

OBJECTIVES AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Objectives and Management Measures

Objectives and management measures have been developed for each landscape priority area in order to mitigate the identified key threats to significant asset values and condition as presented in the previous chapters. These have been underpinned by the following program logic (Table 9).

Table 9: RCS Program Logic

REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY	
Vision	50 year statement that is balanced between aspirational and achievable
Objectives	20 year objectives describing the desired condition in the long term in order to work toward the 50 year vision
Management Measures	A program of six year management measures, stating the action needed during the life of the strategy to work toward the 20 year objectives
REGIONAL SUB-STRATEGIES & ACTION PLANS	
Targets and Activities	Specific on ground targets and activities linking to the RCS management measures and objectives
INVESTMENT PROPOSALS	
Outputs	Annual management targets

The objectives are long term and set broad direction for future action. The program of management measures, which states the action necessary to achieve these objectives are planned for implementation during the life of this RCS.

The RCS objectives and management measures have been developed in response to the key threats to significant assets values and condition where feasible. The technical, social and economic feasibility and likelihood of success was considered in their development.

Objectives and associated management measures that relate to all or more than one landscape priority area are outlined in Table 10.

The proposed partners, who would ideally work together to implement the actions are also shown in Table 10. While the listed proposed implementation partners does not constitute a formal agreement to deliver each item, each of these partners has the opportunity to lead, contribute or influence the achievement of the objectives and management measures. The roles and actions to be taken by regional partners will be negotiated and confirmed during the development of an associated RCS implementation plan.

Table 10: RCS Landscape Priority Areas Objectives, Management Measures and Proposed Implementation Partners

	Objectives (20 year timeframe)	Management Measures (6 year timeframe)	Proposed Implementation Partners	Bunurong Coastal Landscape	Corner Inlet Nootamunga Landscape	Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland Landscape	Mullungdung Landscape	Strzelecki Landscape	Victorian Alps Landscape	Wilson's Promontory Landscape
1	Improved coastal dune system integrity	Develop and implement a program to incrementally replace European Marram Grass (<i>Ammophila arenaria</i>) with native vegetation.	Coastcare, DEPI, GLMAC, Landcare, Traditional Owners, Parks Victoria.			✓	✓			
2	Improved coastal dune system integrity	Develop and implement a program to define access routes and rehabilitate areas of the fragile Ninety Mile Beach dune systems.	Coastcare, GCB, Local Government, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.				✓			
3	Improved conservation status of threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Implement an integrated approach to undertake high priority actions at high priority locations for threatened species as per the DEPI Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) database.	Birdlife Australia, DEPI, GLMAC, Landcare, Local Government, Parks Victoria, TfN, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Implement policies and actions outlined in the Gippsland Sustainable Water Strategy (SWS) and priority actions in the Regional Waterway Management Strategy (in development).	DEPI, Gippsland Water, South Gippsland Water, SRW, TfN, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	Improved or maintained soil health.	Implement policies and actions outlined in the State Soil Health Strategy and priority actions in a Regional Soil Health Strategy (yet to be developed).	DEPI, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

	Objectives (20 year timeframe)	Management Measures (6 year timeframe)	Proposed Implementation Partners	Bunurong Coastal Landscape	Corner Inlet Nooramunga Landscape	Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland Landscape	Mullungdung Landscape	Strzelecki Landscape	Victorian Alps Landscape	Wilson's Promontory Landscape
6	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Undertake and support collaborative programs between private and public land managers to improve the understanding and outcomes of ecological burning and ecosystem responses in coastal vegetation.	CFA, DEPI, Local Government, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓				
7	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Develop and implement a program to control invasive plants and animals in accordance with the West Gippsland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy and Parks Victoria conservation objectives.	DEPI, GLMAC, Landcare, Local Government, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Undertake and support collaborative programs between private and public land managers to improve the understanding and outcomes of ecological burning and ecosystem responses in the Mullungdung Holey Plains vegetation communities.	DEPI, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.				✓			
9	Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in the Macalister Irrigation District.	Develop and implement a program to work with landholders to improve soil health and address local salinity threats, as per priority actions in the Macalister Land and Water Management Plan and West Gippsland Salinity Management Plan.	DEPI, GLMAC, GippsDairy, Landcare, Local Government, SRW, WGCMA.			✓				

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10	Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in the Macalister Irrigation District.	Develop and implement a program to work with landholders to improve irrigation water use efficiency, as per priority actions in the Macalister Land and Water Management Plan and West Gippsland Salinity Management Plan.	DEPI, GLMAC, GippsDairy, Landcare, SRW, WGCMA.			✓				
11	Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in the Strzelecki Ranges Red Soils.	Develop and implement a program to detect early signs of soil erosion in accordance with the West Gippsland Soil Erosion Management Plan.	DEPI, Landcare, Local Government, WGCMA.					✓		
12	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Develop and implement a program to reduce soil erosion and increase ground cover in targeted areas of the Tarwin and Powlett Rivers catchments in accordance with the West Gippsland Soil Erosion Management Plan.	DEPI, Landcare, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓						
13	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Undertake an investigation into the sources and movement of nutrients from the Tarwin catchment to the Bunurong Coastal estuarine and marine system.	Coastcare, DEPI, Landcare, Research Institutions, WGCMA.	✓						
14	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Develop and implement a program to reduce livestock access to riparian zones, waterways, wetlands, saltmarsh and mangroves in accordance with the Regional Waterway Management Strategy (in development).	GLMAC, Landcare, GippsDairy, SRW, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓				

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15	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Develop and implement a program to reduce nutrients and sediment loads from agricultural, forestry and urban land use into the Corner Inlet Nooramunga system in accordance with the West Gippsland Soil Erosion Management Plan and Corner Inlet Water Quality Improvement Plan (in development).	Coastcare, DEPI, EPA, GippsDairy, Landcare, Local Government, TfN, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.		✓					
16	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Undertake an investigation of the role and management of nitrogen (and to a lesser extent phosphorus) in water quality in the Gippsland Lakes system.	EGCMA, GLMAC, Research Institutions, SRW, WGCMA.			✓				
17	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Develop and implement a communication and education strategy to promote the findings from research into the sources and movement of catchment based nutrients to the Gippsland Lakes system.	Coastcare, DEPI, GLMAC, Industry Groups, Landcare, SRW, WGCMA.			✓				
18	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Implement a dryland nutrient and sediment reduction program in targeted zones within the Gippsland Lakes catchment in accordance with the West Gippsland Soil Erosion Management Plan.	DEPI, EPA, GLMAC, GippsDairy, Landcare, WGCMA.			✓				

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19	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Implement priority actions from the Macalister Land and Water Management Plan.	DEPI, GLMAC, GippsDairy, Landcare, SRW, TfN, WGCMA.			✓				
20	Increased native vegetation extent and connectivity across the landscape.	Develop a plan and implement a program to protect, increase the extent and build ecological resilience of native vegetation, and create ecologically functional biolinks between patches of high conservation significance native vegetation.	DTPLI, DEPI, EGCMA, GLMAC, Landcare, Local Government, Parks Victoria, TfN, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
21	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Develop and implement a monitoring program to identify risks posed by hard hoofed animals on high conservation significance native vegetation in accordance with Parks Victoria conservation objectives and DEPI conservation strategies.	DEPI, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.						✓	✓
22	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Identify fire sensitive Alpine Peatlands and Cool Temperate Rainforests as ecological assets to be protected from planned and unplanned fire and engage in fire planning processes to develop measures to reduce the risk to these assets.	Mt Baw Baw ARMB, DEPI, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.					✓	✓	

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23	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Develop and implement a monitoring program to identify risks posed by inappropriate recreational use, invasive plants and animals, and changes in hydrology to the Alpine Peatlands.	DEPI, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.						✓	
24	Maintained integrity of biota and habitat within the marine ecosystem.	Implement actions according to Parks Victoria's Conservation Outcomes for Marine National Parks and Marine and Coastal Parks (in development).	Coastcare, DEPI, Landcare, Local Government, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners.	✓	✓		✓			✓
25	Maintained integrity of biota and habitat within the marine ecosystem.	Undertake an investigation on the impacts of nutrients and sediments on seagrass.	DEPI, Parks Victoria, Research Institutions, WGCMA.		✓					
26	Maintained water quality condition in the landscape system.	Develop and implement a monitoring program for waterways and estuaries located in high use recreation sites, to identify increased risks posed by invasive plants and animals, inappropriate recreational use, sediment impacts after fire, and soil erosion in accordance with Parks Victoria conservation objectives and the Regional Waterway Management Strategy (in development).	DEPI, Parks Victoria, SRW, WGCMA.						✓	✓
27	Minimised disturbance of acid sulfate soils in the landscape.	Develop and implement a public education program to raise awareness of the implications of disturbing potential acid sulfate soils.	DEPI, GLMAC, Local Government, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓			

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28	Minimised flood damage to the floodplain and its occupants.	Develop and implement guidelines for development in flood prone areas.	Local Government, WGCMA.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	Engage with nominated Indigenous representatives when planning natural resource management works to ensure that they are carried out in accordance with the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> and the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007</i> .	All NRM agencies, Coastcare, Landcare, Local Government, Traditional Owners .	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
30	Reduced shoreline erosion of the Gippsland Lakes fringing wetlands (Lake Wellington wetlands and Lake Reeve).	Develop and implement a program to stabilise the Gippsland Lakes shoreline.	DEPI, GLMAC, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.			✓				
31	Sustainable management of the Gippsland Lakes system during the long term transition to a saline system.	Undertake an investigation into the implications of a long term transition of the Gippsland Lakes system to a saline system and develop an associated management and communication strategy.	EGCMA, GLMAC, Research Institutions, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.			✓				
32	Traditional Owners' knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.	Continue to grow relationships between natural resource management agencies and Traditional Owners on country identifying their priorities for land management.	All NRM agencies, Coastcare, Landcare, Local Government, Traditional Owners.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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33	Understand the implications of the transition of Jack Smith Lake from a freshwater system to an estuarine system.	Develop and implement a monitoring program and predictive model of impacts for the Jack Smith Lake system to determine whether action is warranted.	DEPI, Parks Victoria, Traditional Owners, WGCMA.				✓			
34	Understand the threats that seawalls pose to the coast and marine system in the long term.	Investigate the ownership and management of seawalls, including maintenance requirements.	DEPI, GCB, Local Government, Parks Victoria, WGCMA.		✓					
35	Understand the threats that seawalls pose to the coast and marine system in the long term.	Undertake an investigation into the threats that seawalls may pose to the long term adaptation of the Corner Inlet coast and marine system.	DEPI, GCB, Local Government, Research Institutions, WGCMA.		✓					
36	Yarram WSPA is managed in accordance with the Yarram Water Supply Protection Area Groundwater Management Plan.	Implement recommendations in the Yarram Water Supply Protection Area Groundwater Management Plan.	DEPI, SRW, WGCMA.		✓		✓	✓		

IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

Implementing the Strategy

WGCMA will coordinate the development of an associated implementation plan based upon the suite of RCS objectives and management measures. An overview of the roles and responsibilities of regional natural resource management groups, networks, agencies and organisations is provided in Appendix 6. While the listed proposed implementation partners does not constitute a formal agreement to deliver each item, each of these partners has the opportunity to lead, contribute or influence the achievement of the objectives and management measures. The specific roles, responsibilities and actions to be taken by implementation partners will be negotiated and confirmed during the development of the associated RCS implementation plan. Supporting information including maps and GIS files will be made available to share with partners to assist with future natural resource management planning.

IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

The following suite of principles will guide implementation of the RCS (Table 11).

Table 11: Principles to guide implementation of the RCS

PRINCIPLE	
Collaboration, Partnerships and Strategic Alignment	Through the RCS, natural resource managers will continue to nurture partnerships across the region and aim to collaborate to achieve the objectives of the strategy. Collaboration will extend to working with natural resource managers in adjacent regions to address cross boundary issues.
Adaptive Management	Catchments are constantly in a state of change. Through the RCS natural resource managers will apply adaptive management principles to respond to and manage complex issues such as climate variability, fire, invasive plants and pathogens (e.g. Myrtle Rust).
Best Management Practice Underpinned by Science	This RCS will provide a basis on which to exceed the commonly recognised standard of natural resource management and to provide a framework for natural resource managers to achieve the objectives set out within the Strategy. All management intervention decisions are to be based on best available science, adaptive management principles and with research targeted towards priority knowledge gaps.
Floodplain Management	The application of best practice floodplain management aims to reduce flood damage, improve the wellbeing of landowners and reduce adverse impacts on the natural environment.
Targeted Investment	Through this RCS, resources will be targeted to address priorities identified within it and associated strategies, such as the Regional Waterway Management Strategy, to deliver maximum on-ground benefits.
Accountability	Natural resource management decision-makers are required to be clearly accountable to government and the community for financial probity and for the success of biophysical outcomes.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

Adaptive management encourages ongoing learning by continually assessing the success of implementing actions in meeting objectives and accommodates future adjustment to actions. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) are key components of the adaptive management cycle. It provides a framework that systematically tests assumptions, promotes learning, allows for the incorporation of new information and for improved future management decisions. Monitoring, evaluation and reporting is used to both understand the efficacy of management interventions and to be accountable for public and private investment in natural resources.

In November 2011, DEPI (formerly DSE) released a document entitled 'Department of Sustainability and Environment Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Framework for Land, Water and Biodiversity'. The purpose of this framework is to provide guidance for MER within the Victorian natural resource management sector. A suite of standards are to be developed by DEPI to assist in applying the framework. Figure 64 presents the points within the adaptive management cycle where and how MER applies.

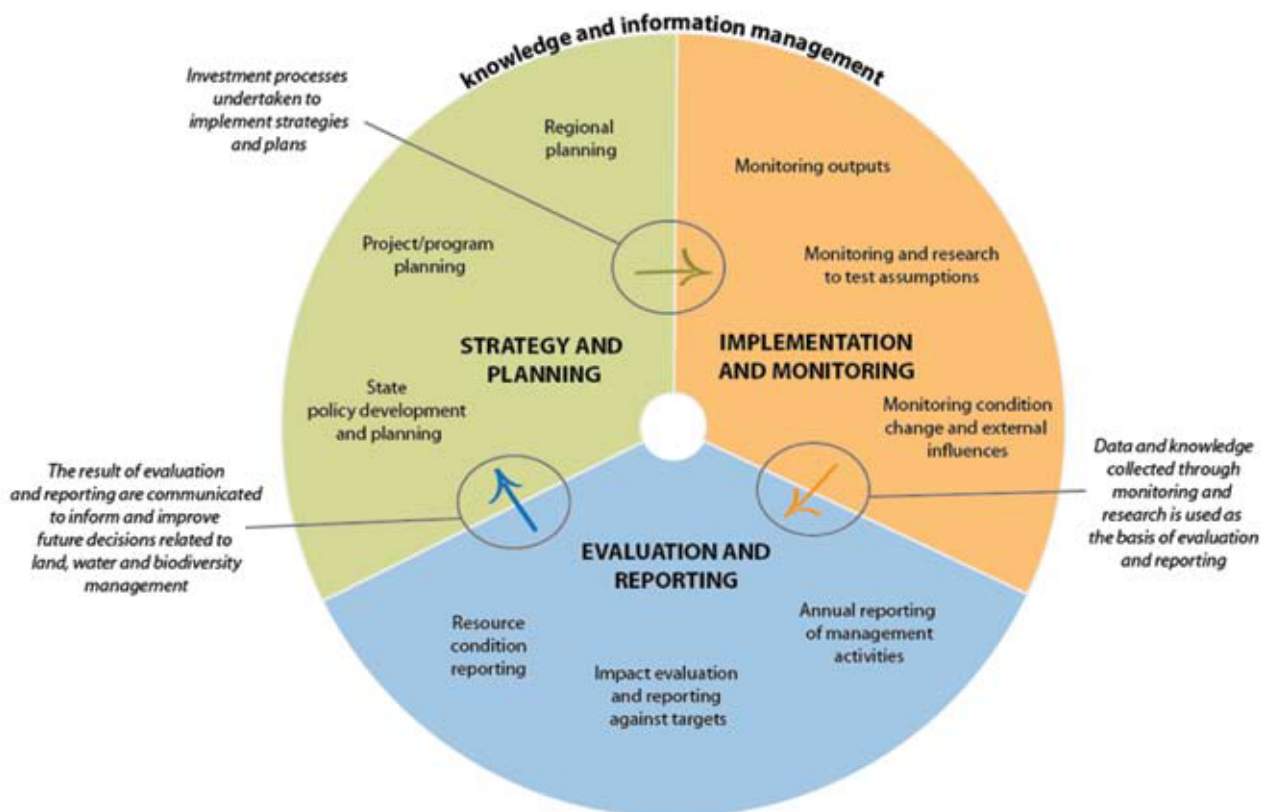


Figure 64: DEPI MER Management Cycle (DSE, 2011b)

Once the RCS has been ministerially endorsed a monitoring, evaluation and reporting plan for the RCS is to be developed by WGCMA in accordance with the DEPI framework and its associated standards. It is to be based on a set of key evaluation questions that will test the assumptions that underpin the program logic which has been used in developing the RCS 20 year objectives and six-year management measures.

Under the CaLP Act, WGCMA is required to report on the condition and management of natural resources as part of their annual report in accordance with guidelines issued by DEPI.

The WGCMA is required to undertake a mid-term review of this RCS in 2016 and final review in 2019.

APPENDIX ONE: Key Legislation, Policies, Frameworks and Strategies

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
INTERNATIONAL	
Convention on Migratory Species ("Bonn" Convention)	The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (also known as CMS or Bonn Convention) aims to conserve terrestrial, aquatic and avian migratory species throughout their range. It is an intergovernmental treaty, concluded under the aegis of the United Nations Environment Program, concerned with the conservation of wildlife and habitats on a global scale.
East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership	An international framework for conserving migratory waterbirds and their habitat by considering their flight paths and conserving their habitats along their flyways.
Republic of Korea-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement (ROKAMBA)	Agreement between the government of Australia and the republic of Korea on the protection of migratory birds.
The Ramsar Convention	The Ramsar Convention is an intergovernmental treaty that embodies the commitments of its member countries to maintain the ecological character of their Wetlands of International Importance and to plan for the "wise use", or sustainable use, of all of the wetlands in their territories.
The Japan-Australia Migratory Birds Agreement (JAMBA) and the China-Australia Migratory Birds Agreement (CAMBA)	The JAMBA and CAMBA agreements list terrestrial, water and shorebird species which migrate between Australia and the respective countries. In both cases the majority of listed species are shorebirds. Both agreements require the parties to protect migratory birds by limiting the circumstances under which migratory birds are taken or traded; protecting and conserving important habitats; exchanging information; and building cooperative relationships.
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	
<i>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i>	Enables the Australian Government to respond to requests to protect traditionally important areas and objects that are under threat, if it appears that state or territory laws have not provided effective protection.
Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030	Provides a guiding framework for conserving our nation's biodiversity over the coming decades. Functions as a policy 'umbrella' over other more specific national frameworks including: Strategy for Australia's National Reserve System 2009-2030, The Australian Weeds Strategy (revised 2007), Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007, National Framework for the Management and Monitoring of Australia's Native Vegetation (2001). This strategy is important in providing National priorities for action and National targets.
Australian Pest Animal Strategy 2007	The focus of the Strategy is to address the undesirable impacts caused by exotic vertebrate animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish) that have become pests in Australia, and to prevent the establishment of new exotic vertebrate pests. This strategy determines principles and the framework for threat abatement plans for species such as feral cats, foxes, rabbits, goats and pigs.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	
Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia	The Directory not only identifies nationally important wetlands, it provides a substantial knowledge base of what defines wetlands, their variety, and the many flora and fauna species that depend on them. In addition, it contains information about their social and cultural values and some of the ecosystem services and benefits they provide. It is a valuable tool for managers and others interested in Australia's important wetlands.
<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>	The EPBC Act is the Australian Governments central piece of environmental legislation. It provides a legal framework to protect and manage nationally and internationally important flora, fauna, ecological communities and heritage places defined in the Act as matters of national environmental significance. It is the principal Commonwealth legislation for providing comprehensive protection for Indigenous heritage places.
National Cooperative Approach to Integrated Coastal Zone Management: Framework and Implementation Plan 2006	Aims to ensure national cooperation in managing coastal issues and ensuring ecologically sustainable development in coastal zones.
<i>Native Title Act 1993</i>	The Act establishes a framework for the protection and recognition of native title. The Act gives Indigenous Australians who hold native title rights and interests (or who have made a native title claim) the right to be consulted and, in some cases, to participate in decisions about activities proposed to be undertaken on the land.
Strategy for Australia's National Reserve System 2009-2030	Outlines the strategy to achieve an effective reserve system by 2030 that secures biodiversity assets in their landscape setting and ensures they are effectively managed. This strategy provides guidance to improve cross-jurisdictional co-ordination and collaboration as well as setting national targets and guiding principles.
The Australian Weeds Strategy (revised 2007)	The strategy is a vital part of Australia's integrated approach to national biosecurity and complements other existing and new national strategies for invasive species, such as those for terrestrial vertebrate pests and marine pests. Its aim is to minimise the impact of weeds on Australia's environmental, economic and social assets. This strategy determines principles, roles and responsibilities, Priority Weeds, Weeds of National Significance and the framework for a National Weed Awareness Action Plan.
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	
<i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>	The Victorian Government introduced the <i>Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i> . This Act replaces Part IIA of the <i>Commonwealth Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984</i> and the <i>State Archaeological and Aboriginal Relics Preservation Act 1972</i> . The Act links the protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage more directly with planning and land development processes.
<i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i>	Sets up a framework for the integrated management and protection of catchments, establishes processes to encourage and support community participation in the management of land and water resources, provides for a system of controls on noxious weeds and pest animals, and establishes the Victorian Catchment Management Council and Catchment Management Authorities.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	
<i>Climate Change Act 2010</i>	Provides a framework for Victoria's action on climate change. The Act requires the Government to develop a Climate Change Adaptation Plan every four years, outlining the climate change impacts and risks to Victoria and the Government's priority areas for response.
<i>Coastal Management Act 1995</i>	Sets up the framework to: establish the Victorian Coastal Council; provide for the establishment of Regional Coastal Boards; the preparation and implementation of the Victorian Coastal Strategy and Coastal Action Plans; coordinated strategic planning and management for the Victorian coast; the preparation and implementation of management plans for coastal Crown land; a coordinated approach to approvals for the use and development of coastal Crown land.
<i>Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978</i>	Provides for reservation of Crown land for a variety of public purposes, the appointment of committees of management to manage those reserves, and for leasing and licensing of reserves.
<i>Environment Effects Act 1978</i>	This Act applies to works that are declared to be public works for the purposes of this Act by Order of the Minister published in the Government Gazette. The Minister must not make an Order in respect of works under subsection unless the Minister is satisfied that the works could reasonably be considered to have or to be capable of having a significant effect on the environment. The Minister must specify in an Order under subsection (1) the procedures and requirements under the guidelines that are to apply to a statement for the works.
<i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>	Establishes the Environment Protection Authority and makes provision for the Authority's powers, duties and functions relating to improving the air, land and water environments by managing waters, controlling noise and controlling pollution.
<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>	Provides the basic legal powers and the management systems needed for the protection of the State's native species.
<i>Forests Act 1958</i>	Provides for the management of State forests, including the protection of public land from fire, the development of working plans, licensed occupations including grazing, beekeeping and the sale of forest produce.
<i>Heritage Rivers Act 1992</i>	Provides for the protection of parts of rivers and river catchments in Victoria that have environmental, amenity, cultural or historical significance.
Invasive Plants and Animal Policy Framework 2010	The framework presents the overarching Victorian Government approach to the management of existing and potential invasive species within the context of the Whole of Government Biosecurity Strategy for Victoria. The IPAPF incorporates a biosecurity approach and ensures that Victoria maintains a comprehensive planning framework to guide future policy, planning and community activity specific to invasive species.
<i>Land Act 1958</i>	Provision for the leasing, occupation and sale of unreserved Crown Land (including seabed).

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	
<i>National Parks Act 1975</i>	Makes provision for National and other parks, for park management, the government administration of parks, appointment of a National Parks Advisory Council and park advisory committees. It also provides for specialised uses and activities, including those of a non-conforming nature.
Nutrient Management Strategy for Victorian Inland Waters 1995	In March 1995 the State Government of Victoria released the Nutrient Management Strategy for Victorian Inland Waters (DCNR, 1995). This Strategy recognised the link between high nutrient levels in water bodies and the increasing occurrence of algal blooms. Blue-green algal (BGA) blooms are potentially toxic and threaten both human use of water and the ecological biodiversity of aquatic life. The strategy suggested a planning process to assess regional problems and encourage local communities to develop and implement nutrient management plans specific to local nutrient problems.
<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>	Establishes a framework for planning the use development and protection of land in Victoria in the present and long-term interests of all Victorians.
State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria) 2003	The State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria) sets the framework for government agencies, businesses and the community to work together, to protect and rehabilitate Victoria's surface water environments. The Waters of Victoria policy was updated in June 2003 and reflects current scientific approaches and Victoria's catchment management arrangements.
State Soil Health Strategy 2012	The strategy sets out the goals, outcomes and actions to guide planning and government investment in soil health across public and private land for environmental benefits in Victoria.
Strategic Direction Statement for Victorian Ramsar Sites	In 2002 a Strategic Directions Statement was published. It established a set of objectives and state wide strategies for the management of Ramsar sites in Victoria.
<i>Sustainable Forests (Timber) Act 2004</i>	Provides a framework for sustainable forest management and sustainable timber harvesting in State forests.
<i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i>	Provides for an out-of-court settlement of native title and delivery of land justice. It allows the Victorian Government to make agreements to recognise Traditional Owners and their rights in Crown land, in return for withdrawing native title claims and an agreement not to lodge future claims.
Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy 1997	This strategy complements the National Strategy and the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988. This strategy demonstrates how conserving biodiversity is a part of everyday life and how many of our actions can affect biodiversity. It provides the overarching direction for biodiversity conservation and management in Victoria. The Biodiversity Strategy is coordinated with other natural resources management mechanisms such as Regional Catchment Strategies, Regional Forest Agreements, and National Parks and Reserve planning.
Victoria's Salinity Management Framework 2000	The framework provides a statewide plan for protecting Victoria's environment from salinity. It focuses on the need for land use change in the future, the role of the various levels of Government, the need to build the skills and capacities of landholders to deal with salinity and the need for efficient water use.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	
Victorian Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils Strategy 2009	Aims to protect the environment, humans and infrastructure from potentially harmful effects of acid sulfate soils. Supported by the Victorian Best Practice Guidelines for assessing and Managing Coastal Acid Sulfate Soils 2010.
Victorian Coastal Strategy 2008	The Victorian Coastal Strategy is the State Government's policy commitment for coastal, estuarine and marine environments in Victoria. It provides a long-term vision for the planning, management and sustainable use of our coast, and the policies and actions Victorians will need to implement over the next five years to help achieve that vision.
<i>Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972</i>	The <i>Victorian Conservation Trust Act 1972</i> sets the framework for the establishment of Trust for Nature. Trust for Nature assists in the administration of conservation programs on private land in Victoria. It has the power to hold, buy and sell real property and the power to enter a binding covenant on private land through Conservation Agreements which are entered into on a voluntary basis with a landholder. The covenants are registered on the title of the land for perpetuity.
<i>Victorian Environment Assessment Council Act 2001</i>	The purpose of this Act is to establish the Victorian Environmental Assessment Council to conduct investigations and make recommendations relating to the protection and ecologically sustainable management of the environment and natural resources of public land.
Victorian Flood Management Strategy 1998	The strategy was prepared to enable an effective statewide approach to flood and flood plain management by the responsible authorities, agencies and groups. It provides a statewide policy framework for best principles and guidelines, establishes priorities for statewide action, and identifies roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders. Each CMA is required to have a floodplain management plan detailing roles, responsibilities, cost sharing arrangements and key programs for floodplain management stakeholders within its region.
Victorian Native Vegetation Management - A framework for Action (revised 2005)	This framework sets out the broad approach to achieving a Net Gain in extent and quality of native vegetation. The framework builds on the state goal in Victoria's Biodiversity Strategy.
Victorian Pest Management Framework 2000	This plan aims to minimise the impact of pests on biodiversity, forestry and recreation and community use on public land. It also seeks to minimise the impacts of pests that have originated on public land and spread onto adjacent private land.
Victorian Waterway Management Strategy (in development)	The next generation of the Victorian River Health Strategy 2002 seeks to integrate the management of rivers, estuaries and wetlands. It will focus on protecting sites of high value, outline an adaptive management approach in response to climate change and incorporate directions of recent Government policy and legislation.
<i>Water Act 1989</i>	Establishes rights and obligations in relation to water resources, provides mechanisms for the allocation of water resources, governs the statutory powers and functions of all water authorities outside the metropolitan area, and provides for integrated management of the water resource and for environmental and consumer protection.
<i>Wildlife Act 1975</i>	Provides for the establishment and management of State wildlife and nature reserves, licences, research and management, wildlife management co-operative areas, prohibited areas and sanctuaries, noxious wildlife, offences, enforcement and legal proceedings, plus the protection of whales as a complement to Commonwealth legislation.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
REGIONAL SUB-STRATEGIES AND PLANS	
Gippsland Estuaries Coastal Action Plan 2006	Provides a strategic framework for planning and management of estuaries across Gippsland to ensure their sustainable management and use into the future.
Gippsland Regional Growth Plan (in development)	<p>The Gippsland Regional Growth Plan (also referred to as the Gippsland Integrated Land Use Plan) will identify preferred locations for particular land uses and development in both rural and urban areas. The Regional Growth Plan will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establish at a regional scale where future development will be supported and where risks or other constraints discourage development ■ Provide direction for accommodating change and additional land requirements for residential, employment, industrial, commercial and primary industry uses ■ Identify important regional environmental, economic, community and cultural resources to be preserved, maintained or developed ■ Identify key regional priorities for future infrastructure planning and investment to support growth
Gippsland Regional Plan 2010	The Gippsland Regional Plan (GRP) is a long-term strategic plan that aims to manage the emerging challenges in the region to shape a successful future. It analyses the region's economic, social and environmental challenges and trends and sets a strategic vision for Gippsland with priority areas for action.
Gippsland Sustainable Water Strategy 2011	The Strategy outlines the water resources available in Gippsland, and responds to the challenges and opportunities facing all water users into the future. It sets out a range of measures to make the best use of water resources in different parts of Gippsland, protect the environment and be ready to manage a variable climate and future droughts. It includes implementation details such as timing and responsibility for key actions.
Macalister Land & Water Management Plan 2007	This plan provides strategic direction for the management of land and water within the Macalister Irrigation District and surrounding dryland areas for the next 10 years. The plan has a particular focus on reducing off site impacts on the Gippsland Lakes.
West Gippsland Wetlands Plan 2007	Provides a framework for the protection, restoration and enhancement of wetlands across the West Gippsland CMA region. To be superseded by a Regional Waterway Management Strategy.
West Gippsland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2010-2015	Spatially represents priority asset areas for protection from IPAs. Identifies assets as priority for immediate on-ground action, for investigation or research, and those assets not at high immediate risk from IPAs.
West Gippsland Native Vegetation Plan 2003	Provides policy direction, principles and rationale behind native vegetation planning, including descriptions of prioritisation processes based on functionality and service values of native vegetation.
West Gippsland Regional Floodplain Strategy 1999	This Strategy focuses on Floodplain Management within the West Gippsland region. As well as providing a planning framework for each of the Strategy's programs, it incorporates the vision, objectives and targets necessary for their successful implementation.
West Gippsland Regional Waterway Management Strategy (to be developed)	The Regional Waterway Management Strategy will provide a framework for targeted action and will be based upon the framework set out in the Victorian Waterway Management Strategy.

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
REGIONAL SUB-STRATEGIES AND PLANS	
West Gippsland River Health Strategy 2005	Identifies priority river reaches, determined via a value and threat risk assessment process. To be superseded by a Regional Waterway Management Strategy.
West Gippsland Salinity Management Plan 2005	Identifies areas at risk of salinity and priority management areas.
West Gippsland Soil Erosion Management Plan	Identifies areas of private land at risk of erosion processes.

APPENDIX TWO: Regional Catchment Strategy Multi-Agency Steering Committee

NAME	AGENCY	TITLE
Ian Gibson (Chair)	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Board Member
Adam Dunn	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Land Planning Unit Manager
Greg Turner	Department of Environment and Primary Industries	Program Manager, Productivity & Sustainability Services
Julianne Sargent	Department of Environment and Primary Industries	Senior Project Officer, Statewide Services
Kylie Debono	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Water and Operations Unit Manager
Martin Fuller	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Chief Executive Officer
Mikaela Power	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Partnership Development Unit Manager
Paula Camenzuli	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority	Regional Catchment Strategy Coordinator
Roger Fenwick	Parks Victoria	Chief Ranger, West Gippsland

APPENDIX THREE:

Thematic Asset Classes and Significance Criteria

Eight thematic asset classes are represented in the West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy. Department of Environment and Primary Industries definitions of each thematic asset class are provided below:

THEMATIC ASSET CLASSES	DEFINITION
Biodiversity	Incorporates consideration of populations of threatened or significant species (these may be mapped based on the area of occupancy or areas of habitat as appropriate) and occurrences of threatened communities. Incorporates consideration of terrestrial habitat, individual ecological classes or spatial occurrences of Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) based on their intrinsic value or their contribution to landscape processes (e.g. connectivity, refugia, buffering etc.).
Coasts	Stretches of coastline. Coastal assets can extend inland as far as appropriate.
Estuaries	Individual estuaries and their associated riparian ecosystems.
Marine	Marine ecosystems or sub-systems, up to the high water mark, including mangroves.
Rivers	Individual river reaches and their associated riparian ecosystems.
Soil/land	Selected geographic areas of land and/or specific soil types.
Wetlands	Individual wetlands, wetland complexes, and their associated floodplain ecosystems.
Aquifers*	*Not mandatory. In recognition of the importance of aquifers and groundwater to the WGCMA region, an additional thematic asset class entitled 'Aquifers' has been included in the West Gippsland RCS.

A suite of significant asset maps (demonstrating assets of high, medium and low significance) were developed for each of the above thematic asset classes using the best known available data and specialist knowledge and applying the following significance criteria:

1. Formally recognised significance
2. Presence of rare or threatened species/communities
3. Naturalness (condition)
4. Other significant environmental values (e.g. drought refuge)
5. Other significant social/economic/cultural values

Whilst the criteria does emphasise the environmental values (over social, economic or cultural values), the premise is that by protecting, maintaining or enhancing the environmental values of an asset, you will also be supporting the associated social, economic and cultural values.

APPENDIX FOUR: Communication and Engagement Mechanisms

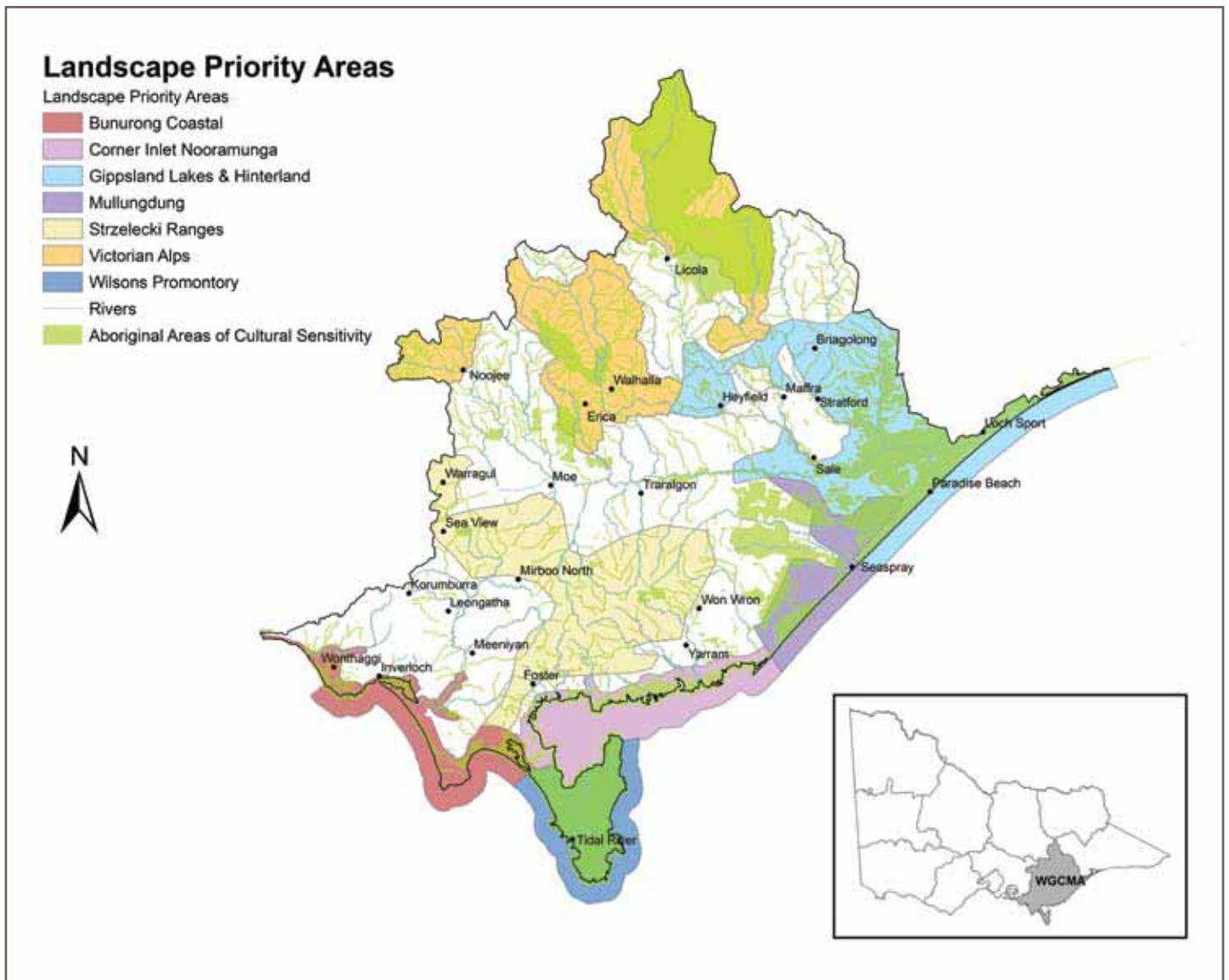
Throughout the RCS development process key stakeholders and the regional community were engaged using the following mechanisms.

MECHANISM	PURPOSE	AUDIENCE
Website	To provide a central repository of information relating to the RCS development process. Provide a portal to RCS online survey. Make RCS e-newsletters and draft RCS document available for download. Provide links to VCMC guidelines, DEPI webpage, and an explanation of Landscape Priority Area development approach. Provide access to the Ministerially endorsed RCS document and supporting information.	General public Targeted stakeholders
Online survey using survey monkey	To gather feedback on and vote for a preferred regional vision statement. To gather semi-structured feedback on the draft RCS document	General public Targeted stakeholders
Hard copy surveys distributed at public events	To gather information on natural assets valued by the regional community.	General public
Workshops	To test and refine the regional vision statement. To develop RCS Landscape Priority Areas, objectives and management measures and identify proposed implementation partners.	Targeted stakeholders
Media releases	Raise awareness of the release of the draft RCS, notify of how to access a copy, how to provide feedback and public briefing session details.	General public
Newspaper advertisements	Raise awareness of the release of the draft RCS, notify of how to access a copy, how to provide feedback and public briefing session details.	General public
ABC Radio	Raise awareness of the release of the draft RCS, notify of how to access a copy, how to provide feedback and public briefing session details.	General public
Hard copy draft RCS mail outs	Raise awareness of the release of the draft RCS, notify of how to access a copy, how to provide feedback and public briefing session details.	Targeted stakeholders
RCS e-newsletter	To provide ongoing updates throughout the development process.	Targeted stakeholders
Email distribution list	To provide ongoing updates throughout the development process.	Targeted stakeholders

MECHANISM	PURPOSE	AUDIENCE
Public briefing sessions x 4	To inform of the RCS development process, provide access to a copy of the RCS, provide a forum to ask questions, collate feedback during the meeting, inform of how to provide formal feedback and next steps.	General public
Targeted briefing sessions	To inform of the RCS development process, provide access to a copy of the RCS, provide a forum to ask questions, collate feedback during the meeting, inform of how to provide formal feedback and next steps. To discuss how to use the RCS and supporting GIS layers and discuss RCS implementation and partnerships once finalised.	<p>DEPI Regional Director and Regional Managers</p> <p>Local Government Strategic, Environmental and Statutory planning staff within five municipalities</p> <p>Nominated Indigenous community representatives</p> <p>Water authorities</p> <p>WGCMA Advisory Group members</p>

APPENDIX FIVE: Aboriginal Areas of Cultural Sensitivity and RCS Priority Areas

The map below demonstrates the Aboriginal Areas of Cultural Sensitivity (used with the permission of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria) within the West Gippsland region in relation to the location of Regional Catchment Strategy Landscape Priority Areas.



APPENDIX SIX: Roles and Responsibilities of WGCMA and partners

RCS PARTNER	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO THE RCS
Community Groups and Networks (e.g. Landcare, Coastcare, Waterwatch, Conservation Management Networks, Conservation Societies)	Community groups and networks encourage community involvement in on ground work, environmental surveys and monitoring and attract corporate, philanthropic and government funding to undertake natural resource management activities. They provide information and support to extensive networks of land managers and community members throughout the region on best management practice techniques through research, development and extension activities. Community groups and networks assist in implementing the RCS by contributing their time, labour, land and financial investment in projects that assist in working towards the RCS objectives.
Country Fire Authority (CFA) www.cfa.vic.gov.au	CFA is a volunteer and community based fire and emergency services organisation that help protect 3.3 million Victorians, and more than one million homes and properties across the state. They respond to bushfires, house fires, industrial fires, road accidents, rescues and a range of other emergencies. Working with local communities to raise awareness about fire safety and help plan for bushfires. CFA may support implementation of the RCS by working in partnership with other agencies that have a role in fire management such as Parks Victoria and DEPI towards relevant RCS objectives.
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) www.daff.gov.au	Responsible for developing and implementing policies and programs that ensure Australia's agricultural, fisheries, food and forestry industries remain competitive, profitable and sustainable. DAFF supports implementation of the RCS by investing in projects to achieve national natural resource management priorities and RCS objectives through programs such as Caring for Our Country and the Carbon Farming Initiative.
Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) www.depi.vic.gov.au	The new Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) has been formed from the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Department of Primary Industries. It will focus on boosting productivity in Victoria's world-class food and fibre sector, managing our natural resources, protecting our environment and responding to fire, flood and biosecurity emergencies. DEPI is Victoria's lead government agency for sustainable management of water resources, climate change, bushfires, public land, forests and ecosystems. DEPI support implementation of the RCS through financial investment and provision of technical, extension and research services. DEPI design and deliver government policies and programs that enable Victoria's primary industries to sustainably maximise the wealth and wellbeing they generate, by providing essential goods and services, employment, investment and recreational opportunities.
Department of Premier and Cabinet Incorporates Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV)	AAV provides advice to the Victorian Government on Aboriginal policy and planning, and delivers key programs. AAV works in partnership with Indigenous communities, and government departments and agencies to promote knowledge, leadership and understanding about Victoria's Indigenous people.
Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC) www.environment.gov.au	Responsible for implementing Australian Government policies to protect the nation's environment and heritage including natural, built and cultural heritage; water policy and resources; environmental research and administering the <i>Environment Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity Act 1999</i> (EPBC Act). SEWPaC supports implementation of the RCS by investing in projects to achieve national natural resource management priorities and RCS objectives through programs such as Caring for Our Country and the Biodiversity Fund.

RCS PARTNER	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO THE RCS
<p>Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI)</p>	<p>Provides a central role in managing Victoria's growth and development. DTPLI works collaboratively with local government and other key public and private stakeholders to lead state and metropolitan development, strategic and statutory planning, development regulation, and environmental assessment. DTPLI are responsible for coordinating development of the Gippsland Regional Growth Plan (also known as the Gippsland Integrated Land Use Plan), which will provide a broad direction for regional land use and development as well as detailed planning frameworks for key regional centres. The Regional Growth Plan will identify important economic, environmental, social and cultural resources to be preserved, maintained or developed.</p>
<p>Environment Protection Authority (EPA)</p> <p>www.epa.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>Responsible for regulating pollution in Victoria. EPA has independent authority to make regulatory decisions under the <i>Environment Protection Act 1970</i>. The EPA aims to provide clean air, healthy waterways, safe land and minimal disturbances from industrial noise and odours.</p>
<p>Gippsland Coastal Board (GCB)</p> <p>www.gcb.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>Responsible for implementing the Victorian Coastal Strategy and the preparation and implementation of coastal action plans. Assist in facilitating improved coastal management through commissioning research, awareness raising activities and liaison with industry, government and the community.</p>
<p>Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee (GLMAC)</p>	<p>Provide advice to Victorian Ministers on how to secure the environmental health of the Lakes. Initiatives include the development of a Gippsland Lakes Environmental Strategy.</p>
<p>Gippsland Water</p> <p>www.gippswater.com.au</p>	<p>Responsible for the supply of safe drinking water and wastewater treatment for the Central Gippsland region. Gippsland Water also provides waste recovery services at its Soil and Organic Recycling Facility at Dutson Downs.</p>
<p>Individuals / Land Managers</p>	<p>According to the CaLP Act, a land manager must take all reasonable steps to (a) avoid causing or contributing to land degradation which causes or may cause damage to land of another land owner; and (b) conserve soil; and (c) protect water resources; and (d) eradicate regionally prohibited weeds; and (e) prevent the growth and spread of regionally controlled weeds; and (f) prevent the spread of, and as far as possible eradicate, established pest animals. Individuals and land managers throughout the region assist in implementing the RCS by contributing their time, labour, land and financial investment in projects that assist in working towards the RCS objectives.</p>
<p>Industry Groups (e.g. GippsDairy, Victorian Farmers Federation)</p>	<p>Provide information and support to extensive networks of land managers throughout the region on best management practice techniques through research, development and extension activities.</p>
<p>Local Government</p>	<p>Services provided local government are diverse and include property, economic, human, recreational and cultural services. Local government enforce State and local laws relating to land use planning, environment protection, public health, traffic and parking and animal management. Responsible for maintaining infrastructure including roads, bridges, drains, town halls, libraries, recreation facilities, parks and gardens. Land use planning is a key role of local government. Each municipality has a local planning scheme that describes what types of activities or developments may occur in areas of the municipality. An important part of a council's planning scheme is the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS). The MSS provides the broad outline and vision for existing and future land use within a municipality.</p>

RCS PARTNER	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO THE RCS
<p>Mount Baw Baw Alpine Resort Management Board (ARMB)</p> <p>www.mountbawbaw.com.au</p>	<p>Mt Baw Baw Alpine Resort is owned by the Crown and since 1998 has been managed by an Alpine Resort Management Board (ARMB). The Strategic Management Plan 2011-2016 identifies challenges faced at the Resort, and establishes the Board's priorities in protecting, enhancing and sustainably developing this unique asset for the benefit and enjoyment of all Victorians and visitors to Gippsland.</p>
<p>Other Catchment Management Authorities (CMA)</p>	<p>Work collaboratively on programs to address cross CMA boundary natural resource management issues.</p>
<p>Other non-government organisations and interest groups (e.g. Birdlife Australia, Greening Australia, Climate Change Networks)</p>	<p>Provide specialised advice on areas of interest. Encourage community involvement in on ground work, environmental surveys and monitoring and attract corporate, philanthropic and government funding to undertake natural resource management activities.</p>
<p>Parks Victoria</p> <p>http://parkweb.vic.gov.au</p>	<p>Under the <i>Parks Victoria Act 1998</i>, Parks Victoria's responsibilities are to provide services to the State and its agencies for the management of parks, reserves and other public land. Responsible for managing an expanding and diverse estate covering more than 4 million hectares, or about 17 per cent, of Victoria. Responsible for managing a representative system of marine national parks and marine sanctuaries. Parks are managed in the context of their surrounding landscape and in partnership with Traditional Owners. As part of managing Victoria's parks and reserves, Parks Victoria supports the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) to prepare for, fight and recover from bushfires on public land. Parks Victoria work in partnership with other government and non-government organisations and community groups such as catchment management authorities, private land owners, friends groups, volunteers, licensed tour operators, lessees, research institutes and the broader community.</p>
<p>Research Institutions (e.g. CSIRO, Universities, DEPI)</p>	<p>Provide assistance in filling information gaps and guidance on the most appropriate natural resource management tools, methods or approaches to use. Provide scientific evidence on the condition of natural assets.</p>
<p>South Gippsland Water</p> <p>www.sgwater.com.au</p>	<p>Responsible for the supply of safe drinking water and wastewater treatment for the South Gippsland region.</p>
<p>Southern Rural Water (SRW)</p> <p>www.srw.com.au</p>	<p>Responsible for managing rural water in southern Victoria including delivering water to irrigators, harvesting bulk water for rural and urban use, licencing and monitoring water extractions from most surface and groundwater systems south of the Great Divide and licencing the construction of farm dams and groundwater bores.</p>
<p>Traditional Owners</p>	<p>Provide advice and expertise on areas of interest to local Indigenous communities. Traditional Owners manage land in partnership with Parks Victoria. Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) is a Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the Gunaikurnai native title area. RAPs have responsibilities relating to the management of Aboriginal cultural heritage under the <i>Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006</i>. These include evaluating Cultural Heritage Management Plans, providing advice on applications for Cultural Heritage Permits, decisions about Cultural Heritage Agreements and advice or application for interim or ongoing Protection Declarations.</p>

RCS PARTNER	ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES RELATIVE TO THE RCS
Trust for Nature (TfN) www.trustfornature.org.au	Responsible for working with landholders to protect biodiversity on private land through five key mechanisms: conservation covenants; facilitating native vegetation offset agreements; a stewardship program; revolving fund and land acquisition.
Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC) www.vcmc.vic.gov.au	Responsible for releasing guidelines for the preparation of Regional Catchment Strategies; provide advice to Victorian Government Ministers on land and water management issues and produce a Victorian Catchment Condition Report every five years.
West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) www.wgcma.vic.gov.au	Responsible for preparing a Regional Catchment Strategy and to coordinate and monitor its implementation. Responsible for coordinating regional investment into catchment management. Provides a conduit between the regional community and Victorian and Australian Governments. Provides statutory functions including floodplain management and administering works on waterway approvals.

APPENDIX SEVEN: Glossary

TERM/ACRONYM	DESCRIPTION
ABA	Asset Based Approach
ABC database	Actions for Biodiversity Conservation
ARMB	Alpine Resort Management Board
BCS	Bioregional Conservation Status
CaLP Act	<i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i>
CFA	Country Fire Authority
DEPI	Department of Environment and Primary Industries
DIWA	Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia
DTPLI	Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure
EGCMA	East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
EPBC Act	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
EVC	Ecological Vegetation Class
FFG Act	<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>
GCB	Gippsland Coastal Board
GLaWAC	Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation
GLMAC	Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee
IEC	Index of Estuarine Condition
ISC	Index of Stream Condition
IWC	Index of Wetland Condition
NaturePrint v2.0	Department of Environment and Primary Industries mapping product that attempts to efficiently rank places within Victoria in terms of their capacity to support multiple conservation assets while considering complementarities, landscape context and ecosystem integrity.
NRM	Natural Resource Management
RCS	Regional Catchment Strategy
SRW	Southern Rural Water
TfN	Trust for Nature
VCMC	Victorian Catchment Management Council
WGCMA	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

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NOTES
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