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COMMUNIQUÉ

Message from the Chair

I am proud to announce the release of the Catchment Management Authorities Actions and Achievement Report 2025.

The Victorian Catchment Management Authorities' Actions and Achievements Report 2025 delivers good news for Victoria. It showcases the achievements and outcomes of the regional integrated catchment management approach delivered through Victoria's 10 CMAs.

Our activities are improving catchment health including water quality, biodiversity, biosecurity, sustainable and resilient agriculture, climate change adaptation and mitigation and community connectedness. These are helping improve the liveability and prosperity of our regions and the wellbeing of Victorians.

This work is supported by Regional Catchments Strategies that have been built with community and Traditional Owners.

CMAs work alongside the community, supporting and responding quickly in tough times like recovering from natural disasters. Communities are central to all our work, and this coupled with our longevity and continuity are unique in the public sector and there is much to learn from our experience. It allows for a long-term vision where we look to the future and dedicate ourselves to landscape change side by side with our community.

Thank you to all our partners and our communities for working together with the CMAs to achieve these amazing outcomes.

Peter Hilbig
Chair
Vic Catchments





Actions and Achievements Report 2025

Minister's Foreword

Healthy waterways are key to thriving communities.

This is the important role Victoria's nation leading Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) play. CMAs are



embedded in the regions, working to protect and enhance our natural environment and meet human needs while contributing to social, economic, and cultural outcomes.

CMA's are delivering for regional communities, supporting farmers to thrive through innovative irrigation and pest removal, reducing the impacts of flood and erosion on communities, improving waterway recreation, and improving biodiversity to keep our communities healthy.

Partnerships and community collaboration is at the heart of this work – working alongside Traditional Owners, natural resource organisations, Landcare and the community to get the job done.

2024-2025 has been particularly challenging for our regions, with CMA's supporting communities through drought and bushfire recovery. CMA's have been on the ground – restoring, enhancing, and building resilience in catchments and communities.

Utilising their people, partnerships, knowledge and relationship CMA's have delivered more than 789,000 hectares of pest animal control and more than 194,000 hectares of weed control. Through sustainable land practices, CMA's have improved more than 4,400 hectares of agricultural land while delivering drought initiatives and employment programs.

Over 53,500 community members joined CMA-led events and CMA's supported almost 80 threatened animal and plant species including Platypus, Hooded Plovers and a range of native fish - so they are not lost on our watch.

CMA's also play a key role in supporting floodplain management - with more than 15,000 planning applications assessed and approved with specialist advice, helping to protect life and property from the impact of floods.

This important work keeps our catchments and waterways healthy, for both the environment and people - now and for future generations. The significant work outlined in this report demonstrates the value of CMA's - delivering with and for communities.

The Hon. Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Water

Statewide Figures

Highlights include:

- . 53,552 event participants
- . 65 new visitor facilities
- . 139 km of fencing
- . 2,438 ha of native vegetation enhanced
- . 194,574 hectares of weed control
- . 789,224 ha of pest animal control
- . 4,414 hectares of agricultural practices improved
- . 640 partnerships established or maintained
- . 15,000 approvals and advice given for works on waterways and floodplain management
- . 79 threatened species response actions undertaken



For the full report: [CMA A and A Report 2025](#)

Interested in your local region, please check out the regional highlights below

Corangamite CMA



2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Together with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation we helped keep the Moorabool River flowing during dry conditions through water for the environment and Wadawurrung water.

⇒ Launched Curdies River Coordinating Committee Strategic Plan 2025-2030, outlining its five-year roadmap.

⇒ Worked with Southern Farming Systems and Great South Coast Food and Fibre to implement regional drought resilience plan actions and share knowledge about climate-smart agriculture practices with farmers and industry.

For details about Corangamite CMA: [Corangamite Regional Page](#)

East Gippsland CMA

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Delivered quality projects with partners, landholders and community including completing the bushfire recovery program, supporting community through several floods and engaging with community to update the estuary opening protocols.

⇒ Supported collaborative leadership models to deliver sustainable agriculture programs. This includes coordinating the Topsoils3 program, Sustainable Agriculture Facilitator, Carbon Outreach program and the CSIRO soil monitoring program for East Gippsland.

⇒ Partnered with agencies to advance climate adaptation, including the Gippsland Lakes Room to Move project, Flagship waterways and monitoring, and renewing estuary opening protocols across the region.



For details about East Gippsland CMA: [East Gippsland Regional Page](#)

Glenelg Hopkins CMA



2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Secured \$1.62M for recovery and resilience building after the Grampians Yarram Gap Road bushfire with bank stabilisation, revegetation, riparian fence repairs, debris removal and weed control activities planned.

⇒ Created new populations of endangered grassland species, and featured in The Age and ABC Television, promoting the importance of these grasslands to the wider community through the Saving 17 Species Project.

⇒ Visited Country with amazing tour guides, where school students had unforgettable cultural heritage learning experiences and developed cultural knowledge about the Gunditjmarra

For details about Glenelg Hopkins CMA: [Glenelg Hopkins Regional Page](#)

Goulburn Broken CMA

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Released our third Reconciliation Action Plan which reinforced our continuing commitment to reconciliation as leaders who build respect, recognition, relationships and opportunity for Traditional Owners.

⇒ Launched the Shepparton Irrigation Region Land and Water Management Plan 2050 which seeks to direct investment to safeguard the land and water resources that form the foundation of a healthy irrigation region.

⇒ Assisted partner organisations to translocate threatened native fish from waterways with declining habitat and assisted in the release of Freshwater Catfish into local waterways to help establish new wild populations



For details about Goulburn Broken CMA: [Goulburn Broken Regional Page](#)

Mallee CMA

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Delivered 92% of environmental works to address key threatening processes on priority landscapes, including: 565,000 hectares pest animal control, 61,000 hectares weed control, 100 hectares revegetation and 1,200 hectares



of floodplain inundated by environmental water.

⇒ Established and maintained 56 partnership arrangements to strengthen engagement, capacity, and on-ground delivery outcomes.

⇒ Delivered 348 engagement events for 3,938 stakeholders with 99% of participants rating them as 'good' or 'excellent'

For details about Mallee CMA: [Mallee Regional Page](#)

North Central CMA

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Developed a surface-water land-management model driving a multi-aquifer groundwater model, to link the management of land, water and climate to groundwater flow systems and predict salt delivery to the stream network and the quality of the Murray River.

⇒ Helped communities recover from, and prepare for, floods by securing significant funds for flood studies, progressing better and faster planning scheme amendments, and updating modelling and communication technology.

⇒ Delivered large-scale works on waterways and environmental flows across the catchment that have provided much-needed protection and habitat improvement to a range of waterbirds, small and large bodied native fish, and the iconic platypus and rakali.



For details about North Central CMA: [North Central Regional Page](#)

North East CMA



2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Completed three flood and bushfire recovery projects with a \$2.2M investment into local contractors, landowners, businesses, and community groups to restore infrastructure, support environmental works, and partner with Traditional Owners on cultural assessments.

⇒ Involved 186 Traditional Owners /First Nations peoples from 9 groups in project planning, delivery and partnerships, including participation in Ryans Lagoon environmental watering, cultural burning and alpine protection projects.

⇒ Invested over \$600,000 in local community, producers, Landcare groups and organisations to support sustainable agriculture and practical changes in planning and responding to dry seasonal conditions and drought.

For details about North East CMA: [North East Regional Page](#)

Melbourne Water is CMA for Port Phillip Western Port Region

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Facilitated the establishment of a Nature Positive Community of Practice for Victoria's Water Corporations and CMAs providing a place to share knowledge and resources and build literacy and understanding of nature positive action.

⇒ Delivered the inaugural From the Ground Up Film Festival, hosted by Costa Georgiadis, celebrating volunteers, Landcare professionals and First Nations people caring for land, water and community and attended by 220 people.

⇒ Continued our long-standing collaborations through Living Links, Grow West and Yarra4Life, to deliver impactful habitat restoration across Port Phillip and Western Port, made possible through the collective efforts of partners.

For details about Melbourne Water: [Melbourne Water Regional Page](#)



West Gippsland CMA



2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Continued the Corner Inlet Connections project to protect Ramsar site values with 68,682 hectares of Spartina control, 7.2 hectares of saltmarsh protection and 696 hectares of pest animal control.

⇒ Committed to protecting the Eastern Hooded Plovers from extinction by controlling their number one predator through 30,388 hectares of fox control works and protecting over 40 Hooded Plover breeding sites with 50 volunteers.

⇒ Celebrated 25 years of Sustainable Irrigation in central Gippsland with over 46 gigalitres of nutrient rich water carrying an estimated 23 tonnes of phosphorus now being kept on farm every

year.

For details about West Gippsland CMA: [West Gippsland Regional Page](#)

Wimmera CMA

2024–25 Achievements

⇒ Achieved a world-first breeding of River Blackfish in captivity. Forty juveniles released into local waterways, launching a three-year recovery program to prevent extinction and restore native fish populations.

⇒ Delivered independent training to 141 land managers, helping them understand carbon farming benefits, emissions reduction, carbon storage, and market opportunities through free, trusted resources and practical decision-making support.

⇒ Identified priority drought-resilient green spaces across six municipalities, supporting regional climate adaptation, community wellbeing, and infrastructure planning under the Wimmera Southern Mallee Drought Resilience Plan.



For details about Wimmera CMA: [Wimmera Regional Page](#)

Communique

The Vic Catchments communique is produced quarterly following our Vic Catchments Meeting, it aims to keep you up to date with what is happening with Vic Catchments, priority projects, partnership projects and links to key updates.

If there are other people who would like to receive the communique, please direct them to the communique page on our website [Vic Catchments | Communiqués](#), for past issues and to sign up.

Or send Belinda an email: belinda.brennan@viccatchments.com.au and she will be happy to add you to the list.

Vic Catchments Website

If you are wanting to know more about Vic Catchments, our people, our projects, our partners and our achievement, please check out our website [Vic Catchments | Home](#)



CONTACT US

Tony Baker
Executive Officer, Vic Catchments
e: executiveofficer@viccatchments.com.au
m: 0407 840 514

Vic Catchments

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the country we work on and pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging