



7 Implementation, monitoring and reporting

As a sub-strategy to the RCS, the West Gippsland Regional NRM Climate Change Strategy will support the integration of climate change knowledge, adaptation and mitigation options into the current RCS implementation program, future strategies, sub-strategies and planning tools.

While there is significant uncertainty associated with the magnitude and timing of future climate change, it will be important to use the principles of adaptive management to inform planning and implementation activities.

Over time the relevance, feasibility and robustness of the identified adaptation options should be reviewed in tandem with the monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements for the RCS.

Implementation of the adaptation and mitigation options outlined within this Strategy will be influenced by available funding and resources.

Progress towards implementation will be monitored and reported through the arrangements established for the West Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy.

7.1 Adaptation and mitigation strategies – rationale and link to RCS Objectives

This section sets out the link between the adaptation and mitigation strategies that were identified in Section 6 with the 20 year objectives from the RCS. The rationale for each of the strategies has also been described in the table. The tables will be used to inform the implementation of the RCS and the selection and adoption of climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies into NRM programs.

7.7.1 Victorian Alps

Table 8: Victorian Alps adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
VA 1 – Support fire management programs that adopt appropriate fire regimes to manage sensitive natural assets and assist the recovery of ecological communities from bushfire.	Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Option addresses potential threat to ecosystems in the alpine area from both wildfire and changed fire regimes.
		Predicted climate change is likely to increase the frequency and intensity of wildfire.
VA 2 – Improve the adaptive capacity of ecosystems in the Victorian Alps by actively managing existing threats.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Active restoration and threat management will improve the adaptive capacity of these areas.
		Changes in distribution patterns of existing and new weeds and pest animals are likely under climate change. This will require active management and surveillance to protect the values of sensitive ecosystems.
		This ecosystem is highly sensitive to increased frequency of wildfire so active restoration will be required for it to persist.
VA 3 – Improve the condition of Alpine peatlands to mitigate future impacts from drying climate.	Improved conservation status of threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Active restoration and threat management will improve the adaptive capacity of these areas.
VA 4 – Support research and investigation to address knowledge gaps.	Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Changes in distribution patterns of existing and new weeds and pest animals are likely under climate change.
		The nature and intensity of current threats are likely to be amplified under a drying and warming climate.
VA 5 – Managing impacts to alpine ecosystems from future pressures of increased recreational use.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Alpine peatlands are highly sensitive to disturbance and this is likely to be amplified under future climate change.
		Build on existing monitoring of trends in condition and quality of alpine peatlands to inform adaptive management.

Table 8: Victorian Alps adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives
continued

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
VA 6 – Diversify approaches used for managing environmental water.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Climate change impacts on natural flows are predicted to reduce volumes and seasonality, with potential for flow stressed systems.
		Flexible use of environmental water may reduce vulnerability of flow stressed systems.
		Innovative use of environmental water may reduce vulnerability of wetlands and other aquatic ecosystems.
VA 7 – Investigate options to lessen the offsite impacts to water quality following extreme events (e.g. flood, fire).	<p>Improve water quality in the landscape system.</p> <p>Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.</p>	Impacts of wildfire are likely to generate large sediment loads if linked to extreme rainfall events.
VA 8 – Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	<p>Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>Traditional Owners’ knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.</p>	Cultural values may be damaged or lost as the result of climate change impacts.

7.7.2 Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland

Table 9: Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
GLH 1 – Support programs that assist private landholders to adapt or make a planned retreat as a result of drier and warmer average conditions, increased salinity, inundation and erosion.	Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in Macalister Irrigation District.	Option addresses threat to productivity of land and soil health as a result of from sea level rise, storm surge and warmer and drier conditions.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Option provides for adaptation and migration of highly vulnerable habitats that will be impacted by increased salinity and sea level rise and storm surge.
	Sustainable management of the Gippsland Lakes system during the long term transition to a saline system.	Option will assist with inland and upstream migration of highly vulnerable habitats (estuaries, wetland and coastal saltmarsh) as a result of sea level rise and storm surge, through provision of additional public land.
GLH 2 – Work with Local Government and State agencies to improve environmental outcomes.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Option will explore land use planning mechanisms to protect high value natural assets on agricultural land subject to enterprise change. Changes in agricultural practices on the productive floodplains (driven by market forces and climate change) has the potential to adversely affect vulnerable wetland types (freshwater marshes and meadows).
GLH 3 – Refine the approaches used by natural resource managers when planning and implementing fencing, weed control and revegetation programs to take account of changing climatic conditions.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Option has benefits for carbon sequestration and will address increased threat from more frequent intense rainfall events (erosion and water quality) as well as provision of refuge habitat in warmer drier average conditions.
	Increased native vegetation extent and connectivity across the landscape.	Impacts of climate change will make it more difficult to establish some species. The inclusion of species more tolerant to changed conditions should increase the success of revegetation programs.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	The impacts of climate change on the regeneration/establishment ability of native species are largely unknown. This approach should be strongly linked to monitoring to evaluate the success and persistence of these strategies in improving vegetation extent and condition.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	These communities are predicted to be highly vulnerable to climate change. Management of existing high quality remnants is likely to support improved climate resilience.

Table 9: Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
GLH 4 – Improve the adaptive capacity of remnant vegetation through works to increase connectivity, improve condition and protect high quality remnants.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Fragmented remnant vegetation communities are predicted to be highly vulnerable to climate change. Management of existing high quality remnants is likely to support improved climate resilience.
	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Incremental loss of small remnants is still occurring. These provide important nodes from which to build.
GLH 5 – Investigate options to improve security of environmental water for high value waterways and wetlands.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Option addresses risk that existing flow stress will be amplified as a result of warmer and drier conditions.
GLH 6 – Identify priorities and develop plan of works to improve hydrological regime of floodplain wetlands and fringing wetlands.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Options provide a mechanism to improve adaptive capacity of freshwater marshes and meadows. These are highly vulnerable as a result of sensitivity to changes in hydrology from warmer and drier conditions.
	Improve water quality in the landscape system.	Option addresses impacts resulting from increased intense rainfall events (resulting increased erosion and poor water quality) and provides a mechanism to address historic losses of freshwater marshes and meadows as a result of clearing and development.
GLH 7 – Support fire management programs that adopt appropriate fire regimes to manage sensitive natural assets and assist the recovery of ecological communities from bushfire.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	These assets are highly vulnerable to wildfire as a result of their sensitivity, fragmented nature and are slow to recover following disturbance.
GLH 8 – Support carbon sequestration through the establishment of targeted biodiverse plantings in areas that address priorities for biodiversity, land and waterway health.	Improve water quality in the landscape system.	Option has benefits for carbon sequestration and will address increased threat to waterways from more frequent intense rainfall events (erosion and water quality) as well as provision of refuge habitat in warmer drier average conditions.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Option has benefits for carbon sequestration and will improve the adaptive capacity of fragmented vegetation communities.

Table 9: Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
GLH 9 – Support research and investigation to address knowledge gaps.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Warmer and drier average conditions are likely to be major drivers of change for meadow and marsh wetlands. These wetlands likely to change in function and have different management requirements.
		Recent research ²⁹ has highlighted potential practical demonstration of restoration and protection actions will be required to assess feasibility and benefit.
	Sustainable management of the Gippsland Lakes system during the long term transition to a saline system.	Changes are already being experienced in areas, such as Lake Wellington and its fringing wetlands, as a result of rising sea levels.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Key knowledge gap that can be addressed through adaptive management and monitoring. Strongly linked to a range of other adaptation options.
		The nature and intensity of current threats are likely to be amplified under a drying and warming climate.
Threat from established weeds has potential to be amplified by drier and warmer average conditions and more frequent fire.		
GLH 10 – Support the adoption of land management practices that improve soil health and production outcomes on grazing land.	Improved or maintained soil health. Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in Macalister Irrigation District.	Improved management of ground cover through more adaptive grazing practices has the potential to increase soil carbon levels and improve soil health. Can support improved adaptive management of pastures and maintain ground cover during times of drought stress/extreme rainfall periods.
GLH 11 – Consider climate change impacts from sea level rise, storm surge and catchment processes in future management of estuaries.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Combined seaward impacts may have negative synergistic effects with catchment processes. These ecosystems are highly vulnerable to climate change.
GLH 12 – Support coastal NRM agencies to plan for adaptation or retreat in areas impacted by sea level rise and storm surge.	Improved coastal dune system integrity. Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers. Maintain integrity of biota and habitat in the marine ecosystem.	Options provide for adaptation and migration of highly vulnerable habitats that will be impacted by increased salinity and sea level rise and storm surge.

Table 9: Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
GLH 13 – Investigate options to lessen the offsite impacts to water quality following extreme events (e.g. flood, fire).	<p>Improve water quality in the landscape system.</p> <p>Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.</p>	Implementation of best practice land management techniques will potentially lessen the offsite movement of soils, sediment and nutrients following extreme events.
GLH 14 – Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	<p>Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>Traditional Owners’ knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.</p>	Cultural values may be damaged or lost as the result of climate change impacts.

7.7.3 Strzelecki Ranges

Table 10: Strzelecki Ranges adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
SR 1 – Support the adoption of land management practices that improve soil health and production outcomes on grazing land.	Improved or maintained soil health. Improved soil health and sustainable agriculture in the Strzelecki Ranges. Red Soils.	Improved management of ground cover through more adaptive grazing practices has the potential to increase soil carbon levels and improve soil health. Can support improved adaptive management of pastures and maintain ground cover during times of drought stress/extreme rainfall periods.
SR 2 – Support fire management programs that adopt appropriate fire regimes to manage sensitive natural assets and assist the recovery of ecological communities from bushfire.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	These assets are highly vulnerable to wildfire as a result of their sensitivity, fragmented nature and are slow to recover following disturbance.
SR 3 – Improve the adaptive capacity of remnant vegetation through works to increase connectivity, improve condition and protect high quality remnants.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Fragmented remnant vegetation communities are predicted to be highly vulnerable to climate change. Management of existing high quality remnants is likely to support improved climate resilience.
	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Incremental loss of small remnants is still occurring. These provide important nodes from which to build.
SR 4 – Improve the adaptive capacity of vegetation communities through works to protect and improve their condition and connectivity.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Increased native vegetation extent and connectivity across the landscape.	Improve success rate of revegetation activities and increased natural regeneration.
	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Incremental loss of small remnants is still occurring. These provide important nodes from which to build.
SR 5 – Investigate options to improve water security for domestic, industrial and agricultural uses while protecting flows for environmental outcomes.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Option addresses risk that existing flow stress will be amplified as a result of warmer and drier conditions. Potential to reduce flow stress on waterways.
	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Option may reduce impact on waterway flows and increase water use efficiency on farms.

Table 10: Strzelecki Ranges adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives
continued

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
SR 6 – Work with Local Government and State agencies to improve environmental outcomes.	Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Socio-demographic change has the potential to increase pressure on natural resources. Improved NRM on small holdings can improve carbon, biodiversity and water quality outcomes. Limited current knowledge (at least at finer scales) of land suitability/capability. Filling this knowledge gap will enable improved optimisation of carbon and traditional agricultural activities.
	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Climate change is likely to see significant changes in land use as new enterprises (e.g. intensive horticulture) expand placing pressure on high value natural assets.
SR 7 – Refine the approaches used by natural resource managers when planning and implementing fencing, weed control and revegetation programs to take account of changing climatic conditions.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Increased native vegetation extent and connectivity across the landscape.	Impacts of climate change will make it more difficult to establish some species. The inclusion of species more tolerant to changed conditions should increase the success of revegetation program activities and natural regeneration.
SR 8 – Support carbon sequestration through the establishment of targeted biodiverse plantings in areas that address priorities for biodiversity, land and waterway health.	Increased native vegetation extent and connectivity across the landscape. Improved water quality in the landscape system.	Option has benefits for carbon sequestration and will improve the adaptive capacity of fragmented vegetation communities as well as provision of refuge habitat in warmer drier average conditions.
		Option has benefits for carbon sequestration and will address increased threat from more frequent intense rainfall events (erosion and water quality) as well as provision of refuge habitat in warmer drier average conditions.
		Impacts of climate change will make it more difficult to establish some species. The inclusion of species more tolerant to changed conditions should increase the success of revegetation programs.

Table 10: Strzelecki Ranges adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives
continued

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
SR 9 – Manage impacts to Strzelecki Ranges ecosystems from future pressures of increased recreational use.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Rainforest ecosystems are highly sensitive to disturbance and this is likely to be amplified under future climate change.
SR 10 – Support research and investigation to address knowledge gaps.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Key knowledge gap that can be addressed through adaptive management and monitoring. Strongly linked to a range of other adaptation options.
		The nature and intensity of current threats are likely to be amplified under a drying and warming climate.
SR 11 – Investigate options to lessen the offsite impacts to water quality following extreme events (e.g. flood, fire).	Improve water quality in the landscape system. Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Implementation of best practice land management techniques will potentially lessen the offsite movement of soils, sediment and nutrients following extreme events.
SR 12 – Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. Traditional Owners’ knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.	Cultural values may be damaged or lost as the result of climate change impacts.

7.7.4 Coastal Landscapes

Table 11: Coastal Landscapes adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
CL 1 – Support coastal NRM agencies to plan for adaptation or retreat in areas impacted by sea level rise and storm surge.	Improved coastal dune system integrity. Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers. Understand the implications of the transition of Jack Smith Lake from a freshwater system to a marine system.	Options provide for adaptation and migration of highly vulnerable habitats that will be impacted by increased salinity and sea level rise and storm surge.
	Maintain integrity of biota and habitat in the marine ecosystem.	
	Understand the threats that seawalls pose to the coast and marine system in the long term.	
CL 2 – Support private land managers along the coast to adapt or make a planned retreat in areas impacted by sea level rise and storm surge.	Improved or maintained soil health.	Currently there is low appreciation of future impacts, possible options and their implications for private landholders and NRM agencies. Need to ensure high value agricultural land is identified and its protection is supported by planning schemes/ mechanisms.
	Maintain integrity of biota and habitat in the marine ecosystem.	Financial support will be required to support implementation of habitat protection/restoration works by private landholders.
CL 3 – Support carbon sequestration through the establishment of targeted biodiverse plantings in areas that address priorities for biodiversity, land and waterway health.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Riparian areas have high carbon sequestration potential and generate significant allied NRM outcomes. Establishment of shade and shelter is a possible adaptation option for landholders in response to increased temperatures. Inclusion of local native species (with broad provenance characteristics) will ensure biodiversity benefits from this option.
	Maintain integrity of biota and habitat in the marine ecosystem.	These ecosystems have high capacity for carbon sequestration.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Impacts of climate change will make it more difficult to establish some species. The inclusion of species more tolerant to changed conditions should increase the success of revegetation programs.

Table 11: Coastal Landscapes adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
CL 4 – Improve the adaptive capacity of remnant vegetation through works to increase connectivity, improve condition and protect high quality remnants.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Targeted works informed by vulnerability assessment and Biodiversity Blueprint guidelines will support cost-effective strategies for vegetation management.
		Build on current incentive and delivery programs.
CL 5 – Refine the approaches used by natural resource managers when planning and implementing fencing, weed control and revegetation programs to take account of changing climatic conditions.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Impacts of climate change will make it more difficult to establish some species. The inclusion of species more tolerant to changed conditions should increase the success of revegetation programs. Flexible and adaptive approaches, including use of different species/ provenances.
CL 6 – Support fire management programs that adopt appropriate fire regimes to manage sensitive natural assets and assist the recovery of ecological communities from bushfire.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	These assets are highly vulnerable to wildfire as a result of their sensitivity, fragmented nature and are slow to recover following disturbance.
		Integrate understanding of ecosystem vulnerability with finer scale planning of fuel reduction burning and associated strategies. It will be important to monitor outcomes and adaptively manage.
CL 7 – Support research and investigation to address knowledge gaps.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape.	Long-term monitoring programs are required to understand trends in vegetation condition – these are likely to be specific to different landscape types/ revegetation mixes.
		Establishment of novel ecosystems may improve carbon sequestration, connectivity and habitat value but carries associated risk of pest plant and animal spread.
	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Further research and demonstrations are required to better understand potential outcomes, feasibility and costs associated with these options.
CL 8 – Consider climate change impacts from sea level rise, storm surge and catchment processes in future management of estuaries.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Combined seaward impacts may have negative synergistic effects with catchment processes. These ecosystems are highly vulnerable to climate change.

Table 11: Coastal Landscapes adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
CL 9 – Support the adoption of land management practices that improve soil health and production outcomes on grazing land.	Improved or maintained soil health.	Improved management of ground cover through more adaptive grazing practices has the potential to increase soil carbon levels and improve soil health. Can support improved adaptive management of pastures and maintain ground cover during times of drought stress/extreme rainfall periods.
CL 10 – Work with Local Government and State agencies to improve environmental outcomes.	Maintained extent and quality of significant native vegetation within the landscape.	Climate change is likely to see significant changes in land use as new enterprises (e.g. intensive horticulture) expand placing pressure on high value natural assets.
CL 11 – Identify priorities and develop plan of works to improve hydrological regime of floodplain and fringing wetlands.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Options provide a mechanism to improve adaptive capacity of freshwater marshes and meadows. These are highly vulnerable as a result of sensitivity to changes in hydrology from warmer and drier conditions.
	Improve water quality in the landscape system.	Option addresses impacts resulting from increased intense rainfall events (resulting increased erosion and poor water quality) and provides a mechanism to address historic losses of freshwater marshes and meadows as a result of clearing and development.
	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Many coastal ecosystems are highly sensitive to disturbance and this is likely to be amplified under future climate change.
CL 12 – Managing impacts to sensitive coastal ecosystems from future pressures of increased recreational use.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Many coastal ecosystems are highly sensitive to disturbance and this is likely to be amplified under future climate change.
CL 13 – Investigate options to lessen the offsite impacts to water quality following extreme events (e.g. flood, fire).	Improve water quality in the landscape system. Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Implementation of best practice land management techniques will potentially lessen the offsite movement of soils, sediment and nutrients following extreme events.
CL 14 – Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. Traditional Owners’ knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.	Cultural values may be damaged or lost as the result of climate change impacts.

7.7.5 Wilsons Promontory

Table 12: Wilsons Promontory adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
WP 1 – Support coastal NRM agencies to plan for adaptation or retreat in areas impacted by sea level rise and storm surge.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Options provide for adaptation and migration of highly vulnerable habitats that will be impacted by increased salinity and sea level rise and storm surge.
WP 2 – Support fire management programs that adopt appropriate fire regimes to manage sensitive natural assets and assist the recovery of ecological communities from bushfire.	Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Option addresses potential threat to ecosystems in the alpine area from both wildfire and changed fire regimes.
		Predicted climate change is likely to increase the frequency and intensity of wildfire.
WP 3 – Improve the adaptive capacity of ecosystems in Wilsons Promontory by actively managing existing threats.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Active restoration and threat management will improve the adaptive capacity of these areas. Changes in distribution patterns of existing and new weeds and pest animals are likely under climate change. This will require active management and surveillance to protect the values of sensitive ecosystems.
		This ecosystem is highly sensitive to increased frequency of wildfire so active restoration will be required for it to persist.
WP 4 – Support research and investigation to address knowledge gaps.	Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Changes in distribution patterns of existing and new weeds and pest animals are likely under climate change.
		The nature and intensity of current threats are likely to be amplified under a drying and warming climate.
WP 5 – Manage impacts to Wilsons Promontory ecosystems from future pressures of increased recreational use.	Improved quality of native vegetation in the landscape. Improved conservation status of the threatened species and communities in the landscape.	Many coastal ecosystems are highly sensitive to disturbance and this is likely to be amplified under future climate change.
WP 6 – Consider climate change impacts from sea level rise, storm surge and catchment processes in future management of estuaries.	Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.	Combined seaward impacts may have negative synergistic effects with catchment processes. These ecosystems are highly vulnerable to climate change.

Table 12: Wilsons Promontory adaptation and mitigation strategies rationale and link to RCS objectives *continued*

Strategies	Link to RCS 20 year Objectives	Rationale
WP 7 – Investigate options to lessen the offsite impacts to water quality following extreme events (e.g. flood, fire).	<p>Improve water quality in the landscape system.</p> <p>Improved or maintained environmental condition of waterways, estuaries, wetlands and aquifers.</p>	Implementation of best practice land management techniques will potentially lessen the offsite movement of soils, sediment and nutrients following extreme events.
WP 8 – Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.	<p>Preservation of Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.</p> <p>Traditional Owners’ knowledge and aspirations are incorporated into the management of the landscape.</p>	Cultural values may be damaged or lost as the result of climate change impacts.



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