



Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS)

The Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) is the primary integrated planning framework for land, water and biodiversity in the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority region.

The RCS is updated every six years and this renewal (2022-2027) will be the fourth since 1997. As this is our fourth, we will be aiming to build on and evolve our previous RCS, and its achievements.

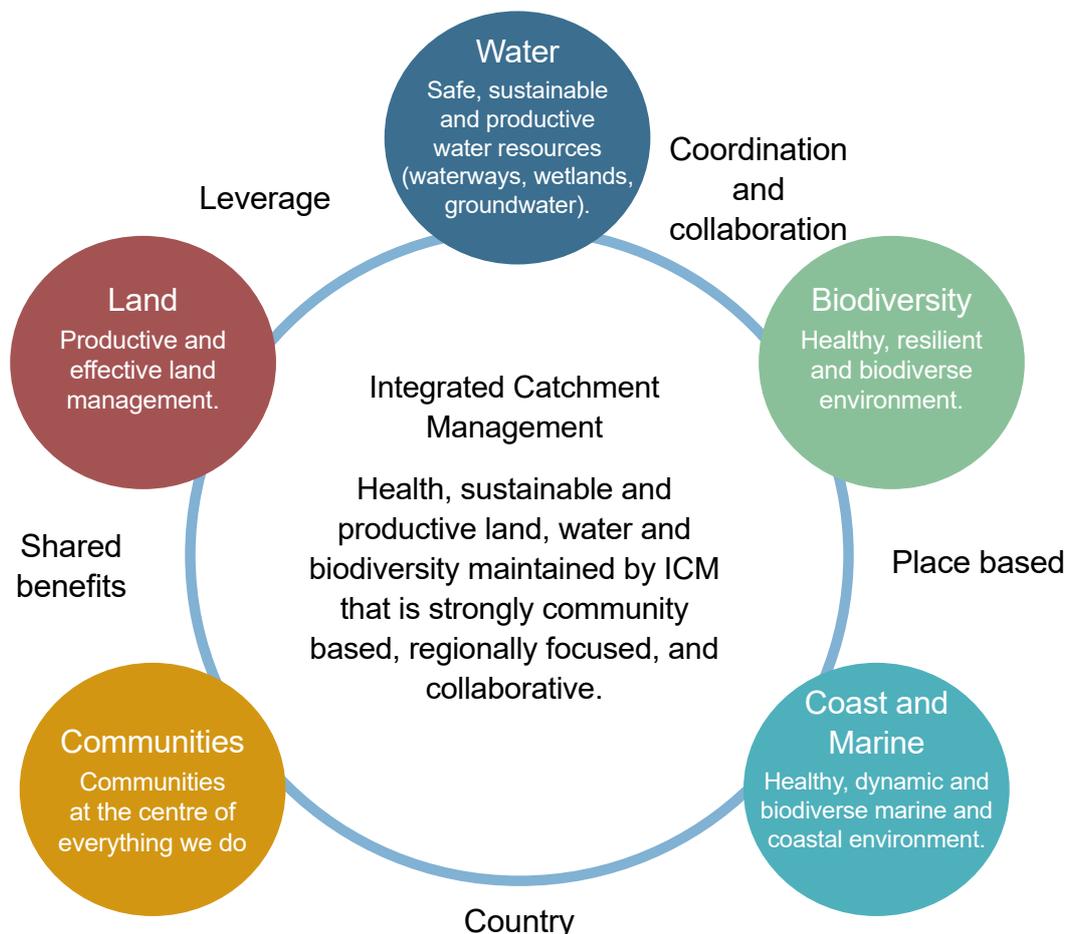
Key principles for RCS renewal

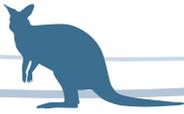
- Integrated catchment management (ICM) approach
- Regional ownership, embracing the regional delivery model, including co-delivery with partners
- Place based systems approach, at regional and local levels
- Built on strong community engagement and stakeholder partnerships
- Aboriginal cultural values and traditional ecological knowledge
- Triple bottom line approach
- Evidence based
- Flexibility to adopt new technologies and information as they arise



Integrated catchment management includes community as part of everything we do.

Integrated Catchment Management





Themes and local areas

Themes will be explored at the regional scale. The five major themes are

- water,
- land,
- biodiversity,
- coasts and marine,
- community.



Key principles for RCS renewal include strong community engagement and partnerships.

These are the building blocks of healthy and resilient environments; the focus of our integrated natural resource management.

It is recognised that these broad themes are interconnected, but they align with the way governments and other investors often plan and roll out their investment programs.

The RCS will also include a 'Local Areas' section to focus on the integration of the themes and related topics in a way that is relevant to local communities. Hence, there will be a dual approach to considering integrated catchment management in the RCS.

Who is involved?

Community and stakeholder engagement will be vital for the successful development of the RCS. We will aim to engage to meet the needs of the local communities as well as the strategic nature of the RCS.

This will include;

- Key regional stakeholders, for example Greening Australia, Trust for Nature, Traditional Owners and local and state government agencies
- Environmental and conservation groups for example Landcare Networks and groups, South Gippsland Conservation Society, Birdlife Australia,
- Industry/ farmer based groups, for example GippsDairy, VFF, MID, Latrobe Valley Authority,
- Interested community members

Keep up to date

- Quarterly updates on progress our Catchment Snapshot newsletter [subscribe on our website](#)
- Community and stakeholder workshops and meetings for local areas will be undertaken in September – November 2020.
- Draft of RCS will be available for community consultation in May 2021 for six weeks.

Want more?

If you are interested in attending community stakeholder workshops, please register your interest with Belinda Brennan, RCS Project Manager, 1300 094 262 or email belindab@wgcm.vic.gov.au



Integrated catchment management includes a healthy and biodiverse coast.