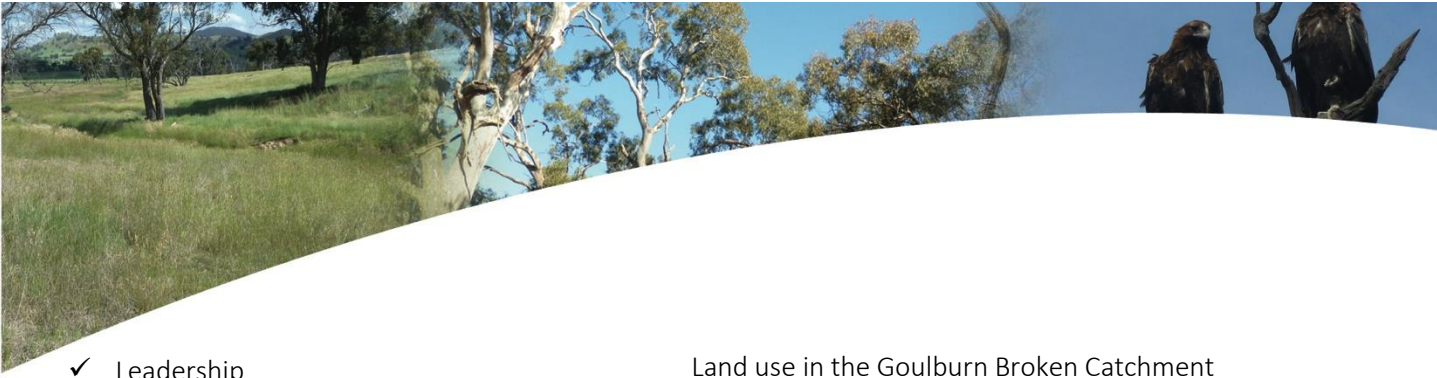
Community engagement is a critical element of each program's implementation

Community members of all groups must adhere to the requirements detailed in a formal Charter for Community Engagement Groups.

Each community engagement group regulates its own proceedings subject to conditions established by the Board of the Goulburn Broken CMA and has certain key responsibilities which are outlined in the Charter.

Membership eligibility

To be eligible to be part of a community engagement group, members must have no convictions under the *Water Act 1989* or *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*, no criminal convictions, must maintain satisfactory attendance record and should have skills in one or more of the following areas:



- ✓ Leadership
- ✓ Business Management
- ✓ Environmental Law
- ✓ Land Use Planning
- ✓ Statutory Planning
- ✓ Floodplain Management
- ✓ Waterway Management
- ✓ Environmental Protection / Biodiversity
- ✓ Sustainable Agriculture
- ✓ Natural Resource Management
- ✓ Demonstrated Community Linkages
- ✓ Land Management
- ✓ Vegetation Management
- ✓ Conservation
- ✓ Farming
- ✓ Salinity
- ✓ Landcare
- ✓ Forestry
- ✓ Indigenous Land
- ✓ State Government
- ✓ Local Government

Each Group may require a different emphasis dictated by the Regional Catchment Strategy.

The catchment at a glance

Situated in northern Victoria within the Murray Darling Basin, the Goulburn Broken Catchment comprises catchments of the Goulburn and Broken Rivers and part of the Murray River Valley.

The Catchment contains Victoria's main water storage, Eildon and the popular Mt Buller Alpine Resort. It includes the municipalities of Moira, Campaspe, Mitchell, Murrindindi, Mansfield and Strathbogie Shires, Benalla Rural City and the City of Greater Shepparton.

Approximately 200,000 residents call the Catchment home. The region has a large indigenous population (6000) as well as many people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

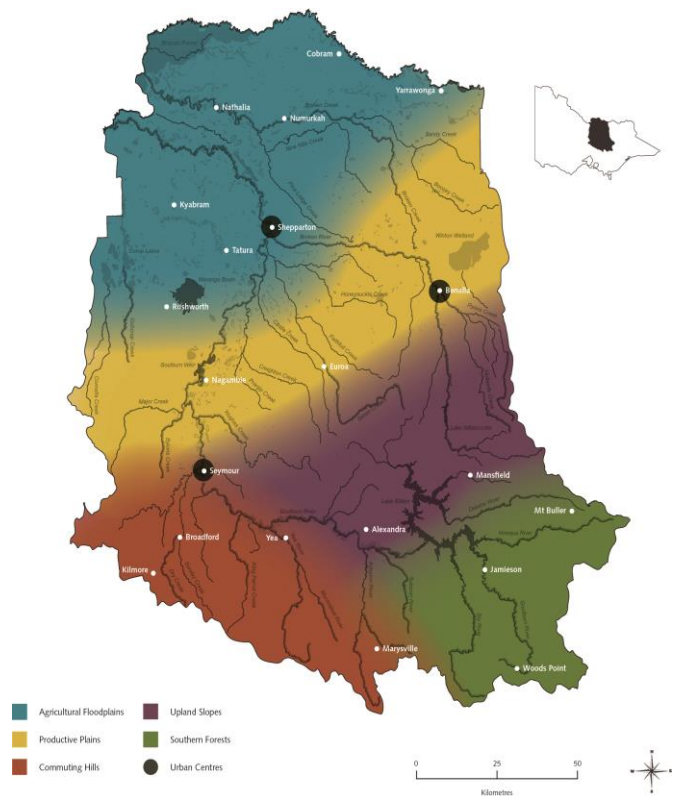
Land use in the Goulburn Broken Catchment comprises irrigated dairy, horticulture, viticulture, dryland grazing, cropping, timber production, thoroughbred horses and tourism.

The Catchment faces a range of environmental problems including degraded rivers, loss of native vegetation and biodiversity, water quality, salinity and pest plants and animals.

Managing natural resources

The Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA) was established as one of ten CMAs in 1997 under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* covering the State of Victoria to coordinate land, water and biodiversity management.

The CMA works across six social ecological systems in the Catchment:





Leadership

The Goulburn Broken CMA plays a lead role working with the community, Government and funding organisations to protect and enhance land, water and biodiversity resources.

Funding, drawn primarily from State and Federal Government, is targeted to achieve integrated works identified as the highest priorities for the Catchment SESs.

The onground works are underpinned by collaborative research which leads to multiple benefits by, for example, combining the best available science with the practical challenges of running a productive farm or maintaining a waterway for environmental and tourism benefits.

Vision

Healthy, resilient and increasingly productive landscapes supporting vibrant communities

Purpose

Through its leadership and partnerships the Goulburn Broken CMA will improve the resilience of the Catchment's people, land, biodiversity and water resources in a rapidly changing environment.

Values and behaviours

- Environmental Sustainability - we will passionately contribute to improving the environmental health of our catchment.
- Safety - we vigorously protect and look out for the safety and wellbeing of ourselves, our colleagues and our workers.
- Partnerships – we focus on teamwork and collaboration across our organisation to develop

strategic alliances with partners and the regional community.

- Leadership – we have courage to lead change and accept the responsibility to inspire and deliver positive change.
- Respect – we embrace diversity treating everyone with fairness, respect, openness & honesty.
- Achievement, excellence and accountability – we do what we say we will do, we do it well and we take responsibility and accountability for our actions.
- Continuous learning, innovation and improvement – we are an evidence and science-based organisation and we test and challenge the status quo. We learn from our successes and failures and we are continually adapting using internal and external feedback from stakeholders and the environment. We are an agile, flexible and responsive organisation.

What we deliver

In partnership with agencies and community, the Goulburn Broken delivers:

- River health management
- Environmental water management
- Strategic water quality co-ordination
- Floodplain management
- Works on waterways
- Sustainable agriculture & land management
- Water savings & water use efficiency
- Drainage
- Biodiversity
- Landcare support
- Pest plant & animal management
- Climate change adaptation



Delivery programs

Goulburn Broken CMA service delivery is organised through four CMA Programs:

Land and Biodiversity Program

This Program seeks to ensure that the catchment has healthy and resilient ecosystems through an actively involved and inspired community practicing sustainable land management.

River & Wetland Health and Floodplain Management Program

This program seeks to ensure that catchment has healthy rivers, streams, wetlands, floodplains and adjacent land that support a vibrant range and abundance of natural environments, provides water for human use, sustains our native flora and fauna and provides for our social, economic and cultural values.

Sustainable Irrigation Program

This program seeks to achieve the long term protection and prosperity of irrigated land and environmental features within the Catchment.

Corporate Program

This program seeks to enable the achievement of Catchment objectives by supporting CMA staff, partners, community groups and the broader catchment community to participate successfully and safely in natural resource activities facilitated through the CMA.

About the Board

Members of the Goulburn Broken CMA Board of Directors are drawn from within the Catchment and are appointed by the Victorian Government. Together they have extensive experience and

knowledge of primary industry, land protection, water resource management, waterway and floodplain management, environmental conservation, local government, business and financial management.

The Board of Directors of the Goulburn Broken CMA is responsible for setting strategic directions ensuring the effective management of natural resources in the Catchment. The Board discharges its overall responsibilities through a formalised process of Corporate Governance, and the preparation of an annual Corporate Plan.

The overarching RCS sets out priorities and goals for policy, funding, and programs onground works with partners.

This integrated approach to natural resource management ensures that issues are not looked at in isolation, but on a catchment-wide or localised SES scale with outcomes designed to achieve multiple benefits. All of the works undertaken within the catchment fit within State, Murray Darling Basin and National strategies.

The Goulburn Broken CMA Annual Report details the members, and the progress of the Board against the RCS targets and trends in catchment condition.

For further information please contact:

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