

CORANGAMITE CMA

annual report

2020-21



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) works on the lands, waters and seas of the Wadawurrung and Eastern Maar people and acknowledges them as Traditional Owners.

The CMA recognises and respects the diversity of their cultures and the deep connections they have with Country. It values partnerships with communities and organisations to improve the health of Indigenous people and Country.

The Corangamite CMA Board and staff pay their respect to Elders, past and present, and acknowledge and recognise the primacy of Traditional Owners' obligations, rights and responsibilities to use and care for their traditional lands, water and sea.



CHAIRMAN AND CEO FOREWORD

It is with pleasure that we present the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) 2020-21 Annual Report.

We are passionate about achieving our vision of 'healthy and productive lands and waters cared for and enjoyed by thriving communities', and we are proud that throughout the year we have achieved some excellent outcomes towards this vision.

We have continued to support, partner and encourage land managers, community groups and agencies to deliver on-ground works, which promote sustainable agriculture, protect native vegetation and threatened species, and improve waterways across the Corangamite region.

We would like to acknowledge our project partners who have contributed to the design and delivery of projects across the region. Landowner participation and investment is a vital factor which allows us to achieve results. It is because of these partnerships we have seen some excellent outcomes achieved across a variety of projects, including sustainable dairies, riparian revegetation, threatened species, agroforestry, and cover cropping projects.

Management of the Barwon Through Geelong continues to deliver positive outcomes for residents, visitors and users of the river, with over one million people enjoying the river and parklands each year. We have continued to increase the participation and experience for recreational users whilst protecting the environmental and cultural values of the river. This has been particularly important in a year that has required our community to stay close to home.

Throughout 2020-21 we have built on our commitment and investment to improving coordination and integration amongst our stakeholders to achieve even better catchment health outcomes. This is evident through the integrated projects we have delivered and by leading the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Agreement, a formalised partnership with government agencies across the region. To this end we have consolidated partnership arrangements through developing or completing memoranda of understanding with the three water authorities, strengthened links with the nine local governments and supported 152 Landcare and Friends of groups. Strengthening our partnerships with the Traditional Owner groups in the region continues to be a priority.

To continue to build coordination and integration with land managers, communities, other organisations and governments we have undertaken a significant amount of activity in 2020-21. Our partnerships are highly valued and we are proud that we have engaged with over 7,443 people and supported over 107 citizen science volunteers. Other achievements include supporting over 33km of fencing, nearly 4,247Ha of weed control and property management plans covering 3,334Ha.



We would like to acknowledge the Victorian and Australian Governments, whose investment into the region have allowed us to deliver high quality projects across land, water, biodiversity and community themes.

This year we had an investment of \$9.85m from the Victorian Government via the supply bill and other contracts, \$2.27m from the Working for Victoria Fund and \$4.74m from the Australian Government through the Regional Landcare Program. A \$895K investment from the Australian Government's Fisheries Habitat Restoration Program was also secured to support fish habitat restoration projects to improve habitat for native fish in the Barwon and Curdies Rivers and Corio Bay.

This year we commenced delivery of the Australian Government's Wild Otways Initiative and Bellarine and Surf Coast Dunecare Project. This includes successfully tendering out the five sub-projects and delivering over \$850K in community grants to support on-ground community works to protect threatened species.

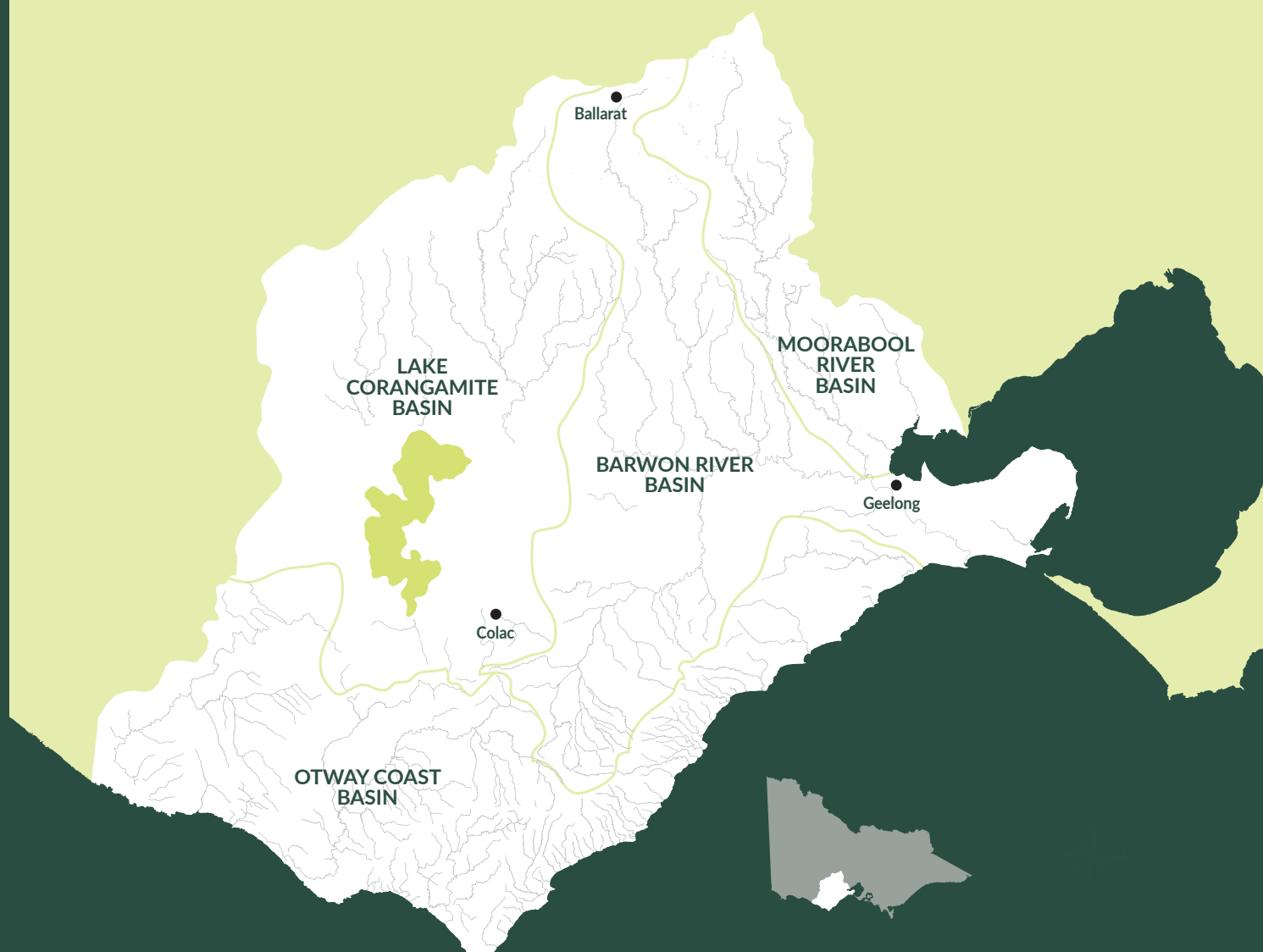
This year also saw us start a process to audit our greenhouse gas emissions and commence planning for net zero emissions.

This year we largely completed the significant work required for the redevelopment of our Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS), which is the integrated planning framework for the management of land, water and biodiversity resources across the region. This work included collaboration with the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Group to deliver a comprehensive community engagement program. This program delivered 18 online community workshops across nine landscape systems. Just over 200 people attend the workshops, with 44% being community participants. These workshops underpinned the drafting of both the regional and landscape system scale objectives and priority directions.

Finally, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has continued to present challenges for the organisation and our community. We have continued to deliver successfully on our projects and have adapted our delivery model and approaches to continue to support stakeholder participation and improve accessibility to our programs. We would like to thank the Board members and staff for their efforts in this challenging time, to help us protect and improve the health of the region's natural resources.

Alice Knight
Chair

John Riddiford
CEO



The Corangamite CMA Region

The
catchment is
13,340
square kilometres


175
kilometres of
coastline

152
community-based
volunteer groups



15,960
kilometres of
waterways

Approximately
446,000
people live in the
catchment

ABOUT THE REGION

The Corangamite CMA region in south-west Victoria is home to approximately 446,000 people. Its landscape is geographically diverse with spectacular coasts, vast volcanic plains and the soaring old growth forests of the Otways.

The catchment is 13,340 square kilometres, stretching from Ballarat to Geelong and along the coast to Peterborough in the west. Its landscape supports strong agriculture and forestry sectors, with 78% of the land privately owned, the remaining 22% publicly owned.

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It contains lakes and wetlands of national and international significance. Four river basins define the region:

- Moorabool
- Barwon
- Lake Corangamite
- Otway Coast.

Nine municipalities are part of Corangamite: the cities of Geelong and Ballarat, the Borough of Queenscliffe and the shires of Colac Otway, Surf Coast, Golden Plains, Corangamite, Moorabool and Moyne.

FORMATION

The Corangamite CMA was formed by an Order in Council on 23 June 1997, to take effect from 1 July 1997, to oversee the management of land and water resources.

The Corangamite CMA's formation was based on an understanding and commitment to the sustainable use, conservation and restoration of those resources across the Corangamite CMA region.

The Corangamite CMA is established under the *Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Act 1994*.

On the same date, the Otway Region Water Authority was abolished and its responsibilities and ownership pertaining to the Lough Calvert drainage district was transferred to the Corangamite CMA.

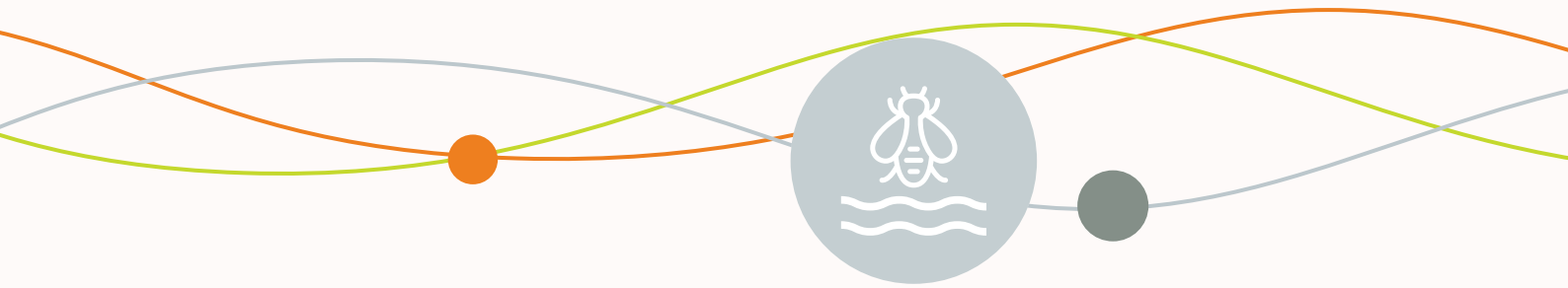
CORANGAMITE CMA'S ROLE

The Corangamite CMA's role, in accordance with the *CaLP Act 1994* and the *Water Act 1989* Statement of Obligations, is to:

- Identify priority activities and programs for implementation under the RCS
- Ensure community involvement in regional decision making and provide advice to the Victorian and Australian governments on priorities and allocation of resources
- Work with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) to ensure work is coordinated with the Corangamite CMA and aligned with the goals of the RCS
- Establish and support community committees for RCS implementation and provide services relating to integrated waterway, floodplain and drainage management for the protection, maintenance and improvement of river health
- Provide direct service provision responsibility for waterway management, floodplain management and regional drainage functions (the Corangamite CMA has these provisions under parts seven and ten of the *Water Act 1989*)
- Provide advice to government on regional priorities, guidelines for integrated management of resources and matters relating to catchment management, land protection and the condition of land and water resources
- Comply with legislative requirements.

The relevant ministers for the period of this annual report:

From 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 were the Hon Lisa Neville MP, Minister for Water and the Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. The Hon Richard Wynne MP has been acting Minister for Water from 15 February until 30 June 2021.



SECTION 1

Year in review

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VISION VALUES AND APPROACH

OUR VISION FOR THE CORANGAMITE REGION

The Corangamite CMA wants the natural resources and environmental values of our region protected, maintained and improved for generations to come.

We believe that healthy ecosystems create productive land, soil, water and biodiversity within our catchment and are essential for the environmental, social and economic health of the communities in our region and beyond. The Corangamite CMA also believes that engaged, healthy, thriving and connected communities, who actively care for the environment and its natural resources, are imperative to ensure the long-term health of our catchments.

As such our vision for the Corangamite Region is:

Our Vision:

Healthy and productive lands and waters
cared for and enjoyed by thriving communities.

.....

OUR PURPOSE

The Corangamite CMA is a statutory authority of the Victorian Government. Our roles and functions are defined in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and the *Water Act 1989*.

The key objectives of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* are to:

- Enable integrated and coordinated management of catchments which will:
 - Maintain and enhance the long-term land productivity while also conserving the environment; and
 - Ensure the quality of Victoria's land and water resources and their associated plant and animal life are maintained and enhanced
- Provide for the control of noxious weeds and pest animals
- Encourage and support participation of landholders, resource managers and community members in catchment management and land protection.

The key objectives of the *Water Act 1989* are to:

- Enable integrated management of the terrestrial phase of water
- Encourage and support participation of landholders, resource managers and community members in catchment management and land protection
- Promote orderly, equitable and efficient use of water resources and make sure that water resources are conserved and properly managed for sustainable use for the benefit of present and future Victorians
- Provide for the protection and enhancement of environmental qualities of waterways and their instream uses, and for the protection of catchment conditions
- Maximise community involvement in the making and implementation of arrangements for the use, conservation and management of water resources.

Our purpose:

To be the regional leader working with land managers, communities, other organisations and governments to protect and improve the health of the region's natural resources (water, soils, biodiversity) to improve the health and sustainable productivity of the Corangamite region.

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Our roles and functions are also shaped by various government policies including the Water for Victoria water plan, the Our Catchments, Our Communities policy and Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037, and by our Statement of Obligations and the Minister for Water's Letter of Expectations.

To achieve the desired integrated catchment management outcomes for the Victorian Government at a local level, we involve communities in the preparation and implementation of regional strategies and plans.

These strategies and plans seek to integrate community values and regional priorities with state and federal legislation and policies that enable and support local solutions and action.

The Corangamite CMA seeks to align its Vision and Purpose to activities that will achieve these strategic outcomes. It does so utilising the framework outlined on the following page.



VISION

Health and productive lands and waters cared for and enjoyed by thriving communities.

DOMAIN (SUCCESS COMPONENT OF THE VISION)

There are sufficient people and resources committed to actively improving the health, protection and sustainability of the environment and natural resources.

OUTCOMES

Biodiversity; Waterways; Land; Partnerships; Participation; Climate change adaptation; CCMA leadership.

OUR PURPOSE

To be the regional leader working with land managers, communities, other partners and governments to protect and improve the health of the region's natural resources (water, soils, biodiversity) to improve the health and sustainable productivity of the Corangamite region.

OUR APPROACH

Enabling, Collaboration and inclusion, Sustainability, Learning and continuous improvement, Health and well-being, Leadership, VPS Values and Behaviours.

OUR STRATEGIES

Build capability and capacity, Effective and demonstrated delivery, Attract investment, Regional leadership, People and Safety. Knowledge growth, Breadth and depth of participation, Partnerships, Integration and coordination, Broad base of resourcing, Regional MERI and planning, adapting for climate change, Staff and organisational development, Considered risk taking, Strong governance and business management.

OUTPUTS

DELWP Standard Outputs, Letter of Expectation measures and Business Strategy Performance Indicators.

ACTIVITIES

Programs and projects.

INPUTS

OUR APPROACH, VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

The approach we take is critical to our success. We have based our approach on the seven elements:

- Enabling
- Collaboration and inclusion
- Sustainability
- Learning and continuous improvement
- Health and wellbeing
- Leadership
- The Victorian Public Sector Values and Behaviours.

ENABLING

The work of looking after the catchments is largely done by land managers, Traditional Owners, communities, individuals and our partners; businesses and non-government organisations. Our role is to support, encourage and enable this and to help maximise the results of their work. We do this by listening to what they need and building capacity; providing, collecting and sharing knowledge; collaborating and building partnerships; linking people and partners; providing access to resources; and encouraging investment and guiding. We also play an important regional role in supporting governments to achieve the objectives and outcomes of their policies, legislation and investments.

The Corangamite CMA seeks to play a greater role in brokering funding for projects within the region and supporting increased investment for the region from a broader range of funding sources.

COLLABORATION AND INCLUSION

By partnering, cooperating and supporting others, we will achieve much greater results than if we work independently. We know that we need as many people as possible involved and engaged, and that there will be many different viewpoints and ideas on priorities and solutions. We value co-design and co-delivery of our processes to ensure everyone is heard, involved and valued, and that their contributions are acknowledged and celebrated. We also recognise the diversity in our communities and aim for our service delivery, communications and projects to ensure equity of access.

SUSTAINABILITY

Looking after the catchments is a long-term goal. We want our environment to be healthy now and for future generations. We want our lands to be able to produce water, food and fibre sustainably in the future. Protecting and improving the environment and natural resources requires action now and sustained long-term action. This requires immediate and sustained commitment from our communities and partners. The way we work and the work that we do will always focus on achieving sustainable outcomes. We ensure that our own behaviours and operations support sustainable resource use and environmental protection. This will include moving towards Carbon Neutrality and ensuring our procurement practices consider impacts on the environment.

LEARNING AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Looking after the environment and our natural resources is a complex task, and no one has all the answers now or for a rapidly changing future. We must therefore be constantly learning, adapting and improving. Everything we do won't always work as expected; quickly and openly learning from failure is as important as celebrating and building on successes. Our personal learning and continuous improvement are critical for our performance, growth and development.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

A healthy catchment both supports, and is dependent on, healthy communities; through our work, we aim to improve both. We also recognise that a healthy and successful Corangamite CMA is dependent on, and needs to support, healthy staff and directors. We aim to have a workplace and relationships that care for the health of our team and enhance their wellbeing.

LEADERSHIP

We aim to be a trusted and respected leader in environmental and natural resource management in our region by providing specialist expertise and delivery, thought leadership, support, coordination and enabling roles. We aim to be recognised for excellence, high performance and leading-edge approaches. We will also demonstrate personal leadership at all times and at all levels.

VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

The Corangamite CMA is committed to being a high performing organisation, with excellent staff working in a productive and healthy culture that delivers great service for the community on behalf of the Victorian and Australian governments. To do this we embrace and model the Victorian Public Sector Values and Behaviours:

- Responsiveness
 - Providing frank, impartial and timely advice to the Government
 - Providing high quality services to the Victorian community
 - Identifying and promoting best practice.
- Integrity
 - Being honest, open and transparent
 - Using powers responsibly
 - Reporting improper conduct
 - Avoiding any real or apparent conflicts of interest
 - Striving to earn and sustain public trust of a high level.
- Impartiality
 - Making decisions and providing advice on merit and without bias, caprice, favouritism or self interest
 - Acting fairly by objectively considering all relevant facts and fair criteria
 - Implementing Government policies and programs equitably.
- Accountability
 - Working to clear objectives in a transparent manner
 - Accepting responsibility for decisions and actions
 - Seeking to achieve best use of resources
 - Submitting to appropriate scrutiny.
- Respect
 - Treating others fairly and objectively
 - Ensuring freedom from discrimination, harassment and bullying
 - Using the views of others to improve outcomes on an ongoing basis.

- Human Rights
 - Making decisions and providing advice consistent with human rights
 - Actively implementing, promoting and supporting human rights.

The Corangamite CMA
is a respected and trusted regional leader in
catchment health and management.

CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN NRM IN THE CORANGAMITE REGION

The Corangamite NRM Plan for Climate Change provides guidance to the Corangamite CMA and other regional NRM agencies in developing adaptation and mitigation actions to address the impact of climate change on our region's natural ecosystems.

The Corangamite CMA has partnered with the state's water corporations and other CMAs as part of the Statewide Carbon Sequestration Analysis project and continues to be involved in DELWP's Regional Adaptation Strategies (Barwon South West and Grampians) as well as continuing to maintain and promote the South West Climate Change Portal. An exciting initiative in which Corangamite CMA has also been involved in the past 12 months has been the formation of the Barwon South West Climate Alliance in partnership with regional water corporations and local councils.



Highlights



517

COMMUNITY
EVENTS

SUPPORTED LANDOWNERS
WITH PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
PLANS COVERING



3,334Ha

OVER

\$1.21m

IN GRANTS AWARDED



1,346



REFERRALS
RECEIVED:

742 FLOOD ADVICE

528 PLANNING REFERRALS

78 WORKS ON WATERWAY PERMITS



7,443

PARTICIPANTS



33km

OF FENCING



4,247Ha

WEED CONTROL

107

WATERWATCH
AND ESTUARYWATCH
CITIZEN SCIENTISTS



3,097ml

OF ENVIRONMENTAL
WATER DELIVERED



COVID-19

The impact of COVID-19 has continued to present challenges to the community and to the Corangamite CMA as we have sought to keep our staff and community safe, and comply with restrictions whilst continuing with the important program work we do. We have maintained and implemented our CCMA COVIDSafe Plan and continue to follow direction and advice from the Victorian Government and the Victorian Chief Medical Officer.

Despite the restrictions imposed on program delivery by COVID-19, the majority of program activities were successfully delivered. Whilst 40% of face-to-face engagement activities were impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, much activity was safely delivered through virtual mediums or in person with social distancing. Some community engagement and on-ground activities could not be undertaken in an alternate way, as they required close physical proximity of participants. Such activities were postponed, and our investors advised of the impacts.

Over the period of COVID-19 we have continued to monitor staff wellbeing, including:

- Ensuring all staff have the correct working from home office setup and have a Working from Home Safe Work Method Statement completed
- Regular check-ins by managers with staff
- Establishment of the virtual staff chat site and virtual morning teas
- Weekly virtual CEO catchups
- Reviewing controls in relation to community interactions
- Regular communication to staff from the CEO, including reminders around hygiene and also discussing mental health including support available (e.g. Employee Assistance Program).

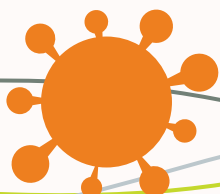
As identified by our Board and Staff there have been a number of key learnings from COVID-19. These include:

- COVID-19 has provided the opportunity to maximise how we work with our partners through a combination of digital and face to face meetings and collaborations
- The work-place does not always have to be the office. Greater flexibility can benefit both the organisation and staff. Alternatively working from home can reduce collaboration, create a loss of interpersonal learnings and lead to disconnection. However a balance is desirable
- Engagement does not always need to be face to face; there are efficiencies and benefits with using online methods

- A lack of face to face engagement does have its negatives such as reduced ability to build relationships and difficulties connecting with those who are not strong technology users or who feel increasingly 'bombaraded' with technology. It is progressive more difficult to engage the larger the group
- Working for Victoria and the Youth Employment Program have provided good examples of how opportunities for NRM in our region can be created from an unprecedented challenge
- COVID-19 has created in many a greater appreciation of outdoor spaces
- There can be environmental benefits to be harvested such as reduced travel and less printing
- COVID-19 has placed a greater emphasis and focus on mental health. The impact has been both positive (more worklife balance and time with family, development of social work channels) and negative (isolation, decreased boundary between work and homelife)
- Government trends for investment continues towards reducing core services but with additional opportunities for one-off investment
- Online methods of engagement with investors are limited where relationships need to continue to be developed and outcomes demonstrated
- We have been relatively successful in delivering on our project outputs through a mixture of adapting programs/delivery and due to the strength of our relationships with existing land managers and other partners.

The management of our ongoing COVID-19 response will be governed and managed in accordance with Government directives and advice and the implementation of our COVIDSafe plan. We have the technology infrastructure in place to work from home where required and engage online with our partners and community. Technology such as Microsoft Teams allow us to maintain regular contact with our staff, community, contractors and other agencies. To date we have been able to successfully run Board and Committee meetings remotely. A tightening of restrictions would impact some activities involving community engagement and on-ground activities. Where activities require close physical proximity and alternative methods are not available, we may postpone those activities and advise our investors of any impacts.

Following the finalisation of our EC5 bids and the existing RLP projects in place, we are confident that we have sufficient cash flow and reserves to manage any further impacts of COVID-19 over the coming year.



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

This year the Corangamite CMA was successful in securing project funds for eight graduate positions across the organisation for a period of 12 months through the Working for Victoria Youth Employment Fund. The program has supported key areas within the CMA that were struggling with resources.

The Working for Victoria (WV) Fund was established to provide jobs for unemployed Victorians, including those impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19). The WV Public Sector Youth Employment Program (YEP) was developed in partnership with the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) and is one of the Victorian Government's major employment initiatives. It employs young people in the public sector, providing them with valuable experience and training that will equip them for ongoing employment in other roles.

A CMA graduate program has been delivered to accelerate the graduates' development and provide them with a great training environment and experience. This program supports the graduates with a weekly meeting and a mentoring program.

The CMA Graduates have brought youthful energy and fresh perspectives, and are making valuable contributions to their teams and the organisation as a whole.

Key activities they have supported include:

- Floodplain Team in managing permits and referrals
- Improvements to the data held in the new Asset Management System and supporting events management
- Implementation of D365FO
- Development of the Regional Catchment Strategy and supporting Flagship projects
- Development of Seasonal Watering Proposals and delivery of estuary statutory functions
- Communications and the redesign of our website
- Records digitisation
- Delivery of Biodiversity and Wild Otways projects
- Delivery of Citizen Science program.

"I've been working on the six-year renewal of the *Regional Catchment Strategy*. It's been a fantastic experience to work on the implementation strategy and community consultation process. From compiling research, facilitating community sessions and administrating the process, I've learnt a lot!"

Alexandra Lacey,
Environmental Management Graduate

"I've been working on the *Seasonal Water Proposal*, a community-based research proposal that decides how the CCMA will use their environmental entitlement for water. It's so important because it's something that's helping the platypus and the fish – I can see the positive effects in the region through my work!"

Rhiannon Glover,
Estuaries and Environmental Water Graduate



Regional contributions

CATCHMENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The Catchment Partnership Agreement is a partnership between government agencies to strengthen coordination, collaboration and accountability; reduce duplication; and provide clarity on roles and responsibilities. The Corangamite CMA is the chair of the Corangamite CPA, which currently has 18 signatories. This year the CPA has been focused on the Renewal of the Regional Catchment Strategy as its priority project.

PARTNER MoUS

This year, the Corangamite CMA has worked on delivering Joint Action Plans with Barwon Water and Central Highlands Water and has commenced a similar process with Wannon Water.

Corangamite CMA has also continued to work under an established MoU with Regional Roads Victoria to repurpose timber from roads projects as instream habitat for native fish.

A MoU was also established between Corangamite CMA, the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, Parks Victoria and DELWP to support the successful delivery of the Wild Otways Initiative.

These agreements clearly define the roles, responsibilities, shared priorities, and key partnership commitments between these organisations and the Corangamite CMA.

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT

The Corangamite CMA actively participates in three Integrated Water Management Forums and their associated workshop groups across the region. These include the Barwon, Central Highlands Water and the Great South Coast. All three have delivered their Strategic Directions Statements.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NETWORK

The Corangamite Community Engagement Network (CEN) was established this year with 22 inaugural community members, representing all landscape systems and a diverse background of skills, experiences, and knowledge.

The CEN has been established to:

- Strengthen community understanding of the CMA's role in natural resource management
- Identify community needs, issues and barriers to participation
- Provide community perspectives into the CMA's strategies, plans and project
- Increase community advocacy and support for improved natural resource management.

RCS RENEWAL

The Renewal of the Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS), an integrated planning framework for the management of land, water and biodiversity resources across the region, was delivered in collaboration with the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Agreement. Via a dedicated working group, the CPA developed the draft regional outcomes, and delivered a comprehensive community engagement program to inform the drafting of both the regional and landscape system scale objectives and priority directions.

GRASSY EUCALYPT WOODLANDS CULTURAL BURNING PROGRAM

The Cultural Burning Program supports Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) to conduct cultural burns on public and private land. This project aims to improve the understanding of the use of cultural burning as a management tool in Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and embed Traditional Owner practices into natural resource management. The program is a partnership between land managers and stakeholders including the Corangamite CMA, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Golden Plains Shire Council, CFA and private landholders.

PAINKALAC CREEK PARTNERSHIP

An ongoing partnership agreement between Corangamite CMA and Barwon Water supports a coordinated approach to releases of water from the Painkalac Reservoir for environmental benefits in the creek and estuary. Releases from the reservoir occur throughout the year to mimic natural flows for environmental and recreational benefits. The timing of releases can be adapted to coincide with an artificial opening of the Painkalac Creek mouth by the Surf Coast Shire Council, to help sustain an open estuary mouth and lower the risk of fish deaths.



Achievements, Operational Performance & Key Initiatives

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL CONDITION

This section provides an assessment of the current state of the region's environment, and a reflection of why management interventions are being directed towards different assets, as well as the impact of natural events. A key factor in monitoring the state of the catchment and prevailing climatic conditions is to help inform strategic actions. The assessment provided for each theme (detailed in Table 1) describes the level of confidence that catchment managers have for their catchment area in the future given the events of the previous 12 months, such as recently delivered interventions (i.e. protection or restoration works) or as result of the prevailing climatic conditions. The assessment is based on the best available evidence for each theme, including expert advice.

As per the previous annual report, the relevant parameters were continued in this annual assessment as some State monitoring programs are not repeated on an annual basis. Rubrics were again used for each theme to ensure a transparent judgement of annual condition.

In Victoria there are five applicable catchment condition themes: waterways, biodiversity, land, coast and community. These are assessed using the matrix in Table 1 and the summary of assessment for 2020-21 is in Table 2. More detailed assessment for each theme is presented within the highlight discussion for each theme that follows.

In Victoria there are five applicable catchment condition themes: waterways, biodiversity, land, coast and community.

TABLE 1: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR ANNUAL REPORTING

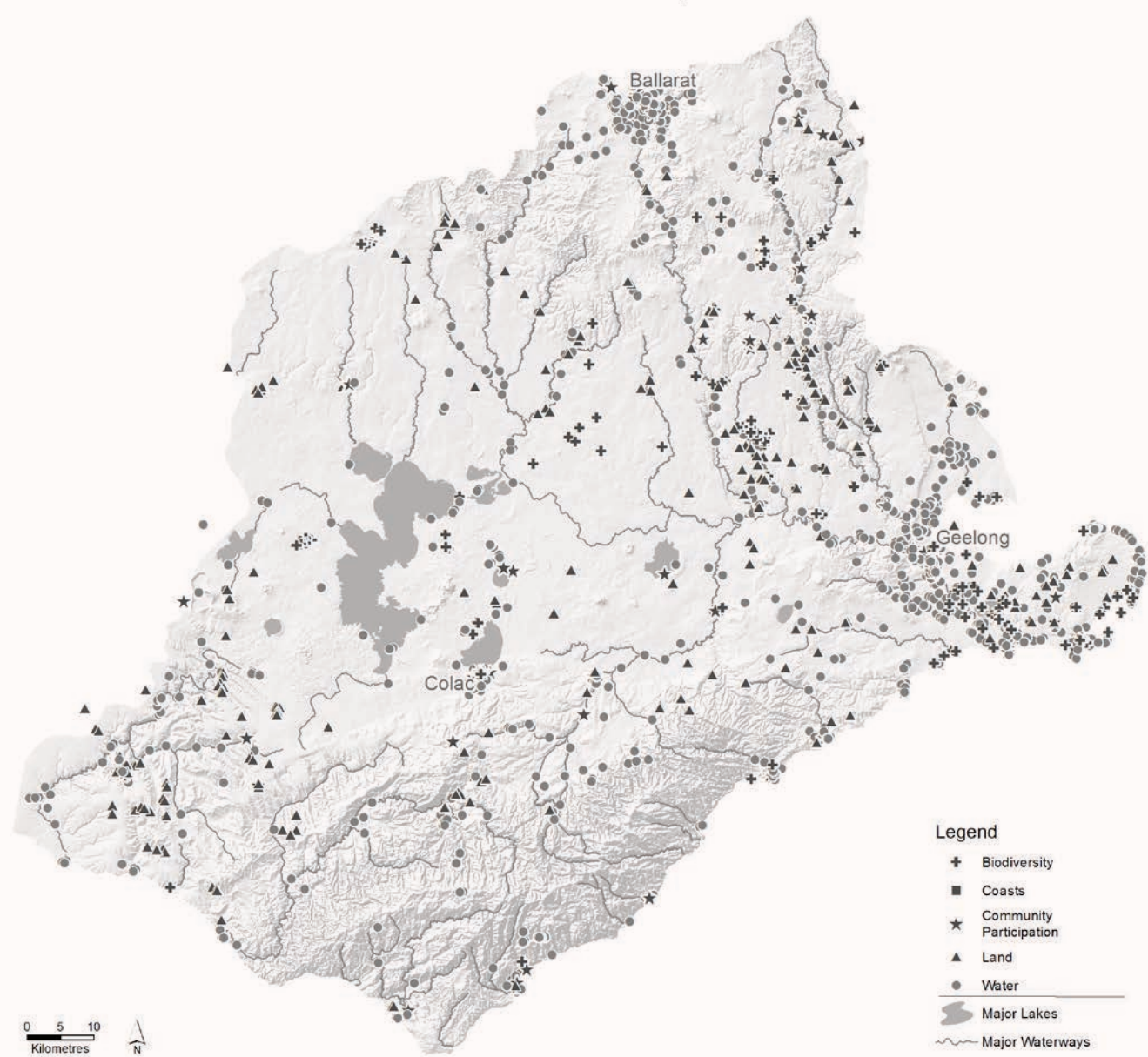
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA		
↑	1. Positive	An optimistic future, with evidence that events during the year will have a positive impact on the longer term.
→	2. Neutral	A largely neutral state, where events during the year may have been significant but are within expected variation and will have little impact in the longer term.
↘	3. Concerned	A level of concern, that significant events during the year may have an adverse impact in the longer term.
↓	4. Highly concerned	A high level of concern, that significant events during the year are likely to have an adverse impact in the longer term.

TABLE 2: SUMMARY CATCHMENT ASSESSMENTS FOR EACH THEME

THEME	2018-19 CONDITION ASSESSMENT	2019-20 CONDITION ASSESSMENT	2020-21 CONDITION ASSESSMENT	SUMMARY CONDITION ASSESSMENT 2020-21
Waterways	Neutral →	Neutral →	Neutral →	While there were periods of low rainfall and high rainfall, overall the season was wet; in particular it was a wetter than an average summer. There has been continued investment in enhancing waterways through riparian management as well as using the limited formal entitlements as effectively as possible to achieve environmental flow outcomes. Water quality parameters have slightly improved on the previous year. The impacts of disasters such as bushfire are evident with impacts on riparian remnant vegetation, however this has remained neutral for 2020-21 with no major bushfires in the Corangamite catchment, but the June storms and local flooding at various times has damaged some revegetation sites.
Land	Concerned ↘	Concerned ↘	Concerned ↘	The 2020 year was the fourth-warmest year on record for Australia, with Victoria experiencing its third-warmest spring on record, and the rainfall in summer 2020-21 being significantly above average. While climatic conditions in combination with challenges related to managing soils at farm scale and managing the impact of land use will all impact on the land assessment, the Corangamite CMA continues to work in a partnership approach to enhance sustainable agriculture practices in the region.
Coasts	Concerned ↘	Neutral →	Neutral →	While there are management practices in place, estuary water quality was stable and there was an increase in saltmarsh, the coasts and estuaries of the region face significant challenges associated with the threats posed by climate change as well as population, land-use and developmental pressures on the natural values of these assets.
Biodiversity	Concerned ↘	Concerned ↘	Concerned ↘	<p>The biodiversity of the region faces challenges associated with addressing and reversing continued land clearing, changing land use, urban development pressures and climate change stresses. The Corangamite CMA and other organisations undertake work to manage biodiversity and are achieving a positive trend in native vegetation extent, however the overall hectares are still very small in relation to the extent of cleared land and impacted biodiversity.</p> <p>The 2020-21 year has experienced some ongoing delays in works funded under the Regional Land Partnerships program due to COVID-19 restrictions. These projects are in the early stages of implementation and the biodiversity outcomes will not be seen for some time.</p>
Community	Positive ↑	Positive ↑	Positive ↑	Communities in the Corangamite region continue to be active participants in natural resource management activities. Participation rates are steady. Programs continue to focus on engagement of communities, particularly Traditional Owner groups, and new participants, and the organisation has been successful in delivering online engagement activities. The Corangamite CMA continues to be an active participant or lead in relevant regional forums with partners.

Figure 1 highlights the diversity of activities undertaken across the Corangamite region in 2020-21 by the various projects for each of the themes that are discussed in more detail below.

FIGURE 1: MAP OF THE REGION HIGHLIGHTING WHERE PROJECT ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE THEMES HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKEN





Waterways

Waterways, and the aquatic terrestrial ecosystems that they support, are the most notable characteristics of the Corangamite region. The major waterway systems of the Barwon and associated Leigh and Moorabool rivers, the Western District Lakes and the Great Ocean Road waterways are unique and integral to the environmental, economic and social values of the region.

The Corangamite CMA is the regional caretaker of waterway health and is responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of management actions to conserve and enhance waterways. Table 3 identifies the water projects undertaken by the Corangamite CMA in 2020-21, with the outcome and priority policy areas linking the project contribution to the Corporate Plan.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Otway and Coastal Waterway Restoration Delivers major works and other priority actions to protect and enhance the rivers and estuaries within the region's coastal zone including the region's Great Ocean Road in line with the Corangamite Waterway Strategy. Includes accelerated riparian activities under the Regional Riparian Action Plan.	Waterways Biodiversity Participation Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Protect waterways within special water supply catchments • Maintain resilience of aquatic flora/fauna to variable climate conditions • Sustain populations of threatened native fish.
Barwon and Corangamite Waterway Restoration Delivers major works and other priority actions to protect and enhance the rivers and wetlands of Barwon, Moorabool and Corangamite Basins in line with the Corangamite Waterway Strategy. Includes accelerated riparian activities under the Regional Riparian Action Plan and delivery of works for the Rivers 2040 trial site.	Waterways Biodiversity Participation Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost Effective solutions • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Protect waterways within special water supply catchments • Maintain resilience of aquatic flora/fauna to variable climate conditions • Sustain populations of threatened native fish.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Corangamite Environmental Water Management Delivers the Corangamite CMA's Environmental Water Reserve functions under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> and corresponding CMA Statement of Obligations. Includes additional activities aimed at improving and demonstrating outcomes, shared benefits and community engagement.	CCMA Leadership Waterways	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of riverine and estuarine floodplains Protect community infrastructure and values.
Barwon Tidal Barrage Upgrade/ Construction This project will replace the existing Lower Barwon Tidal Barrage Weir with a new structure and fishway on the southern bank.	Waterways Biodiversity	Waterway & catchment health Recreational values Water for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values.
Recreation Water Initiative - Barwon River Multi Use Platforms This project will install multi use and accessible platforms along the Barwon River allowing for increased passive recreation, fishing, canoe launching, motor board berthing and dog swimming. It will also add increased rowing access for the Rowing Precinct and improved trail access to new river facilities.	Waterways Partnerships	Recreational Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values.
Disaster Recovery Actions for Barwon South-West Fires The Barwon South West Fires started on Saturday 17 March 2018 and burnt more than 14,600 hectares, 24 houses and 57 sheds. This project will provide recovery assistance to reinstate vegetation and fencing near significant waterways impacted by the fire in the Corangamite region.	Waterways	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values Partnerships have increased NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values.
Flood Mapping of the Woody Yaloak and Lough Calvert Drainage Schemes This project will capture the data (lidar and hydrology) required to completed detailed flood studies of both Corangamite CMA managed rural drainage schemes.	Waterways CCMA Leadership	Climate change Waterway & catchment health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge and improved practices Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions.
The Living Moorabool The Living Moorabool Project is a strategic river management framework for planning, communicating and implementing long-term waterway work programs at a waterway or catchment scale. This project is a partnership with Barwon Water.	Waterways CCMA Leadership Biodiversity Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge and improved practices Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Reedy Lake Outlet Fishway (construction) Delivers the construction of a fishway and new regulator on the Reedy Lake outlet channel to improve fish and eel passage between Reedy Lake and the Barwon River and improve the ability to manage water levels in Hospital Swamps and reduce the risk of private land inundation following major inflow events.	Waterways	Waterway & catchment health Recreational values Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values.
Corangamite Regional Drainage Support The Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme and Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme have been allocated funding to support the avoidance or minimisation of impacts of rural drainage on environmental and cultural values through the development of environmental and cultural management plans. This process will provide guidance and build the capacity of land managers implementing improved management of rural drainage whilst cultural and environmental values are protected with increased efficiency.	Waterways	Water for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and activities informed by TO skills and knowledge.
Aire Valley Estuary Floodplain Project This project is to be focused on providing recommendations that can be used to inform the times of year when the Aire Valley estuary should not be artificially opened to protect human assets, focusing on minimising the risks on the environment of this human intervention. This project presents an exciting opportunity to change the landscape of the Aire Valley estuary floodplain, and in the process deliver improved outcomes for landholders, the environment and recreational use.	CCMA Leadership	Waterway & catchment Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased knowledge and improved practices Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values Maintain extent & improve quality of wetlands Maintain quality & extent of high value coastal assets.
Construction of the lower Barwon Barrage Fishway This project will construct a fishway on the southern bank of the lower Barwon Barrage.	Waterways	Waterway & catchment health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustain populations of threatened native fish.
Upper Barwon Landholder Study The purpose of this project is to engage BehaviourWorks Australia to investigate landholder attitudes and beliefs, along the upper Barwon River, towards riparian management and understand what might motivate them to improve their land management practices.	Waterways Planning and Management Community benefits Partnerships Participation and investment	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Water for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships have increased Aggregate investment has increased Joint priorities identified and pursued Effective integrated NRM Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost Effective solutions Increased knowledge and improved practices Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions Increase landholders in NRM and sustainable agriculture good practices.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Stewardship Best Practice Study</p> <p>Working with DELWP this program will conduct a stewardship best practice study as part of the Our Catchment Our Communities program.</p>	<p>Planning and management</p> <p>Partnerships</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective integrated NRM.
<p>Analysis of the social and economic values dependent on a flowing Barwon River through Geelong.</p> <p>This project will comprise:</p> <p>Part 1. Significance of flows in the Barwon River. Analyse and quantify the risks of future climate change scenarios on the flows in the Barwon River, under a 'do nothing' flows scenario and assess the impacts/benefits of potential water recovery on water quality and other flow dependent values.</p> <p>Part 2. Social and economic values of the Barwon River through Geelong. An investigation and analysis of the social and economic values that are derived from the river's ecosystem and natural capital.</p>	<p>Waterways</p> <p>Planning and management</p> <p>Community benefits</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Participation and investment</p>	<p>Climate change</p> <p>Waterway & catchment health</p> <p>Recreational values</p> <p>Resilient & liveable cities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint priorities identified and pursued • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values • Effective integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Maintain resilience of aquatic flora/fauna to variable climate conditions • Sustain populations of threatened native fish • Maintain extent & improve quality of wetlands • Key populations threatened flora and fauna are resilient and secure • Maintain quality & extent of high value coastal assets.
<p>Gellibrand Catchment Plan (Wannon Water)</p> <p>The aim of this project is to create a catchment plan for the Gellibrand River in partnership with Wannon Water and engaging with other key stakeholders. The integrated waterway health plan will set the priority projects for on-going co-investment in the Gellibrand.</p> <p>The first stage of the project will be a synthesis conducted through Deakin Uni of the existing information in the system to understand current condition and threats. The second stage will be to use this information to inform prioritisation of management actions.</p>	<p>Waterways</p> <p>Planning and management</p> <p>Community benefits</p> <p>Biodiversity</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Participation and investment</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health</p> <p>Community engagement & partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships have increased • Aggregate investment has increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions.
<p>Barwon Parklands Strategy Support</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to support the development of the Barwon Parklands Strategy. The Waterway Programs Branch is funding the Corangamite CMA for a position to support the implementation of the Barwon Parklands Strategy. The funding will enable the CMA to engage a project manager to develop a business case for the strategy and support the activities of the Barwon Parklands Strategy Working Group.</p> <p>The position will also support the Barwon Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on matters relating to the Barwon Parklands Strategy.</p>	<p>CCMA</p> <p>Leadership</p> <p>Partnerships</p> <p>Waterways</p> <p>Participation</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health</p> <p>Recreational Values</p> <p>Aboriginal cultural values</p> <p>Resilient and liveable cities</p> <p>Community engagement & partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships have increased • Retain the ecological function of waterways and protect community infrastructure and values • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective Integrated NRM.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Caretaker of Waterway Health</p> <p>This project oversees and provides governance to the CCMA's Waterway Health program through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting responsibilities as the Caretaker of Waterway Health and associated responsibilities under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> • Governance and oversight for the delivery of the CWS including strengthening of key partnerships that are enablers for planning and delivery (for example DELWP, ARI, Barwon, Wannon and Central Highlands Water, City of Greater Geelong, Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung) • Meeting responsibilities under the associated CMA Statement of Obligations • Contributing to state policy and strategy development (e.g. Waterway Managers Forum and Flagship Project Control Group) • Development and delivery of monitoring, evaluation and reporting processes in support of the CWS • Renewal as required through the <i>Water Act</i> of the CWS. 	<p>CCMA Leadership</p> <p>Waterways</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health</p> <p>Community engagement & partnerships</p> <p>Aboriginal cultural values</p> <p>Resilient & liveable cities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure and values • Partnerships have increased.
<p>Floodplain Management</p> <p>This project delivers the CCMA's statutory responsibilities relating to Floodplain Management and Waterway Health as provided for in the <i>Water Act 1989</i>, the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>, <i>Emergency Management Manual Victoria Part 7</i>, <i>Building Regulations 2018</i>, <i>Subdivisions Act 1988</i> and CMA Statement of Obligations.</p> <p>The project also coordinates the CCMA response to other referrals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southern Rural Water - Take and Use, Works Licences, Annual Use Limits • DJPR - Work Plans for mines and quarries • EPA - Works Approvals. 	<p>CCMA Leadership</p> <p>Waterways</p>	<p>Climate change</p> <p>Waterway & catchment health</p> <p>Community engagement & partnerships</p> <p>Aboriginal cultural values</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rivers, Estuaries and Floodplains. • Retain the ecological function of riverine and estuarine floodplains and protect community infrastructure and values • Protect waterways within special water supply catchments.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Estuary permits and regulation</p> <p>This role is focused on risk management of artificial estuary openings using the EEMSS, responding to formal opening requests from Permit Holders and implementing, as per the relevant policies within the VWMS. It is also informed by the EPBC listing of Assemblages of species associated with open-coast salt-wedge estuaries of western and central Victoria ecological community. Other areas of focus for this activity include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing on improving current management arrangements where required at the permitted estuaries through updating (Curdies River, Painkalac Creek, and Anglesea River) or developing (Barham River, Erskine River, Gellibrand River, Aire River, Thompsons Creek, and Spring Creek) MoU's or guidance notes with stakeholders Regular coordination and consultation with stakeholders to ensure estuaries are not opened in times of high risk Improve stakeholder and community understanding of estuary opening. 	Waterways	Water for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivers, Estuaries and Floodplains Retain the ecological function of riverine and estuarine floodplains and protect community infrastructure and values.
<p>Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme and Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme</p> <p>The Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme protects rural properties in the lower middle and upper loughs from flooding from Lake Colac while the Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme is part of a flood protection program for agricultural properties around the shores of Lake Corangamite and Lake Gnarpurt. This activity involves routine maintenance and administration as operational drainage and flood mitigation schemes. Specifically, this involves inspection of infrastructure, planning for and overseeing of maintenance (weed and silt control); Operation of the schemes in a time of flood; water quality and quantity monitoring; administration of the Cundare Pool Grazing licences on land managed by the CMA.</p>	Participation Waterways	Recreational values Resilient & liveable cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure productive agricultural land.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Barwon through Geelong</p> <p>The Barwon River through Geelong supports a diverse array of recreational, environmental and cultural activities. These include organised events and frequent casual use of the waterway and land for various activities. The CMA has overseen 40,000 participants in the last year at 90 different events, noting that the informal use of the river and parklands is even more significant. This significant asset within the City of Greater Geelong provides great economic benefit to the residents and visitors. The activity therefore needs to keep up with increasing demand to ensure that the assets are in good condition for the enjoyment and safety of the wider community. Therefore, this activity includes (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planning and management for routine maintenance (e.g. mowing, tree management, plantings, weed control) and management of built and natural facilities and landscapes • Incident management, monitoring and communications • Event scheduling and management of waterway zones and usage • Lease management (e.g. of rowing/canoe clubs) • Broader communication and engagement with the Barwon Rivers Users Group - including executive support • Participation in the Barwon River Parklands inter-agency working group • Oversight when funding is available of the progressive implementation of the Barwon through Geelong Management Plan • Safety works along the river including hazard removal and boat navigation and signage. 	<p>CCMA Leadership Waterways</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values Resilient & liveable cities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values.
<p>Implementation of Regional Floodplain Management Strategy</p> <p>The CCMA has worked with its stakeholders (nine local councils, Victoria SES, Water Authorities, Committees of Management and others) to prepare a Regional Floodplain Management Strategy 2018-28 (RFMS) which contains prioritised actions. This project involves the CCMA co-ordinating the implementation of this strategy with the stakeholders, provide technical advice associated with priority actions and lead the monitoring and evaluation process for the RFMS.</p>	<p>Participation Partnerships</p>	<p>Community engagement & Partnerships Improving performance and demonstrating outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rivers, Estuaries and Floodplains • Retain the ecological function of riverine and estuarine floodplains and protect community infrastructure and values • Protect waterways within special water supply catchments.

TABLE 3: WATER PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

WATER	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Working For Victoria - Youth Employment Program This project funds 8 graduate positions across the Corangamite CMA for a period of 12 months through the Working for Victoria Youth Employment Funds. The Working for Victoria (WV) Fund has been established to provide jobs for unemployed Victorians, including those impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19). The WV Public Sector Youth Employment Program (YEP) has been developed in partnership with the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) and is one of our major employment initiatives. Through it the VPS will provide paid employment for young people that will provide them work experience and training that will help them find ongoing employment in other roles.	Waterways Community benefits Biodiversity Partnerships Participation and investment	Working for Victoria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregate investment has increased Joint priorities identified and pursued Increased knowledge and improved practices Maintain or enhance soil condition for environment & agriculture Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values Protect waterways within special water supply catchments.
Working for Victoria Fund - Agriculture Workforce Plan 2 x 6 person works crews will undertake on-ground works projects to improve land health across the Corangamite region through shelterbelts, riparian vegetation, weed control, soil sampling and water quality monitoring.	Waterways Community benefits Biodiversity Partnerships Participation and investment	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Recreational values Resilient & liveable cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggregate investment has increased Joint priorities identified and pursued Increased knowledge and improved practices Maintain or enhance soil condition for environment & agriculture Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values Protect waterways within special water supply catchments.
Working for Victoria Fund - Jobs to deliver positive environmental outcomes in Victoria's catchments 2 x 6 person works crew (via Conservation Volunteers Australia), 1 x 10 person works crew (via Central Highlands Water) and 1x Business Support Officer (recruited through CCMA) to coordinate and undertake on-ground works projects to improve environmental outcomes across the Corangamite region.	Waterways Planning and management Community benefits Partnerships Participation and investment	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation has increased Partnerships have increased Aggregate investment has increased Joint priorities identified and pursued Increased knowledge and improved practices Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values Maintain resilience of aquatic flora/fauna to variable climate conditions Sustain populations of threatened native fish Maintain quality & extent of high value coastal assets.
Corangamite CMA environmental water delivery gauging proposal 2020-21 This project will fund 4 gauging stations relating environmental watering. Sites; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site 233269 Barwon River U/S Lower Barrage of Geelong Wetlands Site 233603 Reedy Lake at Connewarre Site 233604 Hospital Swamp at Connewarre Site 232242 Moorabool River at Coopers Crossing Meredith. 	Waterways	Waterway & catchment Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR 2020-21

Across the diversity of projects undertaken in the water program the following highlights and achievements have been summarised:

CARETAKER OF WATERWAY HEALTH

The Corangamite Caretaker of Waterway Health project has overseen the delivery of the Corangamite Regional Waterway Strategy and contributed to State policy delivery as required under the Water Statement of Obligations. The Waterway Protection Program has played a key role in restoring and protecting waterway frontages by engaging with Traditional Owners and working in partnership with the community and other stakeholders.

WORKING FOR VICTORIA CREWS BOOST PROJECT AT HOVELLS CREEK

A 3.27km stretch of Hovells Creek that the CMA targeted for investment due to gaps picked up by the CWS mid-term review is now complete. This project was revegetated by Working for Victoria crews as the volunteers that were originally planned to assist and could not attend due to COVID-19 restrictions. The project secures 52.7Ha overall and includes remnants of endangered creekline grassy woodland EVC.

PARTNERSHIP HELPS THE PLATYPUS ON THE BARWON RIVER

A project along the Barwon River at Birregurra with Upper Barwon Landcare Network has been completed, with the Working for Victoria crews planting the trees and shrubs when COVID-19 restricted volunteering on the site. Platypus have been spotted a number of times since these works were completed. These works replaced an extremely dense infestation of willows and poplar trees which dumped detritus into the river in autumn. There will now be a more natural release of leaves and sticks into the waterway over the course of the year, further supporting platypus in the river.

CURDIES RIVER FIRE RECOVERY WORKS

Works that have helped landholders along the Curdies River to restore the river frontage after the fires on St Patrick's Day in 2018 have been completed. The final two project sites were completed in late 2020, with 7km of fencing installed and 24,000 stems planted, creating 10Ha of riparian area in one contiguous site along about 6km of the west bank of the Curdies River. Follow up control of willows and blackberry occurred at all project sites in early 2021. A total of 15.6km of the Curdies River and Scotts Creek frontage has been improved through this funding and 2.6km of willows removed.

ENVIRONMENTAL WATER MANAGEMENT

The Corangamite CMA manages three formal environmental entitlements on behalf of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) on the Moorabool, Upper and Lower Barwon systems. It also collaborates with partner agencies to improve environmental water outcomes in the Anglesea River, Painkalac Creek and Gellibrand River. The Corangamite CMA leads the annual planning, delivery and reporting processes for the formal entitlements and also directly supports projects to build the evidence base and science that inform targeted water delivery. This work is done in consultation with Traditional Owners, partner agencies and the wider community. This year the full entitlement of environmental water was delivered in the Corangamite region (noting that the total ML delivered this year is notably smaller than last year due to a temporary transfer of water facilitated by the VEWH in 2019-20).

LOWER BARWON WETLANDS ENTITLEMENT

Higher than average rainfall in the summer of 2020-21 meant that significant numbers of birds came to breed at Reedy Lake, including the endangered Australasian bittern. As a result, the wetland was managed in line with wet conditions and the planned draw-down delayed as breeding activity was monitored and supported. This was the first time that waterbird breeding was actively monitored to inform the timing of draw-down. While the CCMA takes a whole of ecosystem approach to the watering regime, being able to adaptively manage in line with seasonality to support an endangered species is an important part of the management mix.

UPPER BARWON RIVER ENTITLEMENT

The key achievement for this relatively new entitlement was to again keep the river flowing through the upper and middle reaches over summer. Natural rain events further enhanced flows with community reporting sightings of platypus and native crayfish burrows in the Birregurra area. Through the year, CCMA also worked with Barwon Water to install best practice fish-friendly, low flow gauging on the east branch of the Barwon River, and subsequently on the west. While it is important to have gauging in place to monitor flows within the catchment, it is equally important not to install any further barriers to native fish migration.

MOORABOOL RIVER ENTITLEMENT

CCMA continued to collaborate with Traditional Owners, the Wadawurrung, on supporting the cultural values of the Moorabool River and highlighting the links between environmental flows and those values. Work included partnering on media to underline values such as culturally significant species like river *Ware-rop* black fish, and *Wad-durring/Perridak* platypus that benefit from winter fresh delivery. It also included supporting WTOAC's Waterwatch monitoring of the river before and after fresh releases, and partnering on water recovery for the system through the Sustainable Water Strategy process.

OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL WATER ACHIEVEMENTS - LOWER BARWON REVIEW

The environmental watering at Reedy Lake and Hospital Swamps was reviewed by a panel of experts, specialising in wetland dynamics and ecology. The work included consultation with key stakeholders such as the field naturalist community, the hunting and fishing community, licensed eel fishers, individual landholders and partner agencies. Monitoring data and new satellite imagery was examined together with management adaptations for shared benefits and the significance of knowledge gaps. An assessment was then made as to the suitability of the current watering regime to support the environmental character of the Ramsar listed wetlands. The review made a number of recommendations for further work and to refine watering actions. It found that the variation in water levels being implemented was the best approach to support a range of habitats and overall biodiversity. Future management will now focus on filling critical knowledge gaps and taking a more seasonally adaptive approach.

LIVING MOORABOOL - FLAGSHIP PROJECT

The Living Moorabool - Flagship project has continued to build on existing relationships and expand the knowledge of the broader community with regard to the issues and values of the Moorabool River. The 'Discover the Living Moorabool' website continues to provide users with a range of information including the ongoing connection of the Wadawurrung people and their aspirations for the river; and identifies suitable walks, locations for observing flora and fauna and a range of amenities that the community can access.

BARWON THROUGH GEELONG

Construction of new and improved multi-use platforms has been completed during the year at the rowing precinct, canoe club and along the Wal Whiteside walk. These platforms will greatly benefit the growing population by allowing better access to the river, and support the Corangamite CMA's obligation to cater for a range of recreational pursuits. Funding partners include DELWP, City of Greater Geelong, Corangamite CMA and Victorian Fishing Authority.

Other significant activities for the year have included engaging Conservation Volunteers Australia crews via the Working for Victoria program to undertake weed management and revegetation activities; liaison and consultation for management advice with Barwon River user groups; and ongoing general maintenance and management activities.

COVID-19 restrictions resulted in numerous events being cancelled or events being run subject to DHHS advice. The Corangamite CMA has continued to provide COVID-19 update communications to the public throughout the pandemic.

DRAINAGE SCHEMES

In addition to regular annual maintenance of the Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme and Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme, the CMA has commissioned a flood study of both schemes that will help inform future operation of the schemes.

FLOODPLAIN STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

The CMA continues to experience an ongoing demand for its statutory services due to a number of significant growth and infill areas within its region. The Geelong region is experiencing ongoing and significant development pressures, with projected growth between 2016 and 2056 indicating a 98% increase to approximately 569,400 people¹. Similarly, the Ballarat region is experiencing ongoing and significant development pressures, with projected growth between 2016 and 2056 indicating a 62% increase to approximately 259,500 people².

During 2020-21, the CCMA responded to 1,346 statutory responses, a 17% increase (or 199 additional responses sent) to last financial year. Of these, 742 were flood advice requests, 528 were planning referrals and 78 were Works on Waterways permits. Of the 1,346 responses sent, 110 responses (8.17%) provided a cost value totaling \$2.06m. One development alone accounted for \$1.5m (a wind farm).

There were also 2,838 visits to the Corangamite flood portal. A notably higher proportion of responses were flood advice requests. 73% of statutory requirements were met within the prescribed period, down 13% from last year's figure of 86%. The Corangamite CMA investigated and responded to 19 cases of unauthorised works.

The Corangamite Regional Floodplain Management Strategy (CRFMS) 2018-28 is progressing with 78 of the now 118 identified actions either complete or underway. An additional 10 actions have been added to the strategy's action list, largely as a result of the formation of the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, as well as additional actions identified by Corangamite CMA and Colac Otway Shire.

¹ Source: Victoria in Future 2019: Population projections 2016 to 2056 (DELWP, 2019). Calculated based on population growth of 283,000 by 2056 compared to actual population of 286,400 in 2016

² Source: Victoria in Future 2019: Population projections 2016 to 2056 (DELWP, 2019). Calculated based on population growth of 99,500 by 2056 compared to actual population of 160,000 in 2016.

LOWER BARWON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Works have been completed at the new Tidal Barrage Weir and Fishways on the Lower Barwon Wetlands. The new infrastructure will improve water management for the Geelong region and provide vital passage for significantly threatened migratory fish species like the Australian Grayling.

The construction of the new Tidal Barrage Weir has been a two-year project carried out by the Corangamite CMA in collaboration with Arthur Rylah Institute, Pensar Infrastructure and Australasian Fish Passage Services.

The project is a \$2m investment from the Victorian Government in water infrastructure in internationally significant wetlands and is essential for maintaining fishing and recreational opportunities in the Barwon River through Geelong for decades to come.

The new Tidal Barrage Weir has three complementary fishways to enable migrating fish to pass through the weir. The new cone fishway is the first of its type to be built on a coastal system in Victoria.

In addition to the Barrage Weir, a new regulator and fishway have been constructed at the nearby Reedy Lake.



CORANGAMITE CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAM - WATER

The Quality Assurance Quality Control (QAQC) program has resulted in citizen scientists getting reacquainted with their equipment and brushing up their skills. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, plans to meet face-to-face to test mystery samples was put on hold until 2021. A modified QAQC program involved small group training events and mystery sample testing at home. Data sheets have been assessed and are reported to provide data confidence to the EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch data portals by ensuring data collection is of a known quality standard.

The Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) field staff joined Corangamite Citizen Science staff and the Corangamite CMA e-water team to begin Wadawurrung Water Quality monitoring on the Moorabool River. This monitoring project tests water quality at cultural sites of importance to the Wadawurrung before and after environmental watering.

WTOAC field staff undertook Waterwatch training in water quality testing over two days on the Moorabool, empowering them to continue water quality monitoring at key cultural sites on the Moorabool in line with e-water releases.

WTOAC has stated that the water quality monitoring is the start of an essential process through which they can determine if waterways are healthy enough to maintain life which is integral to the health of Wadawurrung Country. WTOAC Water Quality monitoring program has provided data from before and after all priority freshes in the 2020-21 water year in seasonal watering of the Moorabool River.

Table 4 provides the outputs delivered across all water program projects in 2020-21. Performance reporting indicates that all projects are on track to deliver against their investment requirements.

THE TIDAL BARRAGE WEIR PROJECT IS A

\$2m
INVESTMENT

ESSENTIAL FOR MAINTAINING FISHING
AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
IN THE BARWON RIVER THROUGH
GEELONG FOR DECADES TO COME



TABLE 4: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE WATERWAYS PROGRAM IN 2020-21

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Channel - Drain	10		121.0	
Visitor facility - Building	11			
Visitor facility - Operations	35			
Visitor facility - Recreational	11			
Road - Road	10		12.8	
Crossing - Culvert	1			
Water storage - Trough	3			
Waterway Structure - Flow Regulator	11			
Monitoring structure - Measuring point	60			
Fence - Bollard	1		1.0	
Fence - Fence	9		15.7	
Vegetation - Native indigenous	50	252.7		
Vegetation - Non-native	3	8.0		
Weed control - Non-woody	95	66.7		
Weed control - Woody	102	189.4		
Grazing - Riparian	4	51.9		
Water - River Reach	41	3,110.8		
Water - Wetland	3	1,132.2		
Approval and advice - Advice	919			
Approval and advice - Permit	89			
Approval and advice - Referral Response	52,824			
Management agreement - Binding non-perpetual	4	3,661.1		
Management agreement - Binding perpetual	1	1.05		
Assessment - Cultural	3	48.0		
Assessment - Ecological	8	187.37.8		
Assessment - Property	59	993.5		
Assessment - Surface water	125			
Engagement event - Awareness Raising	1			3
Engagement event - Field day	2			700
Engagement event - Meeting	23			154
Engagement event - Presentation	7			89
Engagement event - Training	48			308
Engagement event - Workshop	6			59
Partnership - Agencies/Corporates	48			

TABLE 4: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE WATERWAYS PROGRAM IN 2020-21

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Partnership - Community groups	12,217			
Partnership - Mixed	6			
Plan - Management	6	3,334.7		
Publication - Online/Printed	7			
Publication - Visual	6			
Publication - Written	14			
Information management system - Database	10			
Information management system - Decision support	3			
Collecting, or synthesising baseline data - Collecting and/or synthesising baseline data sets	2			
Communication materials - Publishing communication materials	4			
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with conferences/seminars	1			19
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with field days	1			73
Fauna survey - Collecting and/or synthesising baseline data sets	2	723.7		
Skills and knowledge survey - Conduct skills and knowledge surveys	2			



CASE STUDY

Dewing Creek

CHALLENGE

Dewing Creek is a tributary of the Barwon River flowing out of the Otway National Park through Barwon Water owned land into the Wurdiboluc channel and through to the Wurdiboluc dam. As this land was leased to a grazing enterprise, the tributary, which is key to supplying Geelong's population with drinking water, was threatened by stock access and grazed to the water's edge. The potential benefits from removing stock access to water at this site were very clear as the project would create a riparian corridor and link a previous riparian restoration project downstream with the Otway National Park, upstream.

APPROACH

An expression of interest was provided through the Barwon and Corangamite Waterway Restoration program in 2016 by Barwon Water in partnership with Upper Barwon Landcare Network (UBLN). Through this process field staff created a management plan, costings and an overview of the works that were to be conducted at the site. The CCMA cost-benefit analysis method ranked the project very highly as it would have multiple environmental, social and economic benefits. UBLN was chosen to project manage the on-ground works on behalf of Barwon Water.

RESULTS

This project was finished in 2020, four years after the expression of interest. It achieved larger gains than initially planned for, as Barwon Water provided larger buffer widths in some sections of the project than the minimum required by the Corangamite CMA. Overall, 57Ha of drinking water catchment were protected, 32,000 plants were grown at the GenU nursery in Geelong and planted on site, 9km of frontage was protected, 8 off-stream waterpoints installed, 18Ha of remnant bush protected and close to 10km of fencing installed.

Since the project has finished, eDNA technology has detected platypus on the project site, which is the first time in decades they have been recorded in this section of the Barwon River. There is now a continuous buffer of vegetation from the headwater of Dewing Creek to Barwon Water's offtake channel, creating cleaner drinking water for Geelong. Longer term, these works will be extended across property titles downstream, to create continuous buffers in the Upper Barwon Flagship program.

KEY PARTNERS

Upper Barwon Landcare Network, Barwon Water, GenU.



CATCHMENT CONDITION AND RATIONALE

NEUTRAL →

While there were periods of low rainfall and high rainfall, overall the season was wet; in particular it was a wetter than an average summer. There has been continued investment in enhancing waterways through riparian management as well as using the limited formal entitlements as effectively as possible to achieve environmental flow outcomes.

Water quality parameters have slightly improved on the previous year. The impacts of disasters such as bushfire are evident with impacts on riparian remnant vegetation, however this has remained neutral for 2020-21 with no major bushfires in the Corangamite catchment, but the June storms and local flooding at various times has damaged some revegetation sites.

RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT:

- Investment has continued to enhance waterways through riparian and instream management and actions were completed at existing contracted projects. A total of 92 sites have now been invested in across the region
- There is no change in riparian vegetation condition from the previous year as this is measured at new project sites which are assessed for vegetation quality. There were no new riparian site assessments to include for 2020-21
- Landowners who are unable or unwilling to participate in waterway management programs require targeted engagement approaches
- Two formal river environmental water entitlements in the region are below what is recommended in flow studies for the Moorabool and the Barwon, but the CMA looks for opportunities to make the best of natural flow conditions and ability to purchase additional water
- The wetting and drying regime in the Lower Barwon Wetlands is required to maintain the environmental character of the wetlands. This is adaptively managed where possible to accommodate shared benefits with user groups
- Water quality results presented a mix of responses, with some parts of the region more favourable than others. This is reflective of both landscape (e.g. high velocity streams), land use and the State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) guidelines. Results are an improvement on previous years with a higher number of waterways meeting the SEPP objectives.

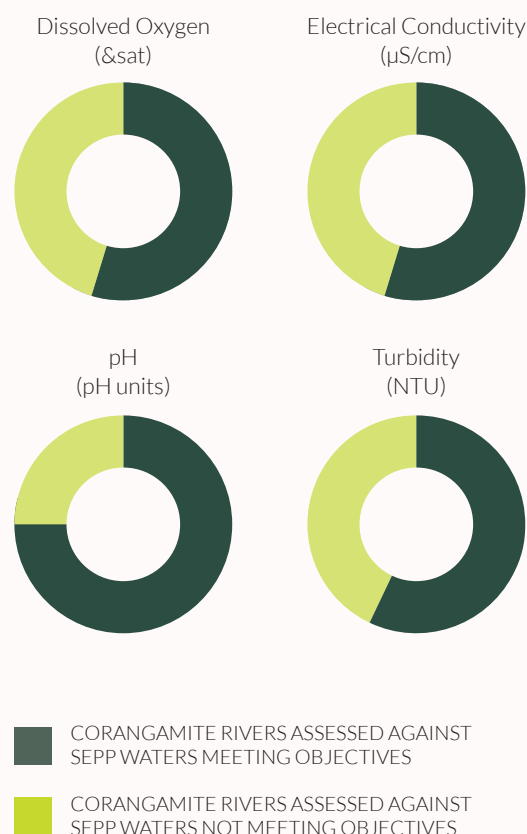
WATERWAY INFORMATION USED IN THE ASSESSMENT

The environmental condition of waterways is determined by the combined state of key characteristics such as habitat, water regimes, water quality, vegetation and connectivity. Broader catchment condition, land use, natural events like floods and bushfires, development and climate change can all directly influence the environmental condition and values of waterways. Waterway management needs to consider how both natural and anthropogenic factors (i.e. human impact via farming practices, recreation, urban development, etc.) impact on waterway condition and, therefore on the values of waterways.

Water quality, riparian vegetation condition and flow compliance have been used to assess waterway condition and consideration given to those external factors that can impact on this assessment.

The water quality information was sourced from our extensive Waterwatch database and aggregated across the region from those rivers and streams that were identified as Index of Stream Condition reaches. COVID-19 restrictions prevented approximately eight months of data collections in financial year 2020-21. To get the required data points for State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) analysis (>11), the approach was taken to extend the analysis period over two years i.e. dates 1 July 2019 to YTD (June) 2021. The two-year analysis has been compared to the current SEPP guidelines. Figure 2 presents the status of the water quality parameters against SEPP.

FIGURE 2: WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS (PH, TURBIDITY, ELECTRICAL CONDUCTIVITY AND DISSOLVED OXYGEN) AGAINST SEPP GUIDELINES



Riparian vegetation condition is based on a habitat hectare score against various condition criteria applied to public and private land sites across the region. There is no change in the assessment of condition this year as no new sites have been funded. Table 5 presents the riparian vegetation condition results and highlights that just over half of the sites assessed were rated moderate or above.

TABLE 5: RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION FOR 2020-21

RIPARIAN VEGETATION CONDITION BASED ON HABITAT HECTARE SCORE	AREA COVERED (HA)	AREA COVERED (%)
Condition rating of moderate or above	630	59
Condition rating of poor or very poor	923	41

Compliance against flow regimes is based on separate downstream compliance sites for the Moorabool and Upper Barwon, with flow attained, compared to desired summer and winter flow regimes. The Lower Barwon wetlands is based on an agreed wetting and drying regime for the two wetland systems. The narratives in Table 6 provide a summary of what has been experienced for each of the systems.

TABLE 6: FLOW COMPLIANCE OVER 2020-21

MOORABOOL FLOW COMPLIANCE
A relatively wet year has resulted in a high volume of water held in the environmental entitlement at Lal Lal reservoir over the last ten months. This has allowed all recommended environmental releases to be made over summer, achieving full compliance for the summer/autumn season. Together with natural events and further environmental water releases over winter and spring, the majority of minimum flow recommendations were met in the river. The exception being winter/spring low flow, which was still achieved more than 80% of the time.
UPPER BARWON FLOW COMPLIANCE
Dry period recommendations in the east branch were met naturally through a wet summer. In the west branch, although low flow releases were made, the release volumes which are limited by the size of the environmental entitlement, were insufficient to meet dry period flow recommendations in this reach or reaches downstream. Although no environmental water was delivered over the wet period, compliance was partially met in the east branch naturally. Below the confluence of the east and west branches at Ricketts Marsh, wet period freshes were met naturally and wet season baseflow was partially met more than half of the time.
LOWER BARWON FLOW COMPLIANCE
The 2020-21 water year started with a full wetland which was successfully maintained in line with the 2020-21 seasonal watering plan, throughout winter and spring. 2020-21 was intended to be a summer draw-down year, following a full year in 2020-21. However, a wet summer combined with a delayed start to draw-down due to bird breeding meant that levels did not drop significantly before an early May fill. This seasonal variation is acceptable within a multi-year watering regime.
The water year at Hospital Swamps started with a full wetland as planned. Similar to Reedy Lake, the summer draw-down was delayed due to the wet summer providing increased surface inflows. However, the wetland did not see the same degree of bird breeding as Reedy Lake, and draw-down was achieved by late March.

Rainfall and the timing of rainfall will impact on agricultural production, opportunities to maximise environmental flow releases and water quality. The region typically experiences rainfall that increases towards the coast and decreases further north, especially through the winter months, due to natural rain shadow effects.

Table 7's rainfall figures (sourced from www.bom.gov.au) indicate that across the region rainfall was higher than the previous years, with a wet winter followed by a wet summer. February was relatively dry, followed by again a wet autumn and early winter.

TABLE 7: ANNUAL RAINFALL FOR 2020-21

STATION	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTALS	MONTHLY AVERAGES
Colac Shire Office	19.6	107.6	78.9	90.6	60.2	34.5	106	11.9	36.2	33.8	84.4	86.2	749.9	62.5
Geelong Racecourse	18.9	60.6	84.8	80.6	63.4	38.6	85.0	6.0	28.6	15.8	56.4	48.6	587.3	48.9
Mount Sabine	21.6	177.4	134.2	166	76.8	162.4	388.8	34.8	125.8	97.6	276.4	189.2	1851	154.25
Aireys Inlet	24.6	87.2	73.2	110.8	67.6	110.8	84.8	10.4	39.6	23.8	163.2	65.8	861.8	71.8
Winchelsea	19.0	45.0	88.0	80.6	56.8	49.6	74.8	4.2	39.6	20.0	74.4	67.0	619	51.6
Meredith	24.0	74.8	65.0	78.6	63.0	44.2	131.8	9.6	47.4	30.4	94.6	67.4	730.8	60.9
Camperdown	40.0	139.0	114.3	111.0	76.5	59.5	86.8	29.8	41.7	44.0	95.5	101.5	939.6	78.3
Skipton	31.4	79.8	87.2	70.0	59.4	38.4	76.9	7.2	55.5	40.7	52.2	83.4	682.1	56.8
Ballarat	53.6	128.6	81.0	104.8	77.8	56.2	119.6	16.6	85.2	29.2	65.2	87.8	905.6	75.5



Land

The Corangamite region has rich and diverse landscapes, reflecting its geological, climatic and human history. The natural resources of our region are critical to providing important flora and fauna, as well as sustaining the lifestyle of residents and visitors alike.

Corangamite CMA projects work with the region's dairy, grazing and cropping farmers to support practices of change for land health, sustainable farming and natural resource protection. Changes in soil management and sustainable farming practices have the potential to generate productivity and environmental improvements. Table 8 identifies the land projects undertaken by the CMA in 2020-21, with the outcome and priority policy areas linking the project contribution to the Corporate Plan.

TABLE 8: LAND PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21

LAND HEALTH	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
National Land Partnerships Program Core Services Provides Core Engagement, Communication, Planning and Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator support to the broader National Landcare Program	Waterways Biodiversity Participation Partnerships Land Management CCMA Leadership	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased breadth & depth of participation Increased and shared knowledge NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values Secure productive agricultural land.
Improving On-Farm Soil, Vegetation for Larger Agricultural (Yr 2-5) This project builds on the experiences of the Corangamite CMA in partnership with farmers, community groups (including Landcare) and agriculture industry groups of the Corangamite region to enhance soil health and native vegetation on farms. Soil acidity has been identified as a regional soil health issue within the Corangamite region and this project will then focus on farmers within the central cropping areas of the region to adopt soil acidity management practices. While farmers within the southern dairy and cattle grazing areas of the region, will be, targeted to improve their capacity to manage dairy effluent, apply appropriate nutrient management regimes and incorporate native vegetation into farming systems. The overall approach is based upon knowledge and extension activities, supported by some financial incentive programs. Different approaches are tailored to suit different target audiences to ensure maximum engagement and participation.	Waterways Planning and management Biodiversity Partnerships	Build Capability and Capacity Regional Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participation has increased Partnerships have increased Aggregate investment has increased Joint priorities identified and pursued Increased knowledge and improved practices Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions Maintain or enhance solid condition for environment & agriculture Secure productive agricultural land Increase landholders in NRM & sustainable agriculture good practices.

TABLE 8: LAND PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

LAND HEALTH	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Protecting the Victorian Volcanic Plains</p> <p>This project will be delivered on a landscape scale, using established partnerships and knowledge to deliver, across public and private land, improved land management practices across the Victorian Volcanic Plain (VVP) within the Corangamite Management Unit. Community awareness programs will also be delivered to increase the knowledge of the community to increase the capacity of land managers to undertake and maintain works as well as to engage with Traditional Owners. The project will also support the management training of various land managers associated with the VVP's linear reserves, provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works that enhance nationally threatened ecological communities on private land and deliver on specific actions that address EPBC listed species requirements on the VVP.</p>	<p>CCMA Leadership Partnerships Biodiversity Waterways Land Management</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values Water for agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Aggregate investment has increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost Effective solutions • Improved climate change knowledge is used to inform planning and actions • Increase landholders in NRM & sustainable agriculture good practices • Maintain extent & improve quality of wetlands • Halt decline in quality and extent of NV and enhance connectivity • Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and Secure.
<p>Victorian Landcare Grants in Corangamite</p> <p>The Victorian Landcare Program funds the Victorian Landcare Grants which are an annual grant funding for on-ground projects and group/network start-up, maintenance and support. The grants are currently delivered by the Catchment Management Authorities across the state.</p>	<p>Participation Biodiversity Waterways Land Management</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with landholders to increase their participation in natural resource management activities and programs so there is reduced impact on the region's natural resources from agricultural practices.
<p>Regional Landcare Coordination</p> <p>The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) program is funded by the Victorian Government's Landcare Program and supports 152 community-based environmental volunteer groups with more than 4,200 members. The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) position develops and implements regional Landcare support plans, undertake capacity building with groups and networks and facilitate access to grants and other funding.</p>	<p>Participation Biodiversity Waterways Land Management</p>	<p>Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Water for agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with landholders to increase their participation in natural resource management activities and programs so there is reduced impact on the region's natural resources from agricultural practices.



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR 2020-21

SUSTAINABLE DAIRIES PROJECT

The Sustainable Dairies Project continues under the RLP funded project *Improving on-farm soil, vegetation and biodiversity for larger agricultural enterprises* with Round 4 delivered this year. Interest in the program remains high with another 15 farms participating this year - all based around the Simpson region.

The program continues to focus on the delivery of WestVic Dairy's Fert\$mart program and Agriculture Victoria's Best Practice Guidelines for Effluent Management. Additional topics include Soil Biology, Soil Acidity, Compost and Biodiversity on Farms.

OTWAY AGROFORESTRY NETWORK - MASTER TREEGROWERS COURSE

After postponing in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Master TreeGrowers Course was back in 2021, this time on the Bellarine Peninsula. Starting in April 2021 with 31 participants registered, the course ran for six of the proposed seven sessions with COVID-19 restrictions again delaying completion. The course covered a variety of topics relating to the growing and harvesting of trees, including the benefits of growing trees for conservation and profit, understanding the market for tree products, tree growth and management, trees for shelter and biodiversity.

The Corangamite CMA continues to work closely with the Otway Agroforestry Network (OAN) to support the great work they do.

SOUTHERN FARMING SYSTEMS - COVER CROPPING/ SUB-SOIL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The long-standing partnership between Southern Farming Systems and the Corangamite CMA has continued this year with the cover cropping /sub-soil improvement project starting to yield some great results. We are now in Year 3 of the project with two years remaining.

Events were well attended both online and in the field with farmers keen to increase their soil health knowledge. The Cover Cropping in the South West webinar series was particularly successful, with over 70 people joining online to discuss cover cropping from the perspective of both the researcher and the farmer. These events were run in partnership with the GHCM by the Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitators (RALF).

The key messages coming from the project trials highlight the need for farmers to know what is happening in their soils at depths of 30-40cm instead of the usual 10cm and understanding what their soil constraints are.

Some of the highlights and achievements from the diversity of projects undertaken in the land program include:

REGIONAL AGRICULTURE LANDCARE FACILITATOR

The RALF position, funded through the Australian Government, has successfully engaged with a range of community, Landcare, agriculture industry groups and Government agencies through facilitating conversations, participating in events, sharing information and supporting project partnerships.

During 2020-21 the RALF has:

- Facilitated Corangamite CMA support and involvement in Landcare and agriculture industry group led projects including National Landcare Program 'Smart Farms Small Grants' and Future Drought Fund NRM grants
- Facilitated two online cover cropping community of practice webinars with six guest presenters and over 60 participants
- Participated in two 'Farm Focus Skills' videos with Surf Coast Business Collective and Southern Farming Systems focusing on Cover cropping and Subsoil improvement for biodiversity and soil carbon
- Facilitated the Corangamite Rural Women's Network Community of Practice to deliver two planning group meetings, an online virtual event for the International Day of Rural Women and development of a network logo
- Facilitated two meetings of the Corangamite Sustainable Agriculture Steering Committee
- Represented Corangamite CMA on various committees and working groups including the Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party, National Soil Strategy consultation, Heytesbury District Landcare Network 'Increasing Soil Carbon' project steering committee and Planning for Melbourne's green wedges and agricultural land consultation
- Delivered guest speaker presentations on sustainable agriculture and Landcare to stakeholders including Federation TAFE students and Winchelsea Land and River Care Group
- Produced the quarterly Corangamite Landcare eNews with 600+ recipients
- Supported Corangamite CMA 'Regional Land Partnerships' Sustainable Agriculture project partners with project planning, promotion and evaluation. Partners include WestVic Dairy and Agriculture Victoria's 'Sustainable Dairies' program, Otway Agroforestry Network's 'Master TreeGrowers Course' with Bellarine Landcare Group and Southern Farming Systems 'Pay Dirt' Meat & Livestock Australia course
- Participated in the quarterly Corangamite Landcare Facilitators and Chairs forums to share information and plan future partnership projects including the proposed 'Small Blocks Big Dreams' land stewardship project
- Developed Bob Hawke Award nomination for the National Landcare Awards
- Participated in the Victorian State RALF network and National RALF network with the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment.

Table 9 provides the outputs delivered across all land program projects in 2020-21. Performance reporting indicates that all projects are on track to deliver against their investment requirements.

TABLE 9: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE LAND PROGRAM IN 2020-21

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Fence - Fence	819		3.79.6	
Vegetation - Native indigenous	101	1.980.8		
Vegetation - Native non-indigenous	2	0.4		
Weed control - Non-woody	11	95.6		
Weed control - Woody	8	6.0		
Pest Animal Control - Terrestrial	8	4.9		
Assessment - Ecological	1	0.16		
Assessment - Fauna	19	0.64		
Assessment - Flora	1	0.17		
Assessment - Property	11	52.3		
Assessment - Surface Water	1	0.1		
Engagement event - Awareness Raising	17			396
Engagement event - Conference	3			73
Engagement event - Field day	13			242
Engagement event - Meeting	129			977
Engagement event - Presentation	36			1,430
Engagement event - Training	20			338
Engagement event - Workshop	25			341
Partnership - Mixed	2			
Publication - Online/Printed	2			
Publication - Visual	3			
Publication - Written	3			
Collecting or synthesising baseline data - Collecting and/or synthesising baseline data sets	17	0.0		
Communication materials - Publishing communication materials	16			
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with field days	12			295
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with one-on-one technical advice interactions	52			167
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with training/workshop events	18			175
Controlling access - Installing structures	1			

TABLE 9: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE LAND PROGRAM IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Developing farm/project/site management plan - Develop farm/project/site plans	26	997.6		
Establishing and maintaining agreements - Establishing and maintaining agreements	12	79.9		
Establishing and maintaining monitoring regimes	3	18.6		
Fire management actions - Treat fire management area	8	84.3		
Identifying the location of potential sites - Identify potential sites	54	2,651.7		
Improving land management practices - Implement area of practice change	24	124.5		
Negotiating with Community Landholders Farmers TO Ag groups etc - Negotiating with groups	7			
Project planning and delivery of documents - Days project planning/preparation	4			
Project planning and delivery of documents - Develop planning and delivery documents	4			
Removing weeds - Treat weeds - initial	10	410.6		
Site preparation - Prepare site	15	166.7		
Skills and knowledge survey - Conduct skills and knowledge surveys	37			
Soil testing - Conduct soil tests	4	532.8		



CASE STUDY

Working for Victoria

CHALLENGE

To create NRM employment opportunities under the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria initiative, and deliver environmental outcomes and improvements to land health across the catchment in a period where the capacity for such work had drastically reduced due to COVID-19 restrictions.

APPROACH

The Corangamite CMA was funded under the Working for Victoria program to deliver two projects, one to deliver environmental outcomes, the other to produce agricultural outcomes, or improvements to land health. Three works crews, based out of Geelong, Ballarat and Colac undertook the on-ground work. Partnerships with Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) and Central Highlands Water (CHW) provided the structure for the recruitment, training, management of, and provision of PPE and equipment to these works crews.

The selection and scheduling of works for the Colac-based Agriculture crew was managed by Corangamite CMA's riparian team, in consultation with Landcare and other partners and private landholders. CHW and CVA managed the scheduling of the Environmental crews.

RESULTS

Crew members received six months of paid employment, valuable experience, networking opportunities, on-the-job and formal training and certification to support their future employment prospects. Outputs from their work included 24,144 seedlings planted; 103Ha of weed control; 30,000 tree guards either removed or installed; 5km of roads and tracks maintained or upgraded; upgrades to fencing, paths and signage; construction of 34 bird nest boxes; water quality monitoring, sand drift and hazardous tree assessments.

Works were undertaken on private and public land right across the catchment. Of 57 private landholders, 44 were engaged with through Landcare. The 39 public land sites worked on by CVA crews were managed variously by Landcare networks, community management committees, CCMA, local governments and Parks Victoria.

Revegetation work occurred throughout the period denied to volunteers by COVID-19 restrictions; water quality monitoring that would have been similarly affected by the lack of volunteers was undertaken. Weed management on private and public land, in both projects, was extensive. Public amenity along the Barwon through Geelong and in CHW parks, gardens and reservoirs was significantly enhanced.

KEY PARTNERS

Conservation Volunteers Australia, Central Highlands Water, local Landcare groups.



CATCHMENT REPORT AND RATIONALE

CONCERNED ↘

The 2020 year was the fourth-warmest year on record for Australia, with Victoria experiencing its third-warmest spring on record, and the rainfall in summer 2020-21 being significantly above average.

While climatic conditions in combination with challenges related to managing soils at farm scale and managing the impact of land use will all impact on the land assessment, the Corangamite CMA continues to work in a partnership approach to enhance sustainable agriculture practices in the region.

RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT:

The area of exposed soil within the Corangamite region is largely a function of climatic conditions along with land use; annual crops require sowing each year with periods of fallow in between harvest and sowing the next crop. 2020-21 was a relatively wet year with periods of higher than average rainfall (Table 7). For the Corangamite region, typically the areas of greatest exposed soil are on the land use types grazing on modified pasture and dryland cropping. Whilst the figure for the last year shows a decreasing trend in the area of exposed soil, when compared with the previous two years, this is more than likely due to the wet summer.

The Corangamite CMA works in partnership with key stakeholders in the region (Landcare, Agriculture Victoria, WestVic Dairy and Southern Farming Systems). Funding support is provided by Agriculture Victoria, Grains Research Development Corporation, the Australian and State Government to work with landholders to manage their land sustainably and protect land and water resources in the catchment primarily from the threats of soil degradation processes.

The opportunity to engage landowners in sustainable agriculture events and projects has remained steady in this current financial year due to the further implementation of the Australian Government's Regional Land Partnership program.

LAND INFORMATION USED IN THE ASSESSMENT

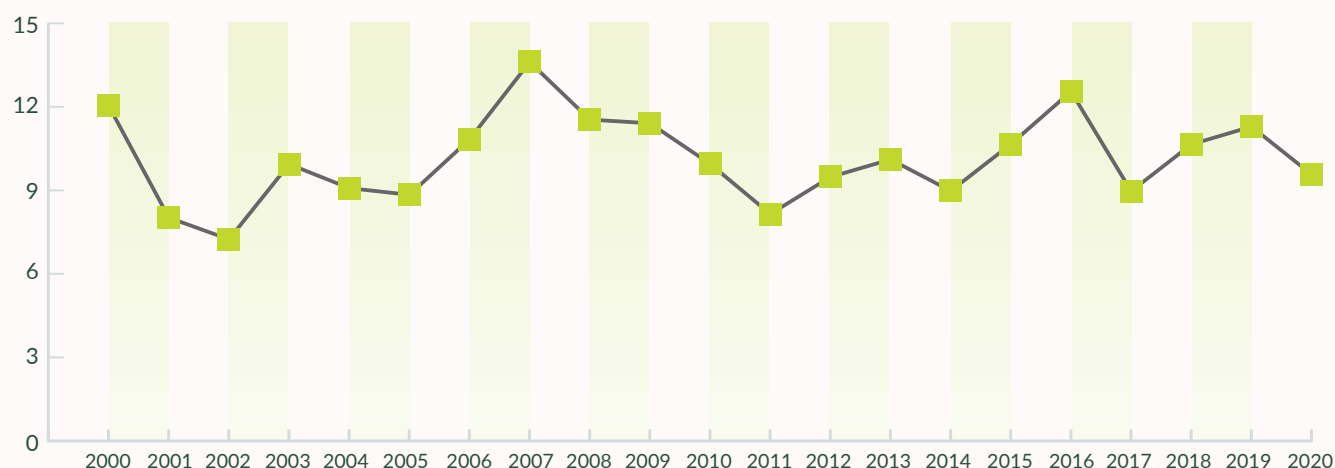
Groundcover is a sub-component of land cover and can be used to infer land management practices. Ground cover is defined as the vegetation (living and dead), biological crusts and stone that is in contact with the soil surface.

The level and type of ground cover is important for land management as it plays an important role in:

- Protecting valuable soil resources from erosion
- Nutrient cycling
- Maintaining biodiversity.

The amount and distribution of ground cover can change in response to climate, land or soil type and land management, especially grazing intensity. Figure 3 illustrates the percentage of exposed soil over time as the surrogate for groundcover. The source for the information also illustrates that most of this is occurring over the Victorian Volcanic Plain Bio-region.

FIGURE 3: PERCENTAGE OF EXPOSED SOIL



Developed by Australian National University - Fenner School of the Environment & Society. Annual mean percentage of soil that is unprotected by living vegetation or litter as mapped from MODIS satellite imagery following the methodology of Guerschman and colleagues (CSIRO). Average amount of water stored in the soil profile during the year as estimated by the OzWALD model-data fusion system. Note this figure represents a calendar year average.



Coast

The Corangamite region's marine and coastal environment extends from Peterborough in the west to Limeburners Lagoon at Geelong in the east. It includes Ramsar listed wetlands of Swan Bay, the Great Ocean Road and a number of marine protected areas.

The coastal zone encompasses a number of environmental assets, including wetlands, estuaries, native vegetation and threatened species. Table 10 outlines the coast projects undertaken by the Corangamite CMA in 2020-21, with the outcome and priority policy areas linking the project contribution to the Corporate Plan.

TABLE 10: COAST AND ESTUARY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2020-21.

COASTS	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Dunecare - Protecting Sand Dunes on Victoria's Iconic Surf Coast, Bellarine Peninsula and Great Ocean Road Australian Government election commitment. The Initiative is to focus on conserving coastal sand dune native flora and fauna habitat at risk of erosion from the Bellarine Peninsula to Marengo, including areas managed by organisations including Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management, Queenscliffe Borough Council, Barwon Coast Committee of Management, City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire, Parks Victoria, Barwon Water, the Great Ocean Road Committee, and Otway Coast Committee of Management.	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halt the decline in quality (condition) and extent of high value native vegetation and enhance its connectivity • Manage the threat of species extinction so that key populations are resilient and secure in the longer term • Maintain the quality and extent of high value coastal assets • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective Integrated NRM.



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR 2020-21

Across the diversity of projects undertaken in the coast program the following highlights and achievements have been summarised:

COASTAL MANAGEMENT

A total of 1,164Ha of coastal vegetation protected through the continued implementation of 22 Coastal Tender contracts working in partnership with both public and private land managers; this includes 176Ha of coastal saltmarsh. Actions include, but are not limited to, fence installation and revegetation, pest plant and animal control and grazing exclusion activities.

Over 475Ha of coastal saltmarsh was managed for stock access and grazing and pest plants and animals as part of the Australian Government funded Protecting Priority Threatened Species of the Corangamite Coast and Coastal Tender Projects. These works are aimed at both protecting the vulnerable Subtropical and Temperate Coastal Saltmarsh community and the critically endangered orange-bellied parrot and its habitat. These projects were delivered in partnership with both private landholders and public land managers to improve coastal saltmarsh and orange-bellied parrot habitat across the Bellarine Peninsula.

BELLARINE AND GREAT OCEAN ROAD DUNECARE PROJECT

This project incorporates funding for coastal public land managers to undertake restoration works to protect biodiversity and cultural heritage values at risk of coastal erosion between St Leonards and Marengo, as well as a coastal dunes education program working with Year 9 and 10 students on coastal restoration projects. The schools program is being delivered by Marine and Freshwater Discovery Centre in partnership with Bellarine Catchment Network and Ecologic. An Initiative Investment Plan was developed in consultation with experts and coastal public land managers to prioritise areas of dune protection and a Coastal Management Grants Program delivered, with projects to commence in 2021-22.

GELLIBRAND RIVER ESTUARY

The Corangamite CMA and Wannon Water recently collaborated to produce a Guidance Note to enable reduced extractions from the Gellibrand River when Parks Victoria are planning to open the estuary. Due to artificial estuary openings, the Gellibrand River estuary has experienced multiple mass fish death events over the last decade. The Guidance Note details the roles and communication channels with the aim of maximising the amount of water flowing into the estuary around the time the opening is planned. The Corangamite CMA will inform Wannon Water of potential Parks Victoria led artificial openings. The reduced extraction and increase in river flows may help maintain dissolved oxygen levels, protecting environmental conditions and estuary values.

ANGLESEA RIVER ESTUARY FLOWS STUDY

Anglesea River and Estuary Flows Study aimed to determine the flow needs of water-dependent environmental values in the Anglesea River, Salt Creek and the Anglesea estuary. The project was overseen by a community work group, consisting of local business owners, local Council staff and other interested parties who have a direct relationship with the river and estuary. The study found that there has been a significant reduction in surface water flows in Salt Creek and Anglesea River since 1965. Swamplands in the upper catchment are drying out more frequently, increasing the risk of activating acid sulphate soils and the estuary is transitioning from intermittently open to near permanently closed, which is impacting flora and fauna species.

AIRE RIVER ESTUARY FLOODPLAIN STUDY

Aire River and Estuary Floodplain Study was focused on providing recommendations on minimising the risks to the environment of artificial estuary opening. The study found that there was no environmental requirement to artificially open the estuary. The study recommends reducing the number and frequency of artificial openings during April - June and September - November. This information is important for estuary management as it acknowledges that artificial estuary openings are not beneficial for the environment.

CASE STUDY

Curdies River Community INFORMATION DAY

CHALLENGE

The goal was to improve community understanding of the Curdies River and estuary, and the challenges associated with balancing ecological and community risk on the floodplain. The estuary is an intermittently open and closed system, that naturally floods and drains. Issues of community concern in the Curdies catchment include inundation of farmland and built assets on the flood plain, and the process and risks associated with artificial estuary openings. The community has also voiced concerns around water quality and ecosystem health, blue-green algae blooms, development and general communication.

APPROACH

The Corangamite CMA organised a Curdies Community Information Day in March 2021. 30 attendees logged in to the event over the course of three hours, including committee members of the Peterborough Residents Group, EstuaryWatch volunteers, local business owners, residents, landholders and key agency partners. The key theme of the event was the Curdies estuary as a dynamic system in which naturally fluctuating water levels are good for environmental values, particularly for fish, while acknowledging the impacts of high river levels on built assets and private property.

Presentations were made by experts in wetland ecology and estuarine mouth dynamics to raise awareness of how these systems work, and the ecological values a naturally operating system supports. Ecological risks associated with artificial openings, particularly under dry conditions in a stratified estuary were also highlighted. Information was shared on the agencies involved and considerations made when a decision is taken to artificially open the estuary to mitigate flooding of human assets. Aspects covered included: when ecological risks are high; factors influencing a successful opening; and State Government policies underpinning the current approach. Corangamite CMA also outlined riparian works that have been undertaken to improve habitat and water quality in the local catchment, as well as the citizen science program, EstuaryWatch, which helps to monitor the health status of the system.

Questions between presentations generated wide-ranging discussions on topics including the possible future impacts of climate change on estuary mouth condition, the range of fish and bird species found in the Curdies, and the impact of development, land use and agricultural pesticides on waterway health.

RESULTS

The event was well attended, and it is expected that the information exchange between agencies, community and experts will facilitate better estuarine management into the future. A summary transcript of the question and answer sessions was given to all attendees to provide detailed responses to all the questions asked on the day.

KEY PARTNERS

Peterborough Residents Group, EstuaryWatch volunteers, local business owners, residents, agency staff from the Corangamite CMA, Parks Victoria, Vic SES and Moyne Shire Council, academics from the University of Melbourne, Corangamite Shire Councillors, Lloyd Environmental.



CATCHMENT REPORT AND RATIONALE

NEUTRAL →

While there are management practices in place and estuary water quality was stable and there was an increase in saltmarsh, the coasts and estuaries of the region face significant challenges associated with the threats posed by climate change as well as population, land-use and developmental pressures on the natural values of these assets.

RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT:

- Water quality in the estuaries was stable, however a local blue green algae catchment event this year had a negative impact on turbidity results. Various factors can change the percentage of dissolved oxygen within an estuary including temperature and upper catchment flows
- The area of saltmarsh under protection remains relatively stable compared to previous years; however, saltmarsh is particularly vulnerable to continued sea level rise forcing it inland further and land use pressures stopping migration, thus squeezing saltmarsh on the coastal fringe
- The Corangamite CMA continues to work with key stakeholders and the community regarding estuary management that supports environmental outcomes, as well as asset protection. There remains some tensions associated with the artificial openings across some estuaries
- Visitation to the Surf Coast increased at a rate of 7.5% per annum over the period of 2011-12 to 2015-16 (Source: Surf Coast Shire Visitor Insights, Australian Bureau of Statistics). Similar patterns could be expected for the rest of the Corangamite region's coastline. Coupled with extensive housing development and an increasing population in the region, this places coastal habitats under sustained and increasing pressures
- The formation of the Great Ocean Road Coasts and Park Authority sets out management responsibilities for public land and marine waters, and is a foundation for improved coastal management
- Australian Government investment will deliver coastal management projects on-ground over the next 2-3 years.

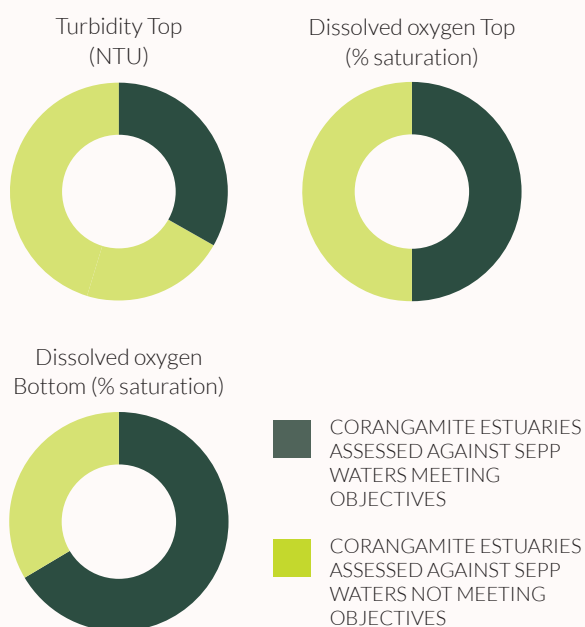
COAST AND ESTUARY INFORMATION USED IN THE ASSESSMENT

While most of the region's coastline is protected by a thin strip of coastal reserve, there are substantial marine reserves and a large area of coastline protected within Great Otway National Park. Critically, there are significant stretches of coast where agriculture and urban development are within close proximity to the coastal strip and to important lakes and estuaries.

Estuary water quality information was accessed from the EstuaryWatch database and compared to the draft SEPP guidelines. It should be noted that the aggregated information only represents six of the forty estuaries in the region and these are typically ones in close proximity to townships and agriculture production, therefore not estuaries that experience more pristine conditions. COVID-19 restrictions prevented approximately eight months of data collections in financial year 2020-21. To get the required data points for State Environment Protection Policy (SEPP) analysis (>11), the approach was taken to extend the analysis period over two years i.e. dates 1 July 2019 to YTD (June) 2021. The results are presented in Figure 4.



FIGURE 4: WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS AGAINST SEPP



Most of the region's coastline is protected by a thin strip of coastal reserve, there are substantial marine reserves and a large area of coastline protected within Great Otway National Park.

Table 11 presents the area under contract for saltmarsh protection as a result of programs delivered by the CMA and Table 12 presents the Hooded Plover breeding pairs per annum, sourced Birdlife Australia.

TABLE 11: AREA UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE CMA FOR SALTMARSH PROTECTION

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2020-21
Saltmarsh protection (Ha under contract)	717	711	717	235	514	475

TABLE 12: NUMBER OF HOODED PLOVER BREEDING PAIRS PER ANNUM

(Source Birdlife Australia's monitoring program for the Hooded Plover in the region from Moggs Creek East to the Bellarine Peninsula)

2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2020-21	2021-21
9	9	11	14	12	14	13	18	16	19	19	N/A*	18	22

*Note Hooded Plover information for 2018-19 was not available, number of breeding pairs can be influenced by volunteer effort.



Biodiversity

The Corangamite region is home to flora and fauna species unique to the area, many of which are dependent on the region's natural assets. Since European settlement, the region has lost nearly 75% of its original vegetation cover. Unfortunately, the region has over 300 species that are classified as threatened in Victoria, with 53 threatened on a national level.

The survival of threatened flora and fauna and ecological communities depends a great deal on the health of native vegetation and the continuing existence of other important habitats. Table 13 identifies the biodiversity projects undertaken by the Corangamite CMA in 2020-21, with the outcome and priority policy areas linking the project contribution to the Corporate Plan.

TABLE 13: BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21

BIODIVERSITY	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Protecting Priority Threatened Species - Corangamite Coast (Yr 2-5) The Corangamite CMA has actively lead the delivery of a coastal program funded by the Australian Government that has included management for threatened species since 2008. This Project will build on the past work, experience, partnerships and knowledge to improve Orange-bellied Parrot habitat, across public and private land. The project will create opportunities to collaborate with BirdLife Australia and DELWP to deliver citizen science opportunities including continued delivery of the annual winter population monitoring delivered by community volunteers; deliver on-ground outputs on a larger scale across the Ramsar site through a grants process; provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works on private land through a grants process and; incorporate Orange-bellied Parrot habitat requirements in current regional estuary mouth opening decision frameworks.	Waterways Planning and management Biodiversity Partnerships	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & Partnerships Water for agriculture Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the extent of wetlands (by type) and improve their quality relative to 2009 benchmark data • Halt the decline in quality (condition) and extent of high value native vegetation and enhance its connectivity • Manage the threat of species extinction so that key populations are resilient and secure in the longer-term • Maintain the quality and extent of high value coastal assets.
Western District Lakes - Ramsar Site Management Ramsar site coordination - overseeing and coordinating the implementation of actions on the WDL Ramsar site with a broad range of stakeholders including Parks Victoria, Government Agencies, Local Government, Traditional Owners, and Trust For Nature.	Waterways CCMA Leadership Biodiversity Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & Partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the extent of wetlands (by type) and improve their quality relative to 2009 benchmark data.
Port Phillip Bellarine - Ramsar Site Management Ramsar site coordination - overseeing and coordinating the implementation of actions on the PPB (WS) & BP Ramsar site with a broad range of stakeholders including Parks Victoria, Government Agencies, Local Government, Traditional Owners, and Trust For Nature.	Waterways CCMA Leadership Biodiversity Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the extent of wetlands (by type) and improve their quality relative to 2009 benchmark data.

TABLE 13: BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

BIODIVERSITY	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Ramsar Effectiveness Monitoring Effectiveness Monitoring on the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsular Ramsar Sites	Waterways CCMA Leadership Biodiversity Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & Partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Aggregate investment has increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values • Effective Integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Planning and activities informed by to skills and knowledge • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Maintain resilience of aquatic floral fauna to variable climate conditions • Maintain extent & improve quality of wetlands • Halt decline in quality and extent of NV and enhance connectivity • Key populations threatened flora and fauna are resilient and secure • Maintain quality & extent of high value coastal assets.
Implementation of high priority PPB&BP Ramsar management plan This project will fund Corangamite Catchment Management Authority to undertake high priority actions from the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site management plan. There are 2 components to this project: 1. The delivery of CEPA grants program across the site 2. Deer monitoring and control at Connewarre wetland complex.	Waterways CCMA Leadership Biodiversity Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain the extent of wetlands (by type) and improve their quality relative to 2009 benchmark data.
Connecting Landscapes to Biodiversity on the Victorian Volcanic Plain This project will build on the past work, experience, partnerships and knowledge to deliver services to control pest animals, remove pest weeds and improve land management practices, across public and private land within 75% of Area Five's 4 Target areas across the Victorian Volcanic Plain (VVP). The services delivered over a three year project include: support awareness, engagement and capacity activities (not funded through the BRP program), deliver on-ground outputs on a larger scale across the three project sites through a market based instrument (MBI) program, provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works that may not be addressed through a MBI.	Partnerships Biodiversity	Waterway & catchment health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Aggregate investment has increased • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost Effective solutions • Increase landholders in NRM & sustainable ag practices • Maintain resilience of aquatic flora/fauna to variable climate conditions • Maintain extend & improve quality of wetlands • Halt decline in quality and extent of NV and enhance connectivity • Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.

TABLE 13: BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

BIODIVERSITY	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Wild Otways Initiative - Feral pig and deer eradication to protect native species in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland</p> <p>The project will be designed with feral animal control specialists to deliver highly strategic, intensive, responsive and sustained removal of introduced herbivores (deer and pigs) to protect native species and critical habitat (including EPBC-listed flora and fauna habitat and refugia).</p>	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.
<p>Wild Otways Initiative - Fox and feral cat control in planned-burn landscapes to protect threatened species in the Otway Ranges</p> <p>Research findings suggest that reducing both feral cat and fox densities in burned landscapes following a fire event may support native animal survival in those areas. This project will help determine the management and operational requirements for integrated feral cat and fox control in the Otways after a fire event.</p>	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.
<p>Wild Otways Initiative - Protecting plant and animal biodiversity in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland from cinnamon fungus (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) dieback</p> <p>This project is to reduce the impact of <i>Phytophthora</i> dieback (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) on the biodiversity of the Otway Ranges, including EPBC-listed species. The project aims to prevent the introduction and/or minimise the spread of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> into uninfected critical habitat areas (notably the Carlisle Heathlands) and reduce the impact of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> at infected sites critical to the conservation of threatened species.</p>	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.
<p>Wild Otways Initiative - Conserving threatened small mammals in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland</p> <p>This project aims to determine the critical factors that support remaining refuge habitat for small mammals in the western Otway Ranges and establish required management prescriptions and guidelines to support small mammal recovery in other areas, including the eastern Otway Ranges.</p>	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.

TABLE 13: BIODIVERSITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

BIODIVERSITY	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Wild Otways Initiative - Rewilding threatened species in the Otway Ranges This project will identify and, if feasible, create the required conditions and support the reintroduction or 'rewilding' of one or more 'lost' and/or sparse threatened small mammal species important to the Otway Ranges, e.g. New Holland Mouse, Smokey Mouse, Broadtoothed Rat and Swamp Antechinus.	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.
Wild Otways Initiative - Community grants program to protect and restore native plants, wildlife and coastal environments This project provides grants to support the local community to deliver on-ground environment projects to protect and restore native plants, wildlife, and coastal environments in the Otways from Peterborough to Jan Juc. The project also includes an Otways web portal, Wild Otways Initiative-wide monitoring program and emergency response capacity.	Community benefits Biodiversity	Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key populations threatened flora and fauna are Resilient and secure.

SINCE EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT, THE REGION HAS LOST NEARLY **75%** OF ITS ORIGINAL VEGETATION COVER



HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR 2020-21

Across the diversity of projects undertaken in the biodiversity program the following highlights and achievements have been summarised:

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S WILD OTWAYS INITIATIVE

This Initiative incorporates a \$1m Community Environment Grants Program as well as five integrated sub-projects. The program is being guided by an expert-based Project Steering Committee with support from a Technical Reference Group. During 2020-21, all sub-projects were contracted and commenced delivery; a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Australian Government, Corangamite CMA, Parks Victoria and DELWP to ensure successful delivery on the Forest and Parks Estate; and an overarching Integrated Monitoring Framework for the initiative was scoped and contracted. These projects will continue through to June 2023.

RAMSAR PROTECTION

The Ramsar Protection Program established a coordinating committee for each of the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula and Western District Lakes Ramsar sites made up of representatives from all land managers across the respective sites. Significant work has now occurred at both sites with monitoring of threatened species, water quality parameters and waterbirds occurring, and the delivery of on-ground works programs to manage weed and pest animal infestations, install fencing and provide greater awareness of the values of the sites.

GRASSY EUCALYPT WOODLANDS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

The Corangamite CMA is supporting landholders to protect critically endangered Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and Natural Temperate Grassland on private land through 10-year voluntary management agreements (2021-31). The program includes financial incentives for on-ground management interventions, long-term flora and fauna monitoring, annual site meetings and landholder forums/workshops. This year a spatial database management system was established to inform the condition, extent and connectivity of grassy eucalypt woodlands and natural temperate grasslands across the project target area.

Via a targeted engagement, 77Ha of Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands is now under 10-year agreement on private land. Two long-term monitoring programs have been established to track the change in condition of grassy eucalypt woodlands under management.

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

The Community Environment Grants Program being delivered as part of the Australian Government's Wild Otways Initiative is a \$1m investment to support the delivery of projects to protect and restore native plants, wildlife, and coastal environments in the area between Bells Beach to Peterborough, and the Otways hinterland. This year the first round of funding was delivered, supporting 23 community projects which will see \$855,000 invested in community-led on-ground works benefitting species including the masked owl, long-nosed potoroos, swamp antechinus, broad-toothed rat and native orchids.

ORANGE BELLIED PARROT PROTECTION PROJECT

The Corangamite CMA partnered with DELWP and Zoos Victoria to deliver the mainland release program for captive-bred orange-bellied parrots. 36 orange-bellied parrots were released as part of this program, with the CMA and the Australian Government supporting the release of 14 parrots at Lake Connewarre on the Bellarine Peninsula. These birds were released with the intent of attracting wild migrating birds to the areas of good quality food and habitat resources. This program also looked at investigating novel and improved approaches to monitoring released birds, trialling a new Automated VHF tracking system to great success.

GRASSY EUCALYPT WOODLANDS CULTURAL BURNING PROGRAM

The Cultural Burning Program supports Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) to conduct cultural burns on public and private land. This project aims to improve the understanding of the use of cultural burning as a management tool in Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and embed Traditional Owner practices into natural resource management. The program is a partnership between land managers and stakeholders including the Corangamite CMA, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Golden Plains Shire Council, CFA and private landholders.

This year the program has supported 8.4Ha of cultural burning in two high value grassy eucalypt woodlands site led by WTOAC and supported by project partners; has established a long-term Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Cultural Burning Monitoring Program to track the change in condition of grassy eucalypt woodlands under the use of cultural burning as a management tool.

LINEAR RESERVE PROGRAM

The Linear Reserve Program is managed by DELWP in partnership with Corangamite CMA and Glenelg Hopkins CMA. This project aims to reduce critical threats to native grasslands on public roadsides, rail easements and reserves and enhance their condition, connectivity and resilience. The program consists of ecological burning by CFA volunteers and follow-up weed management, vegetation condition mapping and community engagement/education events.

This year the program delivered 400Ha of initial weed control and 69Ha of ecological burning (by CFA volunteers) on high value grasslands and grassy eucalypt woodlands on public reserves.

Table 14 provides the outputs delivered across all biodiversity program projects in 2020-21. Performance reporting indicates that all projects are on track to deliver against their investment requirements.

TABLE 14: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM IN 2020-21

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Visitor Facility - Recreational	15			
Fence - Fence	9		3.6	
Vegetation - Native indigenous	1	0.6		
Weed control - Non-woody	71	2,111.2		
Weed control - Woody	41	1,224.3		
Pest animal control - Terrestrial	24	998.1		
Grazing - Riparian	3	31.8		
Grazing - Terrestrial	32	1,145.8		
Fire - Ecological Fire Reduction	3	18.6		
Management agreement - Binding non-perpetual	29	587.2		
Assessment - Ecological	29	622.9		
Assessment - Fauna	10	737.8		
Assessment - Invasive Species	1	0.1		
Assessment - Surface water	10			
Engagement event - Field day	6			852
Engagement event - Meeting	14			30
Engagement event - Training	1			200
Engagement event - Workshop	1			6
Plan - Engagement	4			
Publication - Visual	7			
Publication - Written	9			
Collecting, or synthesising baseline data - Collecting and/or synthesising baseline data sets	1			
Communication materials - Publishing communication materials	8			
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with field days	3			23
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with one-on-one technical advice interactions	6			12
Community/stakeholder engagement - Involvement with training/workshop events	1			29
Developing farm/project/site management plan - Develop farm/project/site plans	17	504.3		

TABLE 14: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE BIODIVERSITY PROGRAM IN 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Establishing and maintaining agreements - Establishing and maintaining agreements	10	0.24		
Establishing and maintaining monitoring regimes	3	3,709.6		
Fauna survey - Collecting and/or synthesising baseline data sets	3	3,545.4		
Identifying the location of potential sites - Identify potential sites	1	0.1		
Flora survey - Conduct Flora surveys	1	248.9		
Habitat augmentation - Augment area with structures or installations	27	418.5		
Identifying the location of potential sites - Identify potential sites	1	0.1		
Improving land management practices - Implement area of practice change	5	248.9		
Negotiating with Community Landholders Farmers TO Ag groups etc - Negotiating with groups	1			
Pest animal survey - Conduct survey for pest animals	1	48.3		
Project planning and delivery of documents - Days project planning/preparation	10			
Project planning and delivery of documents - Develop planning and delivery documents	5			
Removing weeds - Treat weeds - initial	3	13.3		
Skills and knowledge survey - Conduct skills and knowledge surveys	7			
Weed distribution survey - Conduct weed distribution survey	13	282.9		



CASE STUDY

Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands

CULTURAL BURNING PROGRAM

CHALLENGE

The 'Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Cultural Burning Program' aims to improve the understanding of the use of cultural burning as a management tool in Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and embed Traditional Owner practices into natural resource management. The program supports Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to build capacity, be on Country and heal Country and its people.

APPROACH

The program utilises a partnership approach with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (WTOAC) and Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP).

WTOAC led the program from the beginning, enabling Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to identify Country that holds culturally significant importance to them. WTOAC and members assisted in the development of the burn plans with public land managers, coordinated planning meetings and lead each cultural burn.



RESULTS

8.4Ha of critically endangered Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands was culturally burnt by the WTOAC and Traditional Owners at the You Yangs Regional Park and Bakers Lane Reserve, Teesdale.

Wadawurrung Traditional Owners' capacity to lead the planning and delivery of traditional and cultural fire methods has increased. The land management tool of cultural burning has allowed Traditional Owners to use their knowledge of fire to help heal sick Country, and to lead in the teaching of this practice amongst members.

The strong partnership between WTOAC and project partners promotes the use of cultural burning to heal Country, connect with Country and restore traditional land management practices. Since the cultural burns there has been a positive increase amongst participating land managers to be more open and willing to support Wadawurrung Traditional Owners in conducting cultural burns on Country, signifying on-going commitment towards supporting traditional land management practices.

A long-term monitoring program has been established to provide greater understanding on the role of cultural burning practices to improve the condition of Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands and to facilitate knowledge exchange between Western and Traditional views. The monitoring is being undertaken by the WTOAC and project partners, with training and support by the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research.

KEY PARTNERS

The 'Grassy Eucalypt Woodland Cultural Burning Project' is a partnership between the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, Corangamite Catchment Management Authority, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Forest Fire Management Victoria, Golden Plains Shire Council and CFA. This project is supported by Corangamite CMA, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program.

CATCHMENT REPORT AND RATIONALE

CONCERNED ↘

The biodiversity of the region faces challenges associated with addressing and reversing continued land clearing, changing land use, urban development pressures and climate change stresses. The Corangamite CMA and other organisations undertake work to manage biodiversity, and are achieving a positive trend in native vegetation extent, however the overall hectares are still very small in relation to the extent of cleared land and impacted biodiversity.

The 2020-21 year has experienced some ongoing delays in works funded under the Regional Land Partnerships program due to COVID-19 restrictions. These projects are in the early stages of implementation and the biodiversity outcomes will not be seen for some time.

RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT:

- There are still land clearing legacies, as per Biodiversity 2037
- New funding programs have only just begun to be implemented, and it will be some time before outcomes will be delivered
- There has been demonstrated success of sites under contract through monitoring of the PlainsTender project. This has highlighted the positive progress made by landholders under contract
- Remnant and revegetation sites continue to be actively managed under the management agreements of past programs
- Concerted effort is still required under future programs to engage those landholders who have either been unwilling or unable to engage in these programs in the past. The Corangamite CMA is exploring opportunities through social benchmarking studies.

BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION USED IN THE ASSESSMENT

Most of the current losses of native vegetation in the region may be attributed to loss in condition (80%) with 20% being removed through clearing (VEAC, 2011). The survival of threatened flora and fauna and ecological communities depends a great deal on the health of native vegetation, and the continuing of other important habitats that are threatened by human activities and vulnerable to climate change stress. Table 15 provides a listing of native vegetation extent, either being managed, under permanent protection or that has been re-vegetated. The increased numbers for the current financial year are reflective of a boost in final hectares delivered through the close-off of Our Catchment Our Communities and Riparian protection projects, and commencement of new projects such as the Grassy Eucalypt Woodland project.

TABLE 15: NATIVE VEGETATION EXTENT

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Remnant vegetation managed (hectares)	714.22	1,239.33	332.61	1,775.90	2,168.35
Remnant vegetation permanent protection (hectares)	0	37.77	132.70	N/A*	453.85
Revegetation (hectares)	156.06	164.53	64.88	476.08	540.49

*Note: The CMA did not fund Trust for Nature during the 2019-20 financial year and therefore these figures are sourced from CMA only.



Community

Community members in the Corangamite region are active participants in a range of environmental activities that help improve the condition of the region's biodiversity, waterways and the way land is managed.

The Corangamite CMA has a focus on people working better together to coordinate planning, investment and on-ground activities to achieve a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes. Table 16 outlines the community projects undertaken by the Corangamite CMA in 2020-21, with the outcome and priority policy areas linking the project contribution to the Corporate Plan.

TABLE 16: COMMUNITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
Our Catchments, Our Community - Integrated NRM This project is driven by the Water for Victoria plan and the Our Catchments, Our Communities Strategy (OCOC). This project delivers actions to implement the OCOC strategy and improve the ability of the CMA to lead integrated catchment management with the community. It will focus on better engagement and coordination of regional partners, stakeholders and the community through effective local planning processes, a regional roundtable process and improved capacity building in collaborative decision making that drives ownership and accountability and delivers on the RCS.	Participation Biodiversity Waterways Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values Water for agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective integrated NRM • Investment targeted to high value natural resources and cost effective solutions • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure and values • Partnerships have increased.
Our Catchments Our Communities - Statewide Pool Projects This project delivers on the OCOC Statewide Implementation. The funding supports the implementation of the Regional Catchment Partnership Agreement, supports regional leadership development, climate change project coordination and demonstrating outcomes.	Participation Partnerships	Community engagement & Partnerships Improving performance and demonstrating outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased knowledge and improved practices • Partnerships have increased.
Community Waterway Monitoring Continues the delivery of the Corangamite EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch programs involving community volunteers monitoring water quality to guide management decisions.	Participation Waterways	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased breadth & depth of participation • Increased and shared knowledge; Rivers, estuaries & floodplains; wetlands.

TABLE 16: COMMUNITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>NRM Aboriginal Project Officer - Wadawurrung partnership</p> <p>Working with project managers and the broader organisation to improve Aboriginal awareness and participation. With a focus on engaging and building strong relationships with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities, this position will support the integration of Traditional Owner and Aboriginal Community Country Plans in the planning and delivery of projects.</p>	Partnerships	Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Increased knowledge and improved practices • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values • Planning and activities informed by TO skills and knowledge.
<p>Barwon Parklands Strategy Support</p> <p>The purpose of this project is to support the development of the Barwon Parklands Strategy. The Waterway Programs Branch is funding the Corangamite CMA for a position to support the implementation of the Bam/on Parklands Strategy. The funding will enable the CMA to engage a project manager to develop a business case for the strategy and support the activities of the Barwon Parklands Strategy Working Group.</p> <p>The position will also support the Barwon Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on matters relating to the Barwon Parklands Strategy.</p>	CCMA Leadership Partnerships Waterways Participation	Waterway & catchment health Recreational Values Aboriginal cultural values Resilient and livable cities Community engagement & partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships have increased • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective Integrated NRM.
<p>Strategic NRM Directions for the Region</p> <p>The project will develop the next Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy in line with guidelines developed by the Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC) and by appropriate engagement with partners, stakeholders and the community. The CCMA will apply a place based planning process to ensure more localised 'buy-in' and ownership for planning and implementation.</p>	Waterways Biodiversity Participation Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values Resilient & liveable cities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships have increased • Retain the ecological function of waterways & protect community infrastructure & values • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Effective Integrated NRM.

TABLE 16: COMMUNITY PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN DURING 2020-21 (CONTINUED)

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	OUTCOME	POLICY PRIORITY AREA	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY OBJECTIVE
<p>Enhancing Regional and Local Partnerships</p> <p>Enhancing regional and local partnerships will deliver engaged communities, strong partnerships and support Traditional Owner involvement in natural resource management (NRM) projects and programs in the Corangamite catchment management area. The project will build on the Our Catchment Our Communities work and learnings to support the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation and strengthening of the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Agreement • Development of the new Corangamite Community Engagement Network (a group of diverse community members skilled in delivering community input into NRM planning and projects) • Contribution to statewide initiatives to support the development and promotion of Our Catchments Our communities • Formalisation and strengthening of partnerships with the Traditional Owners of the Corangamite Region. 	Participation Waterways	Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation has increased • Partnerships have increased • Joint priorities identified and pursued • Increased knowledge and improved practices • NRM respects and protects Aboriginal cultural values.
<p>Statewide Waterway Citizen Science</p> <p>This project will support the ten CMA regions in developing and delivering diverse citizen science opportunities for their communities to connect with, learn about and care for Victoria's waterways. It builds on the successful community monitoring and engagement undertaken through the Victorian Waterwatch and EstuaryWatch programs over the last 27 and 13 years respectively, which have fostered environmental stewardship and informed waterway management decisions. This project will also broaden the citizen science opportunities available to community to help generate new data, drive innovation and connect more community members to their waterway.</p>	Waterways Biodiversity Participation Partnerships	Climate change Waterway & catchment health Community engagement & partnerships Aboriginal cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased breadth & depth of participation • Increased and shared knowledge; Rivers, estuaries & floodplains; wetlands.

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

FOR 2020-21

Across the diversity of projects undertaken in the community program the following highlights and achievements have been summarised:

REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY

For the first time, the Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) will be an online document that sets the vision for the region, identifies both long and short-term outcomes and sets priority directions for actions over the six years of its life. RCS will also provide linkages to a range of other useful resources including websites and portals that users will be able to access to support them in their decision making. The RCS has been developed through extensive community engagement and consultation based on the principles of landscape, livelihood and lifestyle.

For the RCS renewal, the Corangamite CMA delivered a three-phase stakeholder engagement program.

Phase one included a collaborative process with the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Agreement group to develop draft 20 and 6 year outcomes for the region, along with targeted one-on-one consultations with all interested stakeholder groups.

Phase two was a collaboration with the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Group to deliver a comprehensive community engagement program. This program delivered 18 online community workshops across nine landscape systems. Just over 200 people attend the workshops, with 44% being community participants. These workshops underpinned the drafting of both the regional and landscape system scale objectives and priority directions.

Phase three is an open community consultation via the Engage Victoria platform to be delivered in 2021-22.

LANDCARE

Corangamite, North Central, North East and Goulburn Broken CMAs in partnership organised and delivered training and networking opportunities for Landcare Facilitators at the Cascade Connections annual conference in Creswick on 3-4 May 2021. The event theme was Leadership, Innovation and Beyond and was attended by 33 Landcare Facilitators.

The Regional Landcare Coordinator participated in two workshops with Deakin University and other industry stakeholders on Environmental Workplace Mental Health Promotion in July and August. Deakin University has been undertaking research on mental health and wellbeing of employees working in the natural resources management field and conducted interviews of their target audience to form case studies for the project. The research outcomes are now available and are designed to help us better understand the challenges faced by staff and help improve the way we support staff working in this industry. Quarterly Landcare Network Chairs and Facilitators meetings are conducted each year and informal check-ins are hosted monthly online with Corangamite Landcare Facilitators. The RLC attends quarterly Victorian Landcare Team meetings and also attended meetings regarding the Working for Victoria crews to ensure that Landcare Networks who expressed interest in the crews had their opportunities considered and included in the program.

A new Corangamite Regional Landcare Support Plan is currently being drafted using input collected during Landcare Network visits throughout February, March, and April 2021. In-depth conversations were held with each of our Landcare Network Chairs, Facilitators and key community members to identify key themes and content for determining the strategic direction for the plan. The final plan will be further developed by our Landcare community throughout 2021-22.

The 21 Project Grants funded through the Victorian Landcare Grants in Corangamite 2019-20 program are now finalised and the 2021 Victorian Landcare Grants in Corangamite received 29 project grant applications and 35 support grant applications. Applications are currently being assessed. A total of 51 groups completed the 2021 Group Health Survey.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

Corangamite citizen scientists have returned to volunteering after the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. The quality assurance program associated with the EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch programs was an ideal way for monitors to reconnect with the program. Volunteers were able to have their water testing kits refreshed, receive training and test mystery samples. Citizen scientists then took the next step of recommencing testing outdoors in accordance with the CCMA COVIDsafe Plan for volunteers.

Working with field workers from Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation, assessments were made of water quality before and after eWater releases in the Moorabool River. Working for Victoria teams were trained to do EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch activities at times when restrictions prevented CCMA volunteer participation.

Citizen Science project officers attended the 2021 Ballarat Begonia Festival and Integra Lucas Park Community Garden Day to promote awareness of water issues. Virtual meetings through River Rooms provides citizen scientists an opportunity to connect remotely. Further online engagement was possible at the Curdies River Estuary Community Information Session on the role of citizen scientists in estuary processes and management.

A Waterbug Discovery video for River Detective schools was promoted online with Australian Water Association during National Water Week. Other materials published during COVID-19 restriction included summary brochures for Analysis and Interpretation of Barwon and Coast citizen science data.

Skills of citizen scientists were further developed through their involvement with the Barwon Estuary Monitoring Program phase 2, assessing recreational water quality. Other citizen science opportunities included Autumn National Water Bug Blitz events on the Moorabool River and photopoint monitoring of Western District Lakes.

STATEWIDE ESTUARYWATCH AND WATERWATCH

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority hosts the Statewide EstuaryWatch Waterwatch facilitator. In 2020-21, the citizen science in Victoria's waterways program achieved the vision of engaging, activating and empowering communities to care for and improve the health of Victoria's waterways.

The citizen science in Victoria's waterways program achieved the vision of engaging, activating and empowering communities to care for and improve the health of Victoria's waterways.



Table 17 provides the outputs delivered across all community program projects in 2020-21. Performance reporting indicates that all projects are on track to deliver against their investment requirements.

TABLE 17: STANDARD OUTPUTS DELIVERED FOR THE COMMUNITY PROGRAM IN 2020-21

OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	NUMBER COMPLETED	AREA OF WORKS (HA)	LENGTH OF WORKS (KM)	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
Fence - Fence	2		4.4	
Vegetation - Native indigenous	11	52.3		
Weed control - Non-woody	1	7.5		
Weed control - Woody	2	43.4		
Pest animal control - Terrestrial	3	17.7		
Grazing - Terrestrial	1	35.8		
Management agreement - Binding non-perpetual	1	38.5		
Assessment - Ecological	1	35.7		
Assessment - Surface water	79			
Engagement event - Meeting	12			161
Engagement event - Presentation	4			54
Engagement event - Training	13			52
Engagement event - Workshop	6			95
Partnership - Agencies/Corporates	37			
Partnership - Community groups	12			
Partnership - Mixed	39			
Publication - Visual	1			
Publication - Written	18			
Information management system - Database	2			



CASE STUDY

Embracing Change -

ENGAGING ONLINE

CHALLENGE

This year the Corangamite CMA and partners have faced ongoing restrictions to engagement as the Victorian community went through multiple lockdowns and restrictions to movement, gathering and ongoing requirements to socially distance. This has challenged our normal delivery models as we moved from engaging face to face, communicating with our community at local community events, and engaging with our community volunteers onsite, to an almost entirely online model.

APPROACH

To support, promote and enable community involvement in our programs and projects, we sought to use a diverse range of online tools, including Teams, Zoom, Mentimeter, Social Media, skilled engagement consultants and Youtube. The Corangamite CMA team was proactive and open minded to trialling different approaches to engaging online, to find the right suite of tools that worked for our community.

RESULTS

RCS community consultation – This year, with the support of the Catchment Partners, we delivered a comprehensive community engagement program. This program delivered 18 online community workshops across nine landscape systems. Over 200 people attend the workshops, with 44% being community participants. This level of participation from the community is stronger than we have achieved in previous, similar, community engagement programs that have been delivered using traditional face to face mechanisms such as community meeting, open houses, or community workshops.

Community Engagement Network – This year we commenced the Community Engagement Network, with 22 inaugural community representatives. Unable to deliver a traditional induction program, face to face, we introduced the members to the CMA, our role, our programs, and our region, via an introductory webinar series. Using tools such as Zoom and Menti we presented our members with short sessions where they explored our key programs, got to know each other, and learnt more about natural resource management in the Corangamite Region.

Celebrating Community Achievements – The Corangamite Landcare Volunteer Recognition Program 2020 received nominations for 20 individual volunteers, four groups and 11 networks. The nominees were acknowledged during National Landcare Week 3-9 August 2020 and announced via media release and social media in September. Food and fibre showcase products were purchased locally from Colac to fill the recognition hampers and support local producers. Recognition packages, including a handmade recycled timber frame with certificate were sent to nominees and the Landcare stories were shared through our social media platforms.

River Rooms – During periods of COVID-19 restrictions, the CCMA has facilitated citizen scientists to have regular remote catchups via Teams online conferencing. These catchups are called “River Rooms” with invitees attending the room associated with their waterway of interest. The success of these sessions is based on the volunteers being able to share their observations of their waterway, ask questions of CCMA staff and generally catch up on all things water. River Rooms have inspired us to continue to use this new communication tool throughout 2020-21 and beyond. The Virtual River Rooms have a capacity to include phone ins for those that prefer to teleconference on the run as well as video connections. To prepare for the virtual conference the Citizen Science team sent out instructions with the River Room invitation and developed a calendar of events where CCMA staff from different program areas presented on current project work such as Water for the Environment and the Barwon River barrage. The vision of River Rooms is to foster conversations between whole of catchment communities where every volunteer, whether EstuaryWatch or Waterwatch, can attend regular monthly virtual meetings to share information, build knowledge and improve our programs.

KEY PARTNERS

Our community and stakeholders who have continued to support our programs.

CATCHMENT REPORT AND RATIONALE

ASSESSMENT OF COMMUNITIES IN 2020-21

POSITIVE ↑

Communities in the Corangamite region continue to be active participants in natural resource management activities. Participation rates are steady. Programs continue to focus on engagement of communities, particularly Traditional Owner groups, and new participants, and the organisation has been successful in delivering online engagement activities. The Corangamite CMA continues to be an active participant or lead in relevant regional forums with partners.

RATIONALE FOR ASSESSMENT:

- The Corangamite CMA continues to focus on strengthening partnerships with both Traditional Owner groups in the region, Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung. The partnership with Wadawurrung has resulted in their involvement in leading the design and delivery of successful projects, including the Moorabool River e-water monitoring program and the Cultural Burn Program
- The Corangamite CMA continues to sustain partnerships with a range of stakeholders. An example of this is the partnership with WestVic Dairy and Agriculture Victoria for the delivery of the Sustainable Dairies Project
- The region maintained the Catchment Partnership Agreement with 17 regional NRM government agencies. This partnership provides a strong foundation for delivering a coordinated approach to responding to community driven priorities in natural resources management
- Corangamite CMA actively participates in a number of key forums for the region. These include three Integrated Water Manager Forums that resulted in the development of Strategic Decision Statements supported by priority projects; G21 Alliance and the Barwon South West Climate Alliance
- Each year, Landcare groups are invited to complete a Group Health Survey, which records group perceptions of their current health and activity levels; see Figure 5. This year's group health survey results are stronger than last year's, with an increase in groups reporting themselves as trail blazers and rolling along and a decrease in groups reporting as just hanging on and struggling along. This indicates that we have increased our volunteering levels this year

- Landcare group capacity and competency varies across the region. The community is changing and some Landcare groups are moving and changing with the times, while others lack this capacity. There is a trend towards Landcare members being primarily from an older demographic
- The Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator (RALF) continues to be active in the region, working closely across a diversity of CMA and external programs to help facilitate improvement of knowledge and skills.

INFORMATION USED IN THE ASSESSMENT

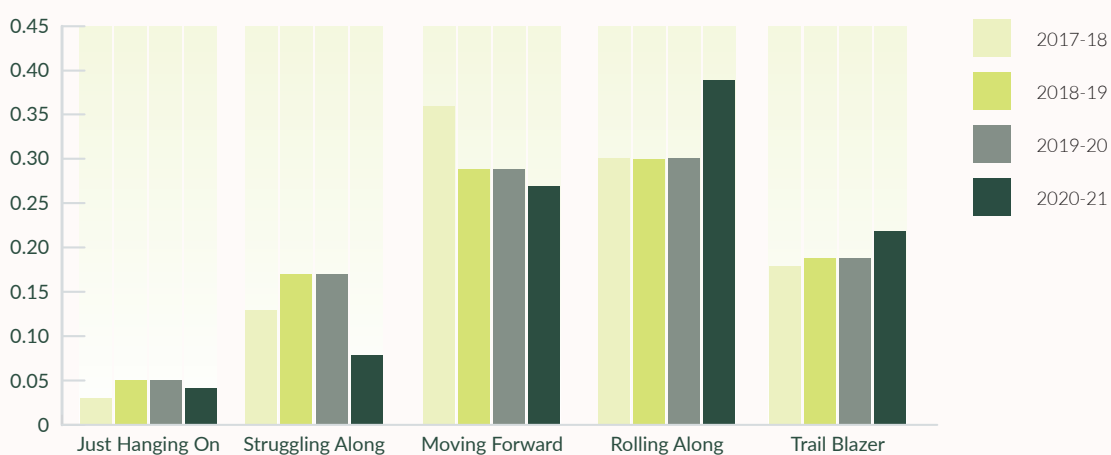
Engagement with the community and partners in the management of natural resources occurs in many different ways. The Corangamite CMA helps support the region's 152 Landcare and community NRM groups and 11 Landcare networks. Over 420 volunteer members were engaged through the EstuaryWatch and Waterwatch programs, while others were engaged with directly in facilitated capacity building events; and one-on-one meetings with landholders. Table 18 highlights the number of participants engaged over time and what they have been engaged in. It is evident from this table the numbers have increased, even under the COVID-19 restrictions in the last four months. This increase is a result of increased activity as the CMA approached the last year of the current four-year State government funding round, improved recording and using different techniques remotely that may reach a broader audience.

Each year, Landcare groups are invited to complete a Group Health Survey, which records group perceptions of their current health and activity levels; see Figure 5, 2020-21. Survey results for 2020-21 are very positive and demonstrate that we have healthy groups in Corangamite, with the majority (88%) reporting themselves as in the 'moving forward' category or above. A small number of groups (4%) have emerged in the 'just hanging on' and 8% of respondents say they are struggling along. This year's group health survey results are stronger than last year's, with an increase in groups reporting themselves as trail blazers and rolling along and a decrease in groups reporting as just hanging on and struggling along. This indicates that we have increased our volunteering levels this year.

TABLE 18: PARTICIPANTS ACROSS DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	PARTICIPATION IN 2016-17	PARTICIPATION IN 2017-18	PARTICIPATION IN 2018-19	PARTICIPATION IN 2019-20	PARTICIPATION IN 2020-21
Contributing to on-ground works (CMA sponsored activities, Trust for Nature and Landcare)	337	568	569	682	772
Attending skills and training events (CMA sponsored activities, Trust for Nature and Landcare)	1,000	1,269	1,103	1,466	1,489
Taking part in awareness raising activities (CMA sponsored activities and Landcare)	12,338	6,181	7,313	8,406	3,440
Working as collaborators in planning and decision making (CMA sponsored activities)	199	258	194	430	204
Being consulted to help determine appropriate action (CMA sponsored activities)	427	366	1,490	1,690	1,322

FIGURE 5: CORANGAMITE LANDCARE GROUP HEALTH SURVEY



Due to COVID-19 restrictions impacting delivery of community engagement events, many events were moved online, and written feedback was not able to be collected. This means there is no data available in 2020-21 to assess skills confidence, knowledge and practice change potential.



MAXIMISING NRM INVESTMENT

In The Region

The Corangamite CMA develops and submits applications for major funding rounds, primarily to the Victorian and Australian governments. The Authority also submits grant and tender applications to secure additional funding for the region as opportunities arise throughout the year.

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

The Victorian Government provides funding under the *Water Act 1989* and the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*. The main funding sources from the Victorian Government include:

- Environmental Water Program, Waterway Health Program and Floodplain Management Program
- Victorian Landcare Program
- Our Catchments, Our Communities.

The Corangamite CMA received project funding (excluding base funding) totalling \$9,876,613 through the Victorian Government in 2020-21 excluding funding provided through the Working for Victoria Program. This included \$5,776,000 provided through supply bill funding.

WORKING FOR VICTORIA

In 2020-21, the Victorian Government invested \$2,245,136 through the Working for Victorian fund for Natural Resource Management programs in the region and to employ 8 young Victorians through the Youth Employment Program.

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

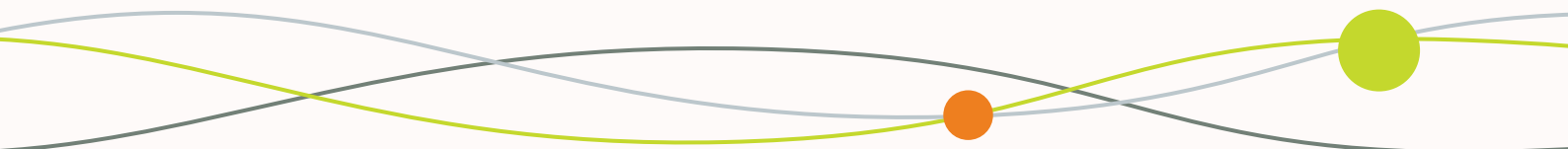
Australian Government's funding initiative to invest in the conservation and management of Australia's natural resource assets which is primarily achieved through the Regional Land Partnerships Program. The aim of Regional Land Partnerships Program is to protect, conserve and provide for the productive use of Australia's water, soil, plants and animals and the ecosystems in which they live and interact, in partnership with governments, industry and communities. The Corangamite CMA received \$4,741,004 in project funding from the Federal Government in 2020-21, \$4,644,079 through the Regional Land Partnerships Program and \$96,925 through the Fisheries Habitat Restoration.

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Implementation of Regional Floodplain Management Strategy The CCMA has worked with its stakeholders (nine local councils, Victoria SES, Water Authorities, Committees of Management and others) to prepare a Regional Floodplain Management Strategy 2018-28 (RFMS) which contains prioritised actions. This project involves the CCMA co-ordinating the implementation of this strategy with the stakeholders, provide technical advice associated with priority actions and lead the monitoring and evaluation process for the RFMS.	0	150,000	0	150,000

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Caretaker of Waterway Health This project oversees and provides governance to the CCMA's Waterway Health program through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting responsibilities as the Caretaker of Waterway Health and associated responsibilities under the <i>Water Act</i> Governance and oversight for the delivery of the CWS including strengthening of key partnerships that are enablers for planning and delivery (for example DELWP, ARI, Barwon, Wannon and Central Highlands Water, City of Greater Geelong, Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung) Meeting responsibilities under the associated CMA Statement of Obligations Contributing to state policy and strategy development (e.g. Waterway Managers Forum and Flagship Project Control Group) Development and delivery of monitoring, evaluation and reporting processes in support of the CWS Renewal as required through the <i>Water Act</i> of the CWS. 	0	333,578	0	333,578
Floodplain Management This project delivers the CCMA's statutory responsibilities relating to Floodplain Management and Waterway Health as provided for in the <i>Water Act 1989</i> , the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> , <i>Emergency Management Manual Victoria Part 7</i> , <i>Building Regulations 2018</i> , <i>Subdivisions Act 1988</i> and CMA Statement of Obligations. The project also coordinates the CCMA response to other referrals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern Rural Water - Take and Use, Works Licences, Annual Use Limits DJPR - Work Plans for mines and quarries EPA - Works Approvals. 	0	857,302	0	857,302
Estuary permits and regulation This role is focused on risk management of artificial estuary openings using the EEMSS, responding to formal opening requests from Permit Holders and implementing, as per the relevant policies within the VWMS. It is also informed by the EPBC listing of Assemblages of species associated with open-coast salt-wedge estuaries of western and central Victoria ecological community. Other areas of focus for this activity include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focusing on improving current management arrangements where required at the permitted estuaries through updating (Curdies River, Painkalac Creek, and Anglesea River) or developing (Barham River, Erskine River, Gellibrand River, Aire River, Thompsons Creek, and Spring Creek) MoU's or guidance notes with stakeholders Regular coordination and consultation with stakeholders to ensure estuaries are not opened in times of high risk Improve stakeholder and community understanding of estuary opening. 	0	231,115	0	231,115

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme and Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme <p>The Lough Calvert Drainage Scheme protects rural properties in the lower middle and upper loughs from flooding from Lake Colac while the Woody Yaloak Diversion Scheme is part of a flood protection program for agricultural properties around the shores of Lake Corangamite and Lake Gnarpurt. This activity involves routine maintenance and administration as operational drainage and flood mitigation schemes. Specifically, this involves inspection of infrastructure, planning for and overseeing of maintenance (weed and silt control); Operation of the schemes in a time of flood; water quality and quantity monitoring; administration of the Cundare Pool Grazing licences on land managed by the CMA.</p>	0	311,797	0	311,797
Barwon through Geelong <p>The Barwon River through Geelong supports a diverse array of recreational, environmental and cultural activities. These include organised events and frequent casual use of the waterway and land for various activities. The CMA has overseen 40,000 participants in the last year at 90 different events, noting that the informal use of the river and parklands is even more significant. This significant asset within the City of Greater Geelong provides great economic benefit to the residents and visitors. The activity therefore needs to keep up with increasing demand to ensure that the assets are in good condition for the enjoyment and safety of the wider community. Therefore, this activity includes (but is not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The planning and management for routine maintenance (e.g. mowing, tree management, plantings, weed control) and management of built and natural facilities and landscapes • Incident management, monitoring and communications • Event scheduling and management of waterway zones and usage • Lease management (e.g. of rowing/canoe clubs) • Broader communication and engagement with the Barwon Rivers Users Group – including executive support • Participation in the Barwon River Parklands inter-agency working group • Oversight when funding is available of the progressive implementation of the Barwon through Geelong Management Plan • Safety works along the river including hazard removal and boat navigation and signage. 	0	887,442	0	887,442

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
The Living Moorabool Flagship Project The Living Moorabool flagship program is a large scale, place-based program with a 30-year vision defined by the community reference group of: 'Healthy waterways, healthy people and healthy culture'. This program will be delivered through Integrated ICM practices that incorporate a diversity of stakeholders and activities. The project will focus on the following activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating improved coordination across activities and ensure sharing of knowledge with other key stakeholders Planning and delivery of environmental water consistent with annual watering plans Community engagement for environmental water Maintenance of past riparian management investments and targeted new investments Use of citizen science to better connect people to the river and inform management decisions. 	0	542,514	35,000	577,514
Upper Barwon Flagship Project CCMA has identified the upper Barwon River as the focus for investment as part of our EC5 Flagship Waterway project. The project will be delivered as a large scale, long-term (30 year) integrated catchment management project, with the EC5 focus being on the collaborative planning and creation of the appropriate implementation strategies to enhance riparian management practices and improve the delivery environmental water further down the Barwon river. Therefore, the activities during EC5 will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and Governance Planning and delivery of environmental water entitlement consistent with annual plans Waterway health: on-ground works and community education Community engagement for environmental water. 	0	1,488,029	57,952	1,545,981
City to Sea - Lower Barwon River and Ramsar Wetlands This project will deliver an integrated management program for the Bellarine Landcape Zone, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivery of CCMA's environmental water management functions for the lower Barwon wetlands Undertaking Ramsar site coordination, monitoring and action implementation Engaging landholders in river health and riparian management Monitoring and management of threatened fish species, and Supporting citizen science and community engagement. 	0	634,295	0	634,295

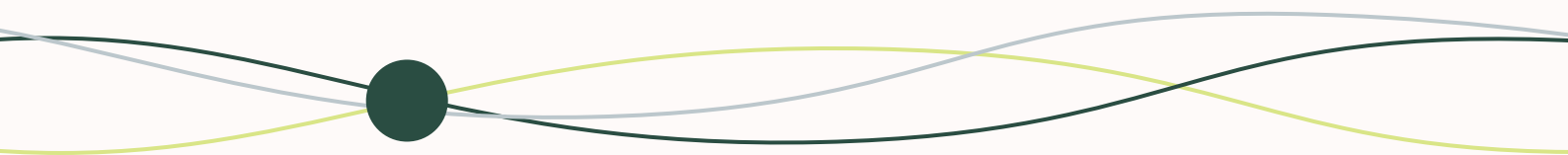


WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Lakes and Wetlands Complex of the South West This project builds on existing Ramsar, waterways protection and citizen science programs in the Western District Lakes and surrounding catchment, with activities that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the ecological character of the Western District Lakes (WDL) Ramsar site, its tributaries and surrounding lakes, and • Identify and manage drought refuges for EPBC-listed Yarra Pigmy Perch (YPP) in the Woody Yaloak River and Western District Lakes. 	0	272,913	0	272,913
Delivering ICM for the Gellibrand This project will maintain existing activities in the Gellibrand River and estuary and develop an integrated catchment management plan for the catchment. Upon the development of the plan, the existing activities will be adapted to reflect the plan's priorities. The activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using best available evidence to create a catchment plan specific for the Gellibrand • Investigating opportunities to improve environmental flows in the river • Maintaining existing riparian restoration sites • Engaging landholders in waterway frontage protection within catchment plan priorities; • Engaging community in citizen science activities. 	0	311,423	0	311,423
Surf Coast and Otways Restoration This project will improve estuary and river health outcomes in the Otway Coast Basin by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Traditional Owner cultural values and access to Country • Maintaining existing riparian restoration sites • Engaging with new landholders to develop waterway frontage management plans, and • Maintaining connections between community and waterway managers through support for citizen science monitoring. The Gellibrand catchment is excluded from this project and has been submitted as a separate integrated catchment management project due to its significance as a water supply catchment.	0	342,747	35,000	377,747
Working For Victoria - Youth Employment Program This project funds 6 graduate positions across the Corangamite CMA for a period of 12 months through the Working for Victoria Youth Employment Funds. The Working for Victoria (WV) Fund has been established to provide jobs for unemployed Victorians, including those impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19). The WV Public Sector Youth Employment Program (YEP) has been developed in partnership with the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) and is one of our major employment initiatives. Through it the VPS will provide paid employment for young people that will provide them work experience and training that will help them find ongoing employment in other roles.	0	496,000	0	496,000

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Working for Victoria Fund – Agriculture Workforce Plan 2 x 6 person works crews will undertake on-ground works projects to improve land health across the Corangamite region through shelterbelts, riparian vegetation, weed control, soil sampling and water quality monitoring.	0	607,867	0	607,867
Working for Victoria Fund – Jobs to deliver positive environmental outcomes in Victoria's catchments 2 x 6 person works crew (via Conservation Volunteers Australia), 1 x 10 person works crew (via Central Highlands Water) and 1x Business Support Officer (recruited through CCMA) to coordinate and undertake on-ground works projects to improve environmental outcomes across the Corangamite region.	0	1,141,268	24,262	1,165,530
Curdies Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Project The Curdies River and estuary is a destination waterway for angling species such as Black Bream and Estuary Perch in south-west Victoria, close to Warrnambool. The performance of the recreational fisheries is consistent, though limited by lack of instream woody fish habitat. More fish habitat, augmented by angler input and scientific evidence, is needed to materially improve the performance of this fishery. The Curdies Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Project aims to improve estuarine habitat for native fish and native angling species such as Black Bream in the estuary from immediately upstream of Curdievale to Peterborough (approximately 17km). This will be achieved through engaging with local anglers in planning, implementing and monitoring the outcomes of on-ground works such riparian habitat restoration, weed management and instream habitat creation.	57,839	0	0	57,839
Barwon Estuary Fish Habitat Restoration Project The Barwon River and Estuary is at the heart of burgeoning Geelong and is popular for fishing, paddling, and rowing. The performance of recreational fisheries is held back by limited instream woody fish habitat, and low abundance of key angling species. More fish habitat and access work, informed by angler input and scientific evidence, is needed to materially improve the performance of this fishery. The Barwon River Fish Habitat Rehabilitation Project will improve riverine and estuarine habitat for native fish, including angling species such as Estuary Perch, in the lower Barwon River between Buckley Falls and Lake Connewarre within the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site. This will be achieved through engaging with local anglers and Traditional Owners in planning and undertaking on-ground works such as instream habitat creation, riparian habitat restoration, weed management and rubbish removal as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.	39,086	0	0	39,086

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Corangamite CMA environmental water delivery gauging proposal 2020-21 This project will fund 4 gauging stations relating environmental watering. Sites; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site 233269 Barwon River U/S Lower Barrage of Geelong Wetlands Site 233603 Reedy Lake at Connewarre Site 233604 Hospital Swamp at Connewarre Site 232242 Moorabool River at Coopers Crossing Meredith 	0	17,026	0	17,026
Barwon River Waterway Rules Review This project will assist in reviewing the river rules for the Barwon River under Schedule 7 of the VOZR. In particular looking at the section at Breakwater with the planned aqueduct removal.	0	40,000	0	40,000
Strategic modelling and analytical support for the Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategies For the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CCMA) to procure and manage water resource modelling and analysis on behalf of DELWP to support development of the Corangamite Regional Seasonal Watering Strategy.	0	80,000	0	80,000
Water-Salt Balance Model for the Lower Barwon Wetlands To be delivered by consultants, key activities will include reviewing the literature, previous technical reports and available data associated with the Lake Connewarre Wetland Complex, and development of a Source model (& building on existing available) of the system. A range of assessments under various hydrological scenarios will be undertaken, which may include likely water regimes in the context of riverine flooding, high rainfall/urban run-off, drought, and predicted future climate change conditions.	0	190,000	0	190,000
Kitjarra-dja-bul bullarto langi-ut (Barwon River Parklands) Masterplan and implementation The project will develop and partially implement a masterplan for the Kitjarra-dja-bul bullarto langi-ut (Barwon River Parklands) including the following work packages: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Masterplan development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Setting vision and objectives consistent with community and Traditional Owner preferences and existing projects and planning activities Selecting, prioritising and costing projects to meet the agreed vision and objectives Conceptual design of high priority projects Business case for investment in high priority projects Governance and funding model assessment. Design and approvals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory approvals for high priority projects Detailed design of high priority projects. Construction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commencement of construction for high priority projects. 	0	755,710	0	755,710

WATER	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Recreation Water Initiative - Barwon River Multi Use Platforms This project will install multi use and accessible platforms along the Barwon River allowing for increased passive recreation, fishing, canoe launching, motor board berthing and dog swimming. It will also add increased rowing access for the Rowing Precinct and improved trail access to new river facilities.	0	0	60,800	60,800
The Living Moorabool The Living Moorabool Project is a strategic river management framework for planning, communicating and implementing long-term waterway work programs at a waterway or catchment scale. This project is a partnership with Barwon Water.	0	0	130,000	130,000
Upper Barwon Landholder Study The purpose of this project is to engage BehaviourWorks Australia to investigate landholder attitudes and beliefs, along the upper Barwon River, towards riparian management and understand what might motivate them to improve their land management practices.	0	34,271	0	34,271
Gellibrand Catchment Plan (Wannon Water) The aim of this project is to create a catchment plan for the Gellibrand River in partnership with Wannon Water and engaging with other key stakeholders. The integrated waterway health plan will set the priority projects for on-going co-investment in the Gellibrand. The first stage of the project will be a synthesis conducted through Deakin Uni of the existing information in the system to understand current condition and threats. The second stage will be to use this information to inform prioritisation of management actions.	0	0	20,000	20,000
Investigations Various small projects to undertake reviews of waterways.	0	1,111	25,906	27,017
TOTAL	96,925	9,726,408	388,921	10,212,254



COASTS	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Dunecare - Protecting Sand Dunes on Victoria's Iconic Surf Coast, Bellarine Peninsula and Great Ocean Road Australian Government election commitment. The Initiative is to focus on conserving coastal sand dune native flora and fauna habitat at risk of erosion from the Bellarine Peninsula to Marengo, including areas managed by organisations including Bellarine Bayside Coastal Management, Queenscliffe Borough Council, Barwon Coast Committee of Management, City of Greater Geelong, Surf Coast Shire, Parks Victoria, Barwon Water, the Great Ocean Road Committee, and Otway Coast Committee of Management.	495,000	0	0	495,000
TOTAL	495,000	0	0	495,000



BIODIVERSITY	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Protecting Priority Threatened Species - Corangamite Coast (Yr 2-5) The Corangamite CMA has actively lead the delivery of a coastal program funded by the Australian Government that has included management for threatened species since 2008. This Project will build on the past work, experience, partnerships and knowledge to improve Orange-bellied Parrot habitat, across public and private land. The project will create opportunities to collaborate with BirdLife Australia and DELWP to deliver citizen science opportunities including continued delivery of the annual winter population monitoring delivered by community volunteers; deliver on-ground outputs on a larger scale across the Ramsar site through a grants process; provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works on private land through a grants process and; incorporate Orange-bellied Parrot habitat requirements in current regional estuary mouth opening decision frameworks.	497,584	0	0	497,584
Wild Otways Initiative - Feral pig and deer eradication to protect native species in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland The project will be designed with feral animal control specialists to deliver highly strategic, intensive, responsive and sustained removal of introduced herbivores (deer and pigs) to protect native species and critical habitat (including EPBC-listed flora and fauna habitat and refugia).	411,484	0	0	411,484
Wild Otways Initiative - Fox and feral cat control in planned-burn landscapes to protect threatened species in the Otway Ranges Research findings suggest that reducing both feral cat and fox densities in burned landscapes following a fire event may support native animal survival in those areas. This project will help determine the management and operational requirements for integrated feral cat and fox control in the Otways after a fire event.	395,895	0	0	395,895
Wild Otways Initiative - Protecting plant and animal biodiversity in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland from cinnamon fungus (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) dieback. This project is to reduce the impact of <i>Phytophthora dieback</i> (<i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i>) on the biodiversity of the Otway Ranges, including EPBC-listed species. The project aims to prevent the introduction and/or minimise the spread of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> into uninfected critical habitat areas (notably the Carlisle Heathlands) and reduce the impact of <i>Phytophthora cinnamomi</i> at infected sites critical to the conservation of threatened species.	208,562	0	0	208,562
Wild Otways Initiative - Conserving threatened small mammals in the Otway Ranges, Bells Beach (Ironbark Basin) and Great Ocean Road Hinterland This project aims to determine the critical factors that support remaining refuge habitat for small mammals in the western Otway Ranges and establish required management prescriptions and guidelines to support small mammal recovery in other areas, including the eastern Otway Ranges.	195,823	0	0	195,823

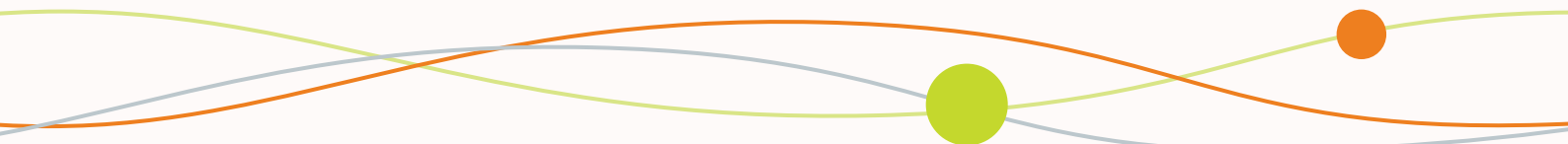
BIODIVERSITY	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Wild Otways Initiative - Rewilding threatened species in the Otway Ranges This project will identify and, if feasible, create the required conditions and support the reintroduction or 'rewilding' of one or more 'lost' and/or sparse threatened small mammal species important to the Otway Ranges, e.g. New Holland Mouse, Smokey Mouse, Broadtoothed Rat and Swamp Antechinus.	127,000	0	0	127,000
Wild Otways Initiative - Community grants program to protect and restore native plants, wildlife and coastal environments This project provides grants to support the local community to deliver on-ground environment projects to protect and restore native plants, wildlife, and coastal environments in the Otways from Peterborough to Jan Juc. The project also includes an Otways web portal, Wild Otways Initiative-wide monitoring program and emergency response capacity.	621,000	0	0	621,000
Adaptation Pathways for Biodiversity of the Barwon South West This project will; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a forum for showcasing current climate change information/projects that are relevant to the management of biodiversity within the Barwon South West Workshop and facilitate a co-designed approach for how the region can develop a 'Knowledgebase' of current climate change information that is relevant to the management of biodiversity within the Barwon South West Incorporate the 'Knowledgebase' into the current South West Climate Change Portal Using the 'Knowledgebase', develop a regional research priority online document that prioritises research gaps in managing the biodiversity assets of the Barwon South West under a changing climate. 	0	18,000	0	18,000
Connecting Landscapes to Biodiversity on the Victorian Volcanic Plain This project will build on the past work, experience, partnerships and knowledge to deliver services to control pest animals, remove pest weeds and improve land management practices, across public and private land within 75% of Area Five's 4 Target areas across the Victorian Volcanic Plain (VVP). The services delivered over a three year project include: support awareness, engagement and capacity activities (not funded through the BRP program), deliver on-ground outputs on a larger scale across the three project sites through a market based instrument (MBI) program, provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works that may not be addressed through a MBI.	0	97,150	0	97,150
Reviews Various small projects to support Biodiversity.	35,000	0	0	35,000
TOTAL	2,492,348	115,150	0	2,572,498

LAND HEALTH	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Small blocks, big dreams: Engaging peri-urban landholders in best practice integrated catchment management. This project will engage new peri-urban landholders in catchment management and empower them to adopt environmental best practices through a tailored farm planning program. The project will target smaller properties with intensive land uses, specifically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artisan producers, • Lifestyle farmers and • Animal husbandry (e.g. horse owners). Most of these land uses are located near priority waterways, special water supply areas and/or adjacent to or upstream of Ramsar wetlands. This project aims to increase landholder skills, knowledge and confidence in natural resource management and support landholders to implement practice change including pest plant and animal control, soil health and native vegetation improvements. It aims to develop landholders into 'catchment stewards' who can act as mentors for their neighbours and the local community.	0	68,332	0	68,332
National Land Partnerships Program Core Services Provides Core Engagement, Communication, Planning and Regional Agricultural Landcare Facilitator support to the broader National Landcare Program.	457,334	0	0	457,334
Improving On-Farm Soil, Vegetation for Larger Agricultural (Yr 2-5) This project builds on the experiences of the Corangamite CMA in partnership with farmers, community groups (including Landcare) and agriculture industry groups of the Corangamite region to enhance soil health and native vegetation on farms. Soil acidity has been identified as a regional soil health issue within the Corangamite region and this project will then focus on farmers within the central cropping areas of the region to adopt soil acidity management practices. While farmers within the southern dairy and cattle grazing areas of the region, will be targeted to improve their capacity to manage dairy effluent, apply appropriate nutrient management regimes and incorporate native vegetation into farming systems. The overall approach is based upon knowledge and extension activities, supported by some financial incentive programs. Different approaches are tailored to suit different target audiences to ensure maximum engagement and participation.	372,400	0	0	372,400

LAND HEALTH	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Protecting the Victorian Volcanic Plains This project will be delivered on a landscape scale, using established partnerships and knowledge to deliver, across public and private land, improved land management practices across the Victorian Volcanic Plain (VVP) within the Corangamite Management Unit. Community awareness programs will also be delivered to increase the knowledge of the community to increase the capacity of land managers to undertake and maintain works as well as to engage with Traditional Owners. The project will also support the management training of various land managers associated with the VVP's linear reserves, provide incentives to directly target specific on-ground works that enhance nationally threatened ecological communities on private land and deliver on specific actions that address EPBC listed species requirements on the VVP.	826,997	0	0	826,997
TOTAL	1,656,731	68,332	0	1,656,731

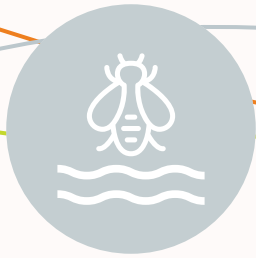


COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Strategic NRM Directions for the Region The project will develop the next Corangamite Regional Catchment Strategy in line with guidelines developed by the Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC) and by appropriate engagement with partners, stakeholders and the community. The CCMA will apply a place based planning process to ensure more localised 'buy-in' and ownership for planning and implementation.	0	192,678	0	192,678
Statewide Waterway Citizen Science This project will support the ten CMA regions in developing and delivering diverse citizen science opportunities for their communities to connect with, learn about and care for Victoria's waterways. It builds on the successful community monitoring and engagement undertaken through the Victorian Waterwatch and EstuaryWatch programs over the last 27 and 13 years respectively, which have fostered environmental stewardship and informed waterway management decisions. This project will also broaden the citizen science opportunities available to community to help generate new data, drive innovation and connect more community members to their waterway. The project will fund the Statewide Citizen Science Facilitator to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate state level planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting processes • Support the regional delivery of citizen science • Develop and maintain statewide communications and media • Promote and instil state level policy directions for citizen science through program delivery and regional projects. 	0	199,785	0	199,785
Enhancing Regional and Local Partnerships Enhancing regional and local partnerships will deliver engaged communities, strong partnerships and support Traditional Owner involvement in natural resource management (NRM) projects and programs in the Corangamite catchment management area. The project will build on the Our Catchment Our Communities work and learnings to support the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuation and strengthening of the Corangamite Catchment Partnership Agreement • Development of the new Corangamite Community Engagement Network (a group of diverse community members skilled in delivering community input into NRM planning and projects) • Contribution to statewide initiatives to support the development and promotion of Our Catchments Our Communities • Formalisation and strengthening of partnerships with the Traditional Owners of the Corangamite Region. 	0	35,950	0	35,950





COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION	AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT	VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT	OTHER VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS AND PARTNERS	TOTAL INVESTMENT
	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)
Barwon River amenity mapping and Traditional Owner engagement for RCS This project delivers on the following two tasks funded by DELWP as input to the Regional Catchment Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake mapping of waterway amenity in the Barwon River Parklands region; and, • Engagement with Traditional Owners to ensure their values and culture are embedded in Barwon River waterway planning and management within the RCS. Both of the above tasks deliver on likely actions to be identified in the soon to be released Rivers of the Barwon Action Plan being prepared in response to recommendations from the Barwon River Ministerial Advisory Committee. The Regional Catchment Strategy provides the opportunity for DELWP and the CCMA to deliver on these actions.	0	100,000	0	100,000
2021 Victorian Landcare Grants in Corangamite The CMA will deliver a devolved small grants program, on behalf of the Victorian Government, as part of a coordinated and consistent delivery approach across the State. The grants program will support the region's Landcare and environmental volunteer groups/networks with funding for on-ground activities and group support. Grants of up to \$30,000 are available for projects and \$500 for support.	0	253,739	0	253,739
Regional Landcare Coordination The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) program is funded by the Victorian Government's Landcare Program and supports 152 community-based environmental volunteer groups with more than 4,200 members. The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) position develops and implements regional Landcare support plans, undertake capacity building with groups and networks and facilitate access to grants and other funding.	0	165,626	0	165,626
NRM Aboriginal Project Officer - Wadawurrung partnership Working with project managers and the broader organisation to improve Aboriginal awareness and participation. With a focus on engaging and building strong relationships with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities, this position will support the integration of Traditional Owner and Aboriginal Community Caring for Country aspirations in the planning and delivery of projects.	0	0	53,178	53,178
TOTAL	0	947,778	53,178	1,000,956



SECTION 2

Our organisation, compliance and disclosures

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OUR ORGANISATION

THE BOARD

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority Board for 2020-21 included Alice Knight (Chair), Ken Latta (Deputy Chair), Catherine Jenkins, Fiona Cumming, Lia Sarto, Nick Renyard, Cathy Phelps and Wayne Weaire.

The Board is accountable for the overall performance of the Authority. Its role is to guide and govern the organisation to ensure it meets its responsibilities as determined in the *Water Act 1989* and *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

CHAIR - ALICE KNIGHT, OAM **1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021**

Alice Knight, together with her brother Kevin, is a primary producer and director of a 1,700Ha fine wool pastoral property at Pittong. She is a recipient of an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her services to the community, Landcare, environment, the Country Fire Authority and the Anglican church.

Alice's passion is Landcare and the Woody Yaloak Catchment Group, and she spends many hours working with and encouraging others' involvement in landscape change. Alice and her brother Kevin have received the prestigious national award, the McKell Medal, for conservation farming and community involvement in natural resource management, with Alice also being the recipient of the Joan Kirner Award in 2016. She recently retired from the Beaufort and Skipton Health Service Board after 25 years of service.

This is Alice's fourth term as Chair on the Corangamite CMA board, having previously been a board member for six years from 2000 to 2006. During 2020-21 Alice was Chair of the Remuneration Committee, a member of the Audit and Risk Committee and ex-officio to all other board standing committees.

FIONA CUMMING **1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021**

Dr Fiona Cumming's career was in nutrition, dietetics and scientific research, which later led her into senior positions in the regulation of foods and therapeutic goods, including complementary medicines. She grew up on a sheep farm at Timboon, in a family which lived by strong environmental principles.

After retiring from her career which took her to many interstate and international roles, Fiona is focusing her energy on contributing to her local community and its natural resources; nurturing the land as well as its people.

She owns three farms outside Geelong, two of which adjoin the iconic Thompson Creek. One of these is a historic property of 100 acres which is a working crop and sheep farm. Through the efforts of her parents, and now Fiona and her husband Brendon, it has become an eco-haven for native and indigenous plants and animals.

Fiona is a pilot, and this farm and the third nearby, where she and Brendon farm cattle, are also airfields which provide operating bases for her beloved 1964 Cessna 150 plane.

In recent years, Fiona has chaired the Surf Coast Shire Health and Wellbeing Committee (2010-13), the Surf Coast and Inland Plains Landcare Network Inc (2013-16), has joined the Otway Agroforestry Network and completed its Master Tree Growers course (2013). Fiona has received many awards during her career, including a Corangamite Landcare Recognition Award in 2015. In 2016, a lecture was given in her honour at the 33rd National Conference of the Dietitians Association of Australia.

During 2020-21, Fiona served as a member of the Regional Catchment Strategy Steering Committee and the Business Growth Plan Committee.

CATHERINE JENKINS **1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021**

Cath Jenkins and her family live on their farm in South Purumbete where they operate a free-range egg business and livestock operation. Cath also works as an independent agribusiness consultant.

Previously Cath has worked in roles as an Agribusiness manager with ANZ and as an Area Manager with Fonterra, where she worked closely with farming clients in the Colac and Cobden districts. Cath was previously the chair of the Dairy Industry Leadership Group and past treasurer of Women's Health and Wellbeing Barwon South West.

Cath has an Agricultural Science degree and postgraduate qualifications in professional writing. She is also a member and graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Cath and her husband Adam have four school-age children.

During 2020-21, Cath served as Chair of the Regional Catchment Strategy Steering Committee and a member of the Audit and Risk Committee.

KEN LATTA **1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021**

Dr Ken Latta had a long and distinguished career in the Victorian public service. He held senior and executive roles in the Department of Education and Victoria Police and was CEO and Chief Officer of the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board. Ken was awarded a Public Service Medal for services to leadership and reforms in the fields of Victorian Education. Ken has been recognised with an honorary doctorate from Victoria University. Ken has extensive board experience and was chairman of Harness Racing Victoria.

Ken has a Diploma of Agricultural Science, a Trained Technical Teacher's Certificate, a Bachelor of Science (Hons) a Graduate Diploma of Educational Administration and a Master of Business Administration.

During 2020-21, Ken served as Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and as a member of the Remuneration Committee.

NICK RENYARD
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Nick Renyard operates a 400Ha, 550-cow dairy farm with his family near Timboon. He has served three years as a director of DemoDairy, ten years as a Victoria Central Councillor for United Dairyfarmers, and five years as a director for Australian Dairy Farmers Limited. As part of his involvement in the dairy industry he has been on numerous committees, particularly relating to animal health, animal welfare and farm systems.

Nick has an Advanced Diploma of Agriculture.

During 2020-21, Nick served as Chair of the Business Growth Plan Committee and as a member of the Remuneration Committee.

LIA SARTO
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Lia Sarto manages a farming operation at Derrinallum where she runs cattle, sheep and a cropping enterprise. Lia has had a successful career in the private sector, previously working for Nortel Networks, Rio Tinto and Engie.

At Nortel Networks, Lia developed business solutions for customers. At Rio Tinto, Lia worked in marketing, scenario planning and government relations, including the evaluation and implementation of climate policy across the group. For Engie, Lia was Director of Strategy and Regulation where she led a team with the focus on developing a credible roadmap for future growth within a tightly regulated market.

Lia has a Bachelor of Engineering (Communications) and a Master of Business Administration.

During 2020-21, Lia served as a member of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Business Growth Plan Committee.

CATHY PHELPS
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Cathy Phelps has over 16 years' experience in the leadership and management of agriculture sector research, development and extension programs in the areas of natural resource management and climate risk, both dairy and cross sector. She facilitated the development of numerous partnerships with Victorian CMAs to address common primary industry issues including soil health, climate risk and water quality. Currently Cathy is leading the cross-sector Smarter Irrigation for Profit Phase 2 project, as well as working as a consultant in agricultural sustainability reporting.

Cathy holds a Masters in Sustainable Agriculture and a BSc in Agriculture (Hons).

During 2020-21, Cathy served as a member of the Regional Catchment Strategy Steering Committee and the Remuneration Committee.

WAYNE WEAIRE
1 July 2020 - 30 June 2021

Wayne Weaire is a primary producer and irrigator of 20 years, having owned and managed irrigation and dryland farms in the Corangamite, Goulburn and North East catchments of Victoria since 1984. He is a farmer who seeks for innovative planning and enablement of natural resource and environmental conservation.

Wayne has also had years of Senior Executive experience in a government entity and in private health and is a graduate of the Company Director's Course with the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

During 2020-21, Wayne served as a member of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Business Growth Plan Committee.

2020-21 BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS 2020-21	BOARD	AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE	REMUNERATION	REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE	BUSINESS GROWTH PLAN COMMITTEE
Alice Knight	9/9	3/5	2/2	6/7	N/A
Catherine Jenkins	9/9	4/5	N/A	7/7	N/A
Fiona Cumming	9/9	N/A	N/A	7/7	2/2
Cathy Phelps	9/9	N/A	2/2	7/7	N/A
Ken Latta	9/9	5/5	2/2	N/A	N/A
Lia Sarto	9/9	5/5	N/A	N/A	2/2
Wayne Weaire	9/9	5/5	N/A	N/A	2/2
Nicholas Renyard	9/9	N/A	2/2	N/A	2/2



The core roles of the standing committees are:

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

To monitor and evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of the corporate governance and risk management frameworks.

Membership:

- Ken Latta (Chair)
- Catherine Jenkins
- Wayne Weaire
- Lia Sarto

(All are independent members).

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

To oversee the management, performance and remuneration of the CEO and advise on significant human resource policies.

Membership:

- Alice Knight (Chair)
- Ken Latta
- Cathy Phelps
- Nick Renyard

REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE

To ensure the Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) and supporting strategies are being effectively implemented and resources are being maximised to progress implementation of natural resource management outcomes.

Membership:

- Catherine Jenkins (Chair)
- Fiona Cumming
- Cathy Phelps
- Alice Knight

BUSINESS GROWTH COMMITTEE

Develop and monitor the Business Growth Plan of the Corangamite CMA. The Business Growth Plan focuses on opportunities to increase investment to improve waterway health, mitigate the risks of climate change and support biodiversity.

Membership:

- Nick Renyard (Chair)
- Wayne Weaire
- Lia Sarto
- Fiona Cumming

EXECUTIVE TEAM

- Chief Executive Officer
John Riddiford
- General Manager Business and Governance Services
Chris Thompson
- General Manager Community and Catchment Services
Sarah Holland Clift
- General Manager Planning and Strategy Services
Helen Watts
- Communications and Engagement Coordinator
Amy Leith

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



ORGANISATION CULTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Corangamite CMA culture development approach supports the organisation's leadership and performance goals, and guides our values and behaviours. During 2018-19, the Authority reviewed its organisational Vision, Purpose, Values and Behaviours through workshops with staff and the board. These focus the Corangamite CMA's role and the way it operates including: being an effective partner; enabling communities, landholders, other organisations and governments to work together to improve the health and productivity of our natural and agricultural lands and waters; and to improve the social, economic and physical and mental health and wellbeing of our communities.

The Authority participated in the Victorian Public Sector People Matter Survey 2019 which attracted a 68% staff response rate. The results indicated a positive outcome in the areas of human rights, respect, safety, diversity and inclusion, and integrity. The results also identified improvement opportunities within the areas of psychosocial safety and change management.

The Corangamite CMA has just completed its 2021 People Matters Survey with a response rate of 72%. An action plan has been developed and implemented based upon the results.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

The Corangamite CMA values the contribution and dedication of its long service staff members. Service milestones are recognised and celebrated at an annual staff event.

The following staff reached service milestones during 2020-21:

- Craig Spowart (5 years)
- Alan Bristow (5 years)
- Amy Leith (5 years)
- Anthony Byrne (5 years)
- Chelsey Agg (15 years)
- Shirley Widdows (15 years)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The Corangamite CMA Diversity and Inclusion Plan for 2017-21 articulates how we support gender equity, diversity and inclusion in our workforce.

WORKFORCE DATA AS AT 30 JUNE 2021:

	2017-18 #	2017-18 FTE	2018-19 #	2018-19 FTE	2019-20 #	2019-20 FTE	2020-21 #	2020-21 FTE	2020-21 TARGETS %
Aboriginal Victorians	1	0.8	2	2	2	1.8	2	1.8	6
Gender profile:									
• Board (M / W)	4 / 5	NA	4 / 4	NA	3 / 5		3 / 5		
• Staff (M / W)	16 / 16	27.5	11 / 18	25.1	10 / 19	26.2	13 / 24	33.9	50 / 50
• Executives (M / W) ¹	3 / 1	4.0	2 / 1	3.0	2 / 2	4.0	2 / 2	4.0	50 / 50
• Management (M / W) ²	6 / 2	7.9	3 / 1	4.0	5 / 2	6.2	5 / 2	6.4	60 / 40
Age profile:									
• Youth cohort (under 35)	4		7	6.6	8	8.0	13	12.6	33
• Mature cohort (55 and over)	10		8	7.4	8	7.5	11	10.5	20
Staff with part-time work arrangements³	9		8	4.1	9	5.4	11	7.3	3
Staff % agreement with CCMA equal employment opportunity principles⁴	NA		69%		NA		NA		80

Employees have been correctly classified in workforce data collections.


NA: Data not available.

¹ VPSC and non-VPSC senior personnel who oversee the operation and directions of the business.

² Excluding Executives.

³ Subject to staff demand.

⁴ People Matter Survey results.



The CCMA Diversity and Inclusion Plan also demonstrates how we enable the full diversity of our community to access our services and participate in planning and actions to improve catchment health. The Corangamite CMA recognises the positive benefits of gender equity, diversity and inclusion within its workforce of 48 employees.

The Corangamite CMA is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace and providing a workplace for staff free of all forms of discrimination, bullying and harassment. Our aim is to promote fairness and equity where the rights of individuals are supported, and all staff are treated with respect and dignity.

We are building an inclusive workplace to help realise the potential of all employees, embrace differences, apply diverse thinking to innovation and deliver services to Victorian communities. All positions can be worked flexibly, and we encourage job applications from Aboriginal people, people with disabilities, people of all ages and people from culturally diverse backgrounds.

Staff turnover for 2020-21 was 15% as a result of natural attrition. Throughout the year, seventeen positions were advertised externally with a total of 179 applications received. 9 of these positions were associated with the Working for Victoria Program.

Throughout the year the Corangamite CMA further supported opportunities for young people, engaging one trainee and eight graduate positions.

In partnership with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, an Aboriginal NRM Participation Officer, split .5 at each organisation, has been employed. This role has a focus on engaging and building strong relationships with Traditional Owners and Aboriginal communities, while supporting the integration of the Wadawurrung Healthy Country Plan aspirations in the planning and delivery of projects.

In 2020-21, the Corangamite CMA participated in the Bridging the Gap Program. Victoria's Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) emphasise that a key priority in the years ahead is to increase the number and proportion of women in senior staff leadership positions. This includes supporting women to engage in leadership development opportunities.

As part of the Insight program, a supplementary program called

Bridging the Gap was introduced, involving six CMA members. For Bridging the Gap, each woman participant recruited a senior male colleague to explore gender challenges across the sector and plan for sector wide change. This program has inspired discussion and motivation to better understand and enable transformation across the Victorian CMA sector, to further support and encourage women in leadership.

We are building an inclusive workplace to help realise the potential of all employees, embrace differences, apply diverse thinking to innovation and deliver services to Victorian communities.

LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Learning and development opportunities were identified through annual staff professional development plans. The following courses were undertaken throughout the year to enhance staff knowledge and capabilities.

- Monthly Cyber Security Training
- Driver Safety
- Stress Less at Work
- Dealing with workplace conflict
- Risk Management for Managers and Supervisors
- Fire Safety
- Public Interest Disclosure
- Information Management, Privacy and Security
- Project Management
- Work specific conferences and workshops.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OH&S)

The Corangamite CMA is committed to the health and safety of all staff, contractors, volunteers and visitors, ensuring it complies with its obligations under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*.

The Authority's OH&S Committee consists of staff and management representatives who meet regularly with the aim of building a workplace culture that ensures health and safety is a priority. The Committee met four times for the year.

Key activities for the 2020-21 year included:

- Finalisation and implementation of 13 new/revised OH&S policies and procedures following a gap analysis undertaken by the OH&S Committee
- Updating of SWMS templates to include the above mentioned gap analysis, COVID-19 risks and an increased emphasis on Health and Wellbeing
- Development of a new 4 year OH&S Action plan
- Implementation (and regular review) of the Corangamite CMA COVIDSafe plan
- Completed outstanding actions from its facility audit
- Implemented Staysafe, an app that supports staff to keep in touch with the CMA when out in the field including a duress functionality
- Increased access to Health and Safety information for staff via the new sharepoint site.

During 2020-21 there were seven reported incidents/hazards, with no lost time injuries. All incidents/hazards were investigated, and corrective actions implemented where applicable.

YEAR	REPORTED INCIDENTS/HAZARDS	REPORTED INCIDENTS PER 100 FTE	LOST TIME INJURIES	LOST TIME INJURIES PER 100 FTE
2016-17	11	0.27	0	0
2017-18	5	0.18	0	0
2018-19	5	0.16	0	0
2019-20	5	0.14	0	0
2020-21	7	0.16	0	0

The Corangamite CMA Occupational Health & Safety Management System Improvement Strategy prioritises actions to improve the Authority's safety management system over four years. During 2020-21, 89% of actions were completed and a new 4 year strategy was developed.

STAFF HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Authority values and supports the health and wellbeing of staff and during the year, developed a Staff Mental Health & Wellbeing procedure and program. The purpose of this procedure is to promote, establish and maintain initiatives for the mental health and wellbeing of all staff, ensure a safe work environment, and encourage staff to take responsibility for their own mental health and wellbeing. The Corangamite CMA has adopted the VPS Mental Health and Wellbeing Charter. The Corangamite CMA further participates in the Leading the Way Program, a program aimed to improve health and wellbeing and reduce occupational violence in the workplace.

Corangamite CMA believes that the mental health and wellbeing of our staff is key to our organisational success and sustainability. The CCMA continues to provide a number of initiatives to staff under the Health & Wellbeing program including access to the Employee Assistance Program by all employees and their families, access to Contact Officers, and staff who have completed a mental health first aid certificate. A new Health and Wellbeing Committee was established in 2020-21 to help develop the program.

COVID-19 provided a significant challenge to the Corangamite CMA in terms of workplace safety. More information on the actions and initiatives to support staff safety and wellbeing are included in the COVID-19 section on page 12.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

In April 2020, the Corangamite CMA entered into a shared service arrangement with Barwon Water for the provision of high level Human Resources and OH&S business partnering. The arrangement has seen the Corangamite CMA gain access to extensive senior Human Resources experience and capacity whilst still retaining Corangamite CMA employed Human Resources administrative support. The arrangement further allows the Corangamite CMA to leverage expertise to further mature its Human Resources and OH&S systems.

The following internal human resource policies and procedures were reviewed and adopted during the year:

- Equal Opportunity and Antidiscrimination policy
- Respectful Behaviours procedure
- Responding to Bullying, Harassment and Discrimination procedure
- Reward and Recognition Procedure.

In 2020-21, the Corangamite CMA entered into negotiations with staff and unions for a new 4 year Enterprise Agreement. The negotiations were conducted through a productive and respectful process with the revised agreement going to staff vote in July 2021.

COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT LEGISLATION

COMPETITIVE NEUTRALITY POLICY

Competitive neutrality requires government businesses to ensure where services compete, or potentially compete with the private sector, any advantage arising solely from their government ownership be removed if it is not in the public interest. Government businesses are required to cost and price these services as if they were privately owned. Competitive neutrality policy supports fair competition between public and private businesses and provides government businesses with a tool to enhance decisions on resource allocation. This policy does not override other policy objectives of government and focuses on efficiency in the provision of service.

The Corangamite CMA continues to comply with the requirements of the Competitive Neutrality Policy.

INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Information relevant to the headings listed in Financial Reporting direction 221 of the *Financial Management Act 1994* is available on request at the Corangamite CMA's office, subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*.

Information includes:

- Statements that declarations of pecuniary interests have been completed by all relevant officers
- Details of publications produced by the Corangamite CMA and how these can be obtained
- Details of changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies charged by the Corangamite CMA
- A list of major committees sponsored by the entity, the purposes of each committee and their achievements
- Details of assessments and measures undertaken to improve the OH&S of employees
- Details of any major external reviews carried out on the entity
- Details of overseas visits undertaken including a summary of the objectives and outcomes of each visit
- Details of major promotional, public relations and marketing activities undertaken by the entity to develop community awareness of the entity and its services
- General statement on industrial relations within the entity and details of time lost through industrial accidents and disputes
- Details of all consultancies and contractors.

The information is available on request from:

Business and Governance Services General Manager
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
Phone: 1800 002 262
Email: info@ccma.vic.gov.au

BUILDING ACT 1993

The Corangamite CMA owns or controls four government buildings located at Geelong, Colac and Cressy and, consequently, is required to include a statement on its compliance with the building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993* in relation to those buildings.

The Corangamite CMA requires that appropriately qualified consultants and contractors are engaged for all proposed works on land controlled by the Corangamite CMA, and that their work and services comply with current building standards. All such consultants and contractors are expected to have appropriate mechanisms in place to ensure compliance with the building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993*.

The Corangamite CMA requires that appropriately qualified consultants and contractors are engaged for mandatory testing of emergency and exit lighting in accordance with relevant standards; for monthly, quarterly and bi-annual inspections; preventive routine maintenance of mechanical services; and monthly and annual fire service audits.

The Corangamite CMA complied with the building and maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993* in its building and maintenance activities.

In 2020-21:

Number of major works projects undertaken (>\$50 000)	0
Number of building permits, occupancy permits or certificate of final inspection issued in relation to buildings owned	0 building permits 0 occupancy permits 0 certificates of occupancy
Number of emergency orders and building orders issued in relation to buildings	0 emergency orders 0 building orders
Number of buildings that have been brought into conformity with building standards during the year	0 buildings brought into conformity

FINANCING COSTS AND LEASE LIABILITIES

The Corangamite CMA has one property it leases. Full financial impacts are available in the Financial Statement (see page 122) in line with new accounting standard AASB16 *Leases*.

DISCLOSURE INDEX

An index identifying the Corangamite CMA's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements is contained in Appendix 3 (see page 153).

LOCAL JOBS FIRST - VICTORIAN INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The *Local Jobs First Act 2003* requires public bodies and departments to report on implementation of the Victorian Industry Participation Policy (Local Jobs First - VIPP) and Major Project Skills Guarantee (MPSG) policy. Public bodies are required to apply VIPP and MPSG policy in all projects over \$1 million in regional Victoria.

MPSG applies to all construction projects valued at \$20 million or more.

No tenders or service projects were issued by the Corangamite CMA greater than \$1 million for the year ending June 2021.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE

Nil reports: the Corangamite CMA's expenditure in the 2020-21 reporting period on government campaign expenditure did not exceed \$100,000.

SOCIAL PROCUREMENT FRAMEWORK

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is fully committed to supporting the Government's directions under the Social Procurement Framework and we recognise that we play a key role in advancing social and sustainable outcomes for Victorians.

In 2019, the Corangamite CMA developed a Social Procurement Strategy to enable a strategic, agency-wide approach to how it will deliver social and sustainable outcomes through our procurement in accordance with the Social Procurement Framework and beyond.

In that Strategy, the Corangamite CMA prioritised six SPF objectives - detailed in the table below, with their associated reporting metrics. These SPF objectives were chosen based on their high degree of alignment with the Corangamite CMA's strategic direction and values as well as being best positioned to advance our identified social procurement opportunities.

OBJECTIVE PRIORITISED	OUTCOME SOUGHT	SPF REPORTING METRIC
Women's equality and safety	Gender equality within Victorian government suppliers.	Number of Victorian Government suppliers that have a gender equality policy.
Opportunities for Victorian Aboriginal people	Purchasing from Victorian Aboriginal businesses. Employment of Victorian Aboriginal people by suppliers to the Victorian Government.	Number of Victorian Aboriginal businesses engaged. Total expenditure with Victorian Aboriginal businesses.
Opportunities for Victorians with disability	Purchasing from Victorian social enterprises and Australian Disability Enterprises. Employment of Victorians with disability by suppliers to the Victorian Government.	Number of Victorian social enterprises and Australian Disability Enterprises. Total expenditure with Victorian social enterprises and Australian Disability Enterprises.
Sustainable Victorian Regions	Job readiness and employment for people in regions with entrenched disadvantage.	Number of businesses engaged within regions experiencing entrenched disadvantage. Total expenditure and % of total expenditure with businesses within the region experiencing entrenched disadvantage.
Implementation of the Climate Change Policy Objectives	Project-specific requirements to minimise greenhouse gas emissions. Procurement of outputs that are resilient against the impacts of climate change.	Total number of contracts entered into with Victorian Government suppliers that have a clause for procurement of outputs that are resilient against the impacts of climate change.
Sustainable Victorian social enterprises and Aboriginal business sectors	Purchasing from Victorian social enterprises and Aboriginal businesses.	Total number of contracts entered into with Victorian Government suppliers that have a clause for procurement of outputs that are resilient against the impacts of climate change.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The Corangamite CMA has:

- Undertaken awareness activities with staff to support our first Social Procurement Strategy
- Implemented 6-monthly reporting to its Board on Social Procurement Indicators
- Imbedded a 10% factor into its evaluation template for procurement
- Incorporated social procurement into our approach to market templates
- Incorporated into its vendor registration form, a requirement from suppliers on whether they have a family violence policy
- Implemented improved data collection processes so that it now has approximately 5 years of social procurement data
- Engaged closely with local Traditional Owner Corporations to increase engagement including cultural heritage assessments
- Entered into a joint appointment agreement with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation for an NRM engagement officer.

The Corangamite CMA will in 2021-22 review its Social Procurement Strategy, learning from the first 2 years of implementation.

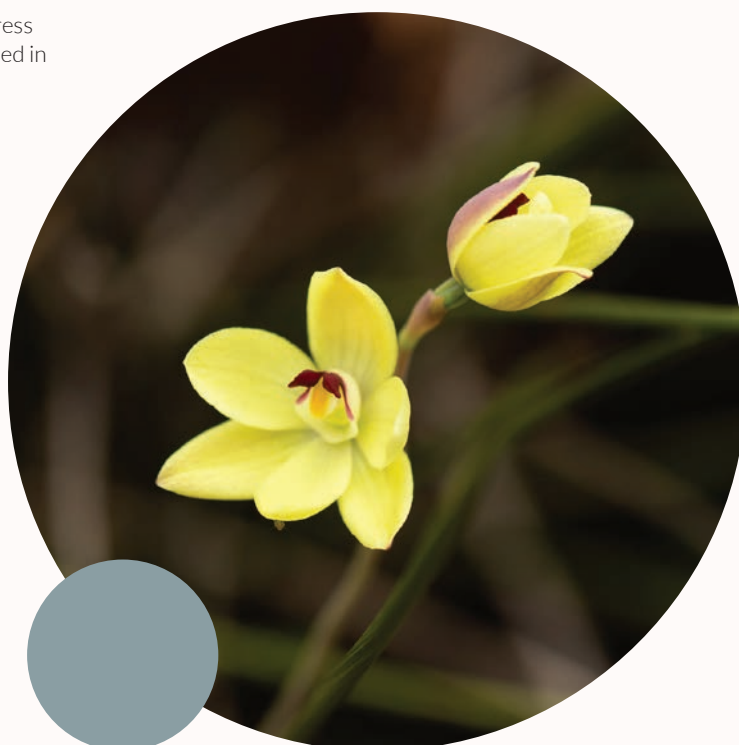
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The Corangamite CMA will commence reporting on its progress against the SPF Objectives using the reporting metrics detailed in the table above in subsequent annual reports.

BANK LOANS, BILLS PAYABLE, PROMISSORY NOTES, DEBENTURES AND OTHER LOANS

The Corangamite CMA did not have any bank loans, bills payable, promissory notes, debentures or any other loans during the year.

Inventories by class	N/A
Intangible assets	N/A
Overdrafts	N/A
Authorised and issued capital	N/A
Ex-gratia payments	N/A
Amounts written off	N/A
Charges against assets	N/A
Assets received without adequate consideration	N/A
Motor vehicle lease commitments	N/A



SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no subsequent events between 30 June 2021 and the date this report went to print that had a material impact on the Corangamite CMA's financial position.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION (FOI)

The Act allows the public a right of access to documents held by the Authority. The purpose of the Act is to extend as far as possible the right of the community to access information held by government departments, local councils, Ministers and other bodies subject to the Act.

An applicant has a right to apply for access to documents held by the Authority. This comprises documents both created by the Authority or supplied to the Authority by an external organisation or individual, and may also include maps, films, microfiche, photographs, computer printouts, computer discs, tape recordings and videotapes.

The Act allows an organisation to refuse access, either fully or partially, to certain documents or information. Examples of documents that may not be accessed include: cabinet documents; some internal working documents; law enforcement documents; documents covered by legal professional privilege, such as legal advice; personal information about other people; and information provided to an Authority in-confidence.

From 1 September 2017, the Act was amended to reduce the Freedom of Information (FOI) processing time for requests received from 45 to 30 days. However, when external consultation is required under ss29, 29A, 31, 31A, 33, 34 or 35, the processing time automatically reverts to 45 days. Processing time may also be extended by periods of 30 days, in consultation with the applicant. With the applicant's agreement this may occur any number of times. However, obtaining an applicant's agreement for an extension cannot occur after the expiry of the timeframe for deciding a request.

If an applicant is not satisfied by a decision made by the Authority, under section 49A of the Act, they have the right to seek a review by the Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner (OVIC) within 28 days of receiving a decision letter.

Making a request

FOI requests can be made in writing to the:
Freedom of Information Officer,
Corangamite Catchment Management Authority,
64 Dennis Street, Colac, Victoria 3250
PO Box 159, Colac, Victoria 3250
Email: info@ccma.vic.gov.au
Ph: (03) 5232 9100

When making an FOI request, applicants should ensure requests are in writing, and clearly identify what types of material/ documents are being sought.

The current fee for applications is \$30.10. Access charges may also be payable if the document pool is large, and the search for material, time consuming.

More information regarding FOI can be found at www.ovic.vic.gov.au

FOI Statistics and Timeliness

The Corangamite CMA received no Freedom of Information (FOI) requests for 2020-21 period from the general public.

The Corangamite CMA made one decision regarding FOI in relation to a FOI received in the previous year whereby access was granted in part (some exempt material).

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN FINANCIAL POSITION

There has been no significant change in financial position.

MAJOR FACTORS OR CHANGES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE

There have been no significant changes affecting performance.

PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES ACT 2012

The *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2012* enables people to make disclosures about improper conduct by public officers and public bodies. The Act aims to ensure openness and accountability by encouraging people to make disclosures and protecting them when they do.

WHAT IS A 'PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE'?

A Public Interest Disclosure is a complaint of corrupt or improper conduct by a public officer or a public body. The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is a 'public body' for the purposes of the Act.

The Corangamite CMA does not tolerate improper conduct by employees, nor the taking of reprisals against those who come forward to disclose such conduct. It is committed to ensuring transparency and accountability in its administrative and management practices and supports the making of disclosures that reveal corrupt conduct, conduct involving a substantial mismanagement of public resources, or conduct involving a substantial risk to public health and safety or the environment.

HOW DO I MAKE A 'PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURE'?

You can make a Public Interest Disclosure about the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority or its board members, officers or employees by contacting the Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission on the contact details provided below. Please note that the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is not able to receive Public Interest Disclosures.



HOW CAN I ACCESS THE CORANGAMITE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY'S PROCEDURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONS FROM DETRIMENTAL ACTION?

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority has established procedures for the protection of persons from detrimental action in reprisal for making a Public Interest Disclosure about Corangamite Catchment Management Authority or its employees.

You can access Corangamite Catchment Management Authority's procedures on its website at: www.ccma.vic.gov.au

CONTACTS

Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC)
Victoria Address: Level 1, North Tower, 459 Collins Street,
Melbourne Victoria 3000.

Mail: IBAC, GPO Box 24234, Melbourne Victoria 3001.

Internet: www.ibac.vic.gov.au

Phone: 1300 735 135

Email: see the website above for the secure email disclosure process, which also provides for anonymous disclosures.

COMPLIANCE WITH CARERS RECOGNITION ACT 2012

The Corangamite CMA has taken all practical measures to comply with its obligations under the *Carers Recognition Act 2012*. These include provisions within the enterprise agreement to support carers through provisions such as carer's leave and flexible work arrangements.

ASSET MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY FRAMEWORK (AMAF) MATURITY ASSESSMENT

The following sections summarise the Corangamite CMA's assessment of maturity against the requirements of the Asset Management Accountability Framework (AMAF). The AMAF is a non-prescriptive, devolved accountability model of asset management that requires compliance with 41 mandatory requirements. These requirements can be found on the DTF website (<https://www.dtf.vic.gov.au/infrastructure-investment/asset-management-accountability-framework>).

The Corangamite CMA's target maturity rating is 'competence', meaning systems and processes fully in place, consistently applied and systematically meeting the AMAF requirement, including a continuous improvement process to expand system performance above AMAF minimum requirements.

Leadership and Accountability *(requirements 1-19)*

The Corangamite CMA has met its target maturity level within this category.

There is no material non-compliance reported in this category. A plan for continuous improvement is in place to improve the Corangamite CMA's maturity rating in these areas.

Planning *(requirements 20-23)*

The Corangamite CMA has met its target maturity level within this category.

There is no material non-compliance reported in this category. A plan for continuous improvement is in place to improve the Corangamite CMA's maturity rating in these areas.

Acquisition *(requirements 24 and 25)*

The Corangamite CMA has met its target maturity level within this category.

There is no material non-compliance reported in this category. A plan for continuous improvement is in place to improve the Corangamite CMA's maturity rating in these areas.

Operation *(requirements 26-40)*

The Corangamite CMA has met its target maturity level within this category.

There is no material non-compliance reported in this category. A plan for continuous improvement is in place to improve the Corangamite CMA's maturity rating in these areas.

Disposal *(requirement 41)*

The Corangamite CMA has met its target maturity level within this category.

There is no material non-compliance reported in this category. A plan for continuous improvement is in place to improve the Corangamite CMA's maturity rating in these areas.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMPLIANCE ATTESTATION

I, Alice Knight, Chair of the Corangamite CMA Board, on behalf of the Responsible Body, certify that the Corangamite CMA has no Material Compliance Deficiencies with respect to the applicable Standing Directions made under the *Financial Management Act 1994* and Instructions.

INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) EXPENDITURE

For the 2020-21 reporting period, the Corangamite CMA had a total expenditure of \$554,417 with the details shown below:

ALL ICT OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE		ICT EXPENDITURE RELATED TO PROJECTS TO CREATE OR ENHANCE ICT CAPABILITIES	
Business As Usual (BAU)	Non-Business As Usual (non-BAU)		
ICT expenditure	ICT expenditure	Operational expenditure	Capital expenditure
Total	Total = A + B	A	B
\$468,685	\$85,732	\$0	\$85,732

"ICT expenditure" refers to Corangamite CMA costs in providing business-enabling ICT services.

It comprises Business As Usual (BAU) ICT expenditure and Non-Business As Usual (Non-BAU) ICT expenditure.

"Non-BAU expenditure" relates to extending or enhancing Corangamite CMA current ICT capabilities.



SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL RESULTS

The Corangamite CMA achieved a surplus of \$4,206,457 for 2020-21 against a budgeted deficit of \$1,221,583.

INCOME

Income for the period was \$17,446,780 compared with a budget of \$12,597,926, a positive variance of approximately \$4,848,854. In lieu of EC5 funding being delayed via the Victorian State Government Budget, \$5,776,000 was provided by Victorian Government via supply bill funding to continue programs for the year.

In a positive year for the Corangamite CMA the key variances predominantly related to:

- Barwon Flagship project funding received in advance (\$1.84m)
- Non-budgeted funding received through the Working for Victoria program (including Youth Employment Program) (\$2.27m)
- Additional Regional Landcare Partnership invoicing relating to completion of additional service units (\$638K)
- Landcare Grants (\$253K), Corporate Funding (\$421K) and approximately \$540K of various new projects signed over the final 2 months of the year and income received.

Partially offset by:

- The full year Corporate Plan included \$864K of income that would be recognised in the balance sheet under AASB15. However, based upon subsequent advice from VAGO, no DELWP funding agreements were assessed as falling under new accounting AASB15.

Approximately \$1.7m of RLP funding has been accrued under AASB15 as not yet invoiced however service units have been delivered.

EXPENDITURE

Expenditure for the period was \$13,240,323 compared with a budget of \$13,819,510; a positive variance of \$579,187.

The positive variance are predominantly related to a delay in expenditure as a result of the delay in the awarding of EC5 projects, COVID-19 reducing operational expenditure offset by additional contractor expenditure associated with the unbudgeted Working for Victoria program. In particular:

- Incentives expenditure was down primarily due to payments for the Community Grants from Wild Otways Initiative still be distributed (\$280K), existing RLP projects utilising contractors as opposed to incentives (\$300K) plus EC5 incentive payments not yet made due to awaiting the finalisation of EC5 projects (\$140K)
- Contractor expenditure was up primarily due to payments for the unbudgeted Working for Victoria Projects (\$1.65m) and existing RLP projects utilising contractors as opposed to incentives (\$300K). This was offset in part by contractor costs budgeted as part of EC5 budgets but have not yet been expended due to projects not yet beginning (\$500K)
- Operational expenditure was down as were budgeted as part of EC5 budgets but have not yet been expended due to projects not yet finalised or expended from EC4 funds (\$500K), lower than budgeted corporate expenditure as a result of COVID-19 and not being in the office (\$300K) and underspends across various projects (\$130K)
- Consultants were down on budget primarily due to delays in projects caused by COVID-19 and EC5 projects yet to be finalised.



\$5,776,000
WAS PROVIDED BY

BY **VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT** VIA SUPPLY
BILL FUNDING TO **CONTINUE**
PROGRAMS FOR THE YEAR.

BALANCE SHEET

Current assets are well above budget with a cash and cash equivalents balance of \$16,157,109; significantly higher than a budget of \$7,270,000. This is due to additional income provided in advance and delays in project expenditure as outlined above.

In 2021 an external asset revaluation occurred in line with FRD 103I Non Financial physical assets on Corangamite CMA land, buildings and infrastructure. This represents the first revaluation since 2016 on infrastructure and buildings and 2019 on land and has resulted in a \$8,113,322 upward revaluation in assets. This was primarily due to a significant increased value of parkland and water infrastructure assets particularly around on Barwon through Geelong.

Overall the Corangamite CMA maintains a healthy balance sheet with a healthy cash position and equity of \$60,092,349.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL RESULTS - LAST FIVE YEARS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	2017 \$	2018 \$	2019 \$	2020 \$	2021 \$
Income and Expenditure					
Victorian Government Funding	7,341,352	8,993,586	10,832,073	7,978,498	12,121,748
Australian Government Funding	2,632,205	2,165,200	1,122,982	1,197,970	4,741,004
Other Income	626,884	427,388	650,416	718,443	584,028
Total Operating Revenue	10,600,441	11,586,175	12,605,471	9,894,911	17,446,780
Total Expenses	12,968,527	11,530,478	10,606,314	12,867,517	13,240,323
Surplus/(Deficit)	-2,368,087	55,697	1,999,157	-2,972,606	4,206,457
Assets and Liabilities					
Current Assets	10,585,669	11,207,623	13,311,875	11,282,530	16,157,109
Non Current Assets	37,277,629	36,822,619	39,162,388	38,838,202	46,175,538
Total Assets	47,863,298	48,030,243	52,474,264	50,120,732	62,332,647
Current Liabilities	1,984,873	2,076,215	1,655,539	1,947,636	1,923,965
Non Current Liabilities	99,303	119,208	73,548	400,526	316,333
Total Liabilities	2,084,176	2,195,423	1,729,087	2,348,162	2,240,298
Total Equity	45,779,123	45,834,819	50,745,176	47,772,570	60,092,349

CONTRACTORS AND CONSULTANCIES FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

The Corangamite CMA engaged contractors and consultants throughout the year at a total cost of \$5,646,389.

CONTRACTORS AND CONSULTANCIES > \$10,000

There were 51 Consultants or Contractors whose cost exceeded \$10,000 at a total cost of \$5,461,599*. There were 64 Consultants or Contractors whose cost was less than \$10,000 at a total cost of \$184,790.

CONSULTANT/CONTRACTOR	\$
Conservation Volunteers Aust.	1,173,822.99
Conservation Ecology Centre Pty Ltd	555,152.23
Department of Environment Land Water and Planning	544,927.96
Central Highland Environmental	472,912.00
Elstone Diving Services Pty Ltd	427,247.28
Programmed Property Services	395,114.76
Barbara Wilson Pty. Ltd.	136,412.00
Southern Farming Systems	110,000.00
Alluvium Consulting Pty Ltd	109,442.50
Tree Management Services	100,866.14
Water Technology	90,585.50
RMCG	87,917.00
Hays Specialist Recruitment	79,520.86
Federation University Australia	70,000.00
Kismet Forward	64,720.00
Barwon Water	60,500.00
Parks Victoria	56,000.00
Deakin University	54,000.00
Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority	53,850.00
Australian Aquatic Solutions	52,450.00
GHD Pty Ltd	49,908.00
Pensar Project Infrastructure Pty Ltd	49,825.89
A.S. Miner Geotechnical	45,954.40
Valuer-General Victoria	44,603.00
WestVic Dairy Inc	41,359.95
Monash University	38,707.10

CONSULTANT/CONTRACTOR	\$
Ecowise Enviromental (Vic) Pty Ltd	36,405.45
Dept Jobs, Precincts and Regions	34,204.80
Ballarat Tree Fella	32,500.00
Austral Research and Consulting	28,150.00
Instream Solutions	26,345.00
Oz Trees Colac	26,309.08
Otway Agroforestry Network	25,750.00
Encader Consulting Pty Ltd	23,940.00
Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation	21,250.00
First Person Consulting Pty Ltd	20,825.00
Bellarine Catchment Network	20,000.00
Terra Culture	18,214.35
Surf Coast Shire	18,000.00
Uptime Services Management Pty Ltd	16,872.00
Water Modelling Solutions Pty Ltd	16,560.00
Frank Lane (GSDM)	16,305.00
Cameron Civil Consulting	15,695.00
Streamline Media and Communications Group	15,325.00
Discover EI Solutions Pty Ltd	15,290.00
Zoos Victoria	14,278.00
Natural Logic (Australia) Pty Ltd	11,761.00
Paul Kelly Creative	11,370.00
Harwood Andrews Lawyers	10,450.00
Future Tree Health Pty Ltd	10,000.00
Beacon Ecological	10,000.00

*This information is available on the Corangamite CMA website.

OFFICE-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

CATEGORY	MEASURE	BENCHMARK FOR YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2006 (48 STAFF)		USE FOR 2020-21		USE FOR 2019-20	
		Amount	Per Staff	Amount	Per FTE (44.4)	Amount	Per FTE (36.5)
Total Energy Use	Total Usage - Megajoules	447,177	9,316	179,621	4,055	307,758	8,432
	Total greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes)	172	3.25	50.7	1.1	87	2.38
Electricity Supplied to the Grid (Solar Export)	Supplied to Grid - Megajoules	Not Measured	Not Measured	48,202	1,088	Not Measured	Not Measured
	Adjusted greenhouse gas emissions	Not Measured	Not Measured	13.6	0.3	Not Measured	Not Measured
Purchase green power	% green power	Nil		20%		20%	
	Adjusted greenhouse gas emissions	0	0	10.1	0.2	17.0	0.47
Adjusted Energy Usage	Total Usage - Megajoules	447,177	9,316	131,420	2,967	307,758	8,432
	Total greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes)	172	3.25	27.0	0.6	70.0	1.9
Paper use	A4 reams	726	15.25	88	1.99	148	4.05
Transportation - Reduce fuel use (LPG, ULP, Premium ULP, Diesel)	Litres	85,165	1,795	14,218	320.95	19,248	527.4
Transportation - Reduce vehicle emissions Fuel (LPG, ULP, Premium ULP, Diesel)	Greenhouse gas emissions (tonnes CO ₂)	193.0	4.021	42.6	0.96	57.7	2
Water consumption (Office)	Litres	160,000	3,333	52,965	1,196	56,000	1,521
Reduce Waste	Total waste (Litres)	Not available	Not available	28,800	650.11	54,160	1,484
	Diverted from landfill per annum	Not available	Not available	10,080	227.54	23,190	533
	Adjusted waste to landfill	Not available	Not available	18,720	422.57	34,720	951

ENERGY USE

Energy use has reduced due to:

- COVID-19 and a reduced time in the Office for staff
- Full Year of the Solar Panels in use at the Colac Office.

Reduction Activities currently underway:

- Undertaking an Energy Audit with a view to create a Carbon Neutrality Plan and become Climate Active Certified.

WASTE & RECYCLING

Waste has reduced due to:

- COVID-19 and a reduced time in the Office for staff
- Removal of Bin Skips utilised in 2019-20 to reduce Office clutter.

Reduction Activities currently underway/planned:

- Investigating the installation of efficient hand dryers to reduce paper
- Undertaking a detailed waste audit to identify further opportunities.

PAPER USE

Paper has reduced due to:

- COVID-19 and a reduced time in the Office for staff
- Implementation of new finance system with online approvals.

Reduction Activities currently underway/planned:

- Conscious program of moving more to electronic information management which has accelerated due to working from home.

WATER CONSUMPTION

Water consumption has reduced due to:

- COVID-19 and a reduced time in the Office for staff.

Reduction Activities currently underway/planned:

- Increased use of onsite tank for water use.

TRANSPORTATION

Vehicle usage has reduced due to:

- COVID-19 and a reduced time in the Office and field for staff
- Increased use of teleconferencing following investment in new equipment and implementation of teams.

Reduction Activities currently underway/planned:

- Review of fleet to explore opportunities to move more to hybrid/electric vehicles.

GREENHOUSE EMISSIONS

Greenhouse emissions have reduced as outlined above.

Reduction Activities currently underway/planned:

- Review of Electricity contract to move to increased % of green power
- Implementation of additional initiatives identified through Carbon Neutrality Plan and becoming Climate Active Certified.

PROCUREMENT

The Corangamite CMA has included in its Social Procurement Focus

"Implementation of the Climate Change Policy Objectives"

We will be incorporating environmental initiatives as part of the review of the procurement strategy in 2021-22.

DISCLOSURE OF MAJOR CONTRACTS

In accordance with the requirements of the Directors of the Minister for Finance, the Annual Report must include a statement about compliance with the disclosure of major contracts greater than \$10 million. The Corangamite CMA did not have any contract greater than \$10 million.

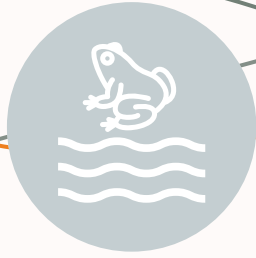
DISCLOSURE OF GRANTS AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS

The Corangamite CMA has provided grants to natural resource management community groups and organisations as part of the Victorian Landcare grants that the Corangamite CMA is responsible for distributing in the Corangamite region. Grants were provided to groups in 2020-21 for the purposes of supporting the administration of regional Landcare groups and implementing on-ground natural resource management projects.

VICTORIAN LANDCARE GRANTS 2020-21 CORANGAMITE LANDCARE GRANT RECIPIENTS

APPLICANT	PROJECT TITLE	FUNDING AMOUNT
Mount Leura and Mount Sugarloaf Reserves Management Committee	People, Place and the Plains: Protecting VVP ecosystems and connecting communities at Mt Leura, Camperdown	\$30,000
Heytesbury District Landcare Network	Connecting the landscape and people through the Biofund revegetation project	\$29,600
Bellarine Landcare Group	Project Long-necked Turtle: building biodiversity around farm dams whilst reducing greenhouse gas emissions	\$30,000
Lismore Land Protection Group	Improving connectivity of the Corangamite Lakes landscape through revegetation	\$29,500
Central Otway Landcare Network	Otway Biofest 2022	\$24,113
Central Otway Landcare Network	Wrangling Ragwort in the Central Otways	\$29,329
Barwon Coast Committee of Management Incorporated	Become Part of the Tribe Ramsar knowledge of the lower reaches of the Barwon estuary	\$10,650
Yarrowee Leigh Catchment Group	The Revegetation Cycle	\$23,780
East Otway Landcare	Regenerating the old Bambra Tip into Habitat	\$9,202
Torquay and District Landcare Group Inc.	The small things within the big picture	\$20,354
33 community support grants		\$17,000
TOTAL		\$253,528





SECTION 3

Financial Statements

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BALANCE SHEET	105
CASH FLOW STATEMENT	106
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY	107
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Corangamite Catchment Management Authority

Opinion	<p>I have audited the financial report of Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (the authority) which comprises the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • balance sheet as at 30 June 2021 • comprehensive operating statement for the year then ended • statement of changes in equity for the year then ended • cash flow statement for the year then ended • notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies • declaration in the financial statements. <p>In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the authority as at 30 June 2021 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 7 of the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i> and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.</p>
Basis for Opinion	<p>I have conducted my audit in accordance with the <i>Audit Act 1994</i> which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the <i>Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report</i> section of my report.</p> <p>My independence is established by the <i>Constitution Act 1975</i>. My staff and I are independent of the authority in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 <i>Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants</i> (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.</p> <p>I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.</p>
Board's responsibilities for the financial report	<p>The Board of the authority is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>, and for such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.</p> <p>In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.</p>

**Auditor's
responsibilities
for the audit
of the financial
report**

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the authority's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the authority to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE
7 October 2021



Paul Martin
as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

HOW THIS REPORT IS STRUCTURED

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority has presented its audited general purpose financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 in the following structure to provide users with the information about the Authority's stewardship of resources entrusted to it.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. NOTES TO THE REPORT

The basis on which the financial statements have been prepared and compliance with reporting regulations

2. FUNDING DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES

Revenue recognised in respect of Government contributions and other income sources

2.1 Summary of income that funds the delivery of our service

2.2 Income from transactions

3. THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES

Operating expenses of the Authority

3.1 Expenses incurred in delivery of services

3.2 Materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies

3.3 Lease expenses

3.4 Other operating expenses

4. KEY ASSETS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT OUTPUT DELIVERY

Land, buildings, works assets, plant and equipment, office furniture and equipment, motor vehicles, and intangible assets

4.1 Property, plant and equipment

5. OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Other key assets and liabilities

5.1 Receivables

5.2 Payables

5.3 Other non-financial assets

6. FINANCING OUR OPERATIONS

Cash flow information, commitments for expenditure

6.1 Cash flow information and balances

6.2 Commitments for expenditure

6.3 Carry forward project funding

7. RISKS, CONTINGENCIES AND VALUATION JUDGEMENTS

Financial risk management, contingent assets and liabilities as well as fair value determination

7.1 Financial instruments specific disclosures

7.2 Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

7.3 Fair value determination

8. OTHER DISCLOSURES

8.1 Ex-gratia expenses

8.2 Other economic flows included in net result

8.3 Reserves

8.4 Responsible persons

8.5 Remuneration of executive officers

8.6 Related parties

8.7 Remuneration of auditors

8.8 Subsequent events

8.9 Australian Accounting Standards issued that are not yet effective

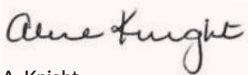
DECLARATION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The attached financial statements for the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority have been prepared in accordance with Direction 5.2 of the Standing Directions of the Assistant Treasurer under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, applicable Financial Reporting Directions, Australian Accounting Standards including Interpretations, and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

We further state that, in our opinion, the information set out in the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement and accompanying notes, presents fairly the financial transactions during the year ended 30 June 2021 and financial position of the Authority at 30 June 2021.

At the time of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We authorise the attached financial statements for issue on 6th October 2021.



A. Knight
Chairperson



J. Riddiford
CEO and Accountable Officer



C. Thompson
Chief Finance & Accounting Officer

COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
Income and revenue from transactions			
Government contributions	2.2.1	16,862,752	9,176,468
Interest	2.2.2	33,184	131,239
Other revenue and income	2.2.3	550,844	551,249
Total income and revenue from transactions		17,446,780	9,858,956
Expenses from transactions			
Employee benefit expenses	3.1.1	4,739,153	4,082,594
Depreciation and impairment	4.1.1	808,405	819,624
Materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies	3.2	7,210,149	7,393,053
Interest Expense	6.2 (b)	8,417	10,045
Other operating expenses		474,199	562,201
Total expenses from transactions		13,240,323	12,867,517
Net result from transactions (net operating balance)		4,206,457	(3,008,561)
Other economic flows included in net result			
Net gain/(loss) on non-financial assets (ii)	8.2	-	35,955
Net result		4,206,457	(2,972,606)
Other economic flows - other comprehensive income Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Changes in physical asset revaluation surplus		8,113,322	-
Comprehensive result		12,319,779	(2,972,606)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes:

(i) This format is aligned to AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting.

(ii) 'Net gain/(loss) on non-financial assets includes unrealised and realised gains/(losses) from revaluations, impairments, and disposals of all physical assets and intangible assets, except when these are taken through the asset revaluation surplus.

BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
Assets			
Financial assets			
Cash and deposits	6.1	13,007,754	10,442,286
Receivables	5.1	3,066,198	840,244
Total financial assets		16,073,952	11,282,530
Non-financial assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	45,925,104	38,476,318
Right of use assets	6.2 (c)	250,433	308,571
Other non-financial assets	5.3	83,157	53,313
Total non-financial assets		46,258,694	38,838,202
Total assets		62,332,646	50,120,732
Liabilities			
Payables	5.2	1,052,716	1,216,421
Lease Liabilities	6.2 (c)	252,513	310,649
Employee related provisions	3.1.2	935,068	821,092
Total Liabilities		2,240,297	2,348,162
Net assets		60,092,349	47,772,570
Equity			
Accumulated deficit	8.3	(2,572,413)	(6,778,870)
Physical asset revaluation surplus	8.3	41,237,839	33,124,517
Contributed capital	8.3	21,426,923	21,426,923
Net worth		60,092,349	47,772,570
Contingent assets and contingent liabilities	7.2	-	-

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Note:

(i) This format is aligned to AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts			
Receipts from government		15,102,578	9,686,412
Interest received		33,184	131,239
Goods and services tax received from the ATO (ii)		335,099	489,226
Other receipts		413,200	531,376
Total receipts		15,884,061	10,838,253
Payments			
Payments to suppliers and employees		13,166,308	12,385,209
Interest and other costs of finance paid		8,417	10,045
Total payments		13,174,725	12,395,254
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	6.1.1	2,709,336	(1,557,001)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Principal element of lease liability		(58,136)	(53,783)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from financing activities		(58,136)	(53,783)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of non-financial assets	4.1.2	(85,732)	(228,607)
Proceeds from the sale of non-financial assets	8.2	-	98,545
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities		(85,732)	(130,062)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		2,565,468	(1,740,846)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		10,442,286	12,183,132
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6.1	13,007,754	10,442,286

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes:

(i) This format is aligned to AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting.

(ii) GST received from the Australian Taxation Office is presented on a net basis.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	ACCUMULATED DEFICIT \$	PHYSICAL ASSET REVALUATION SURPLUS \$	CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL \$	TOTAL \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	(3,806,264)	33,124,517	21,426,923	50,745,176
Net result for the year	(2,972,606)	-	-	(2,972,606)
Balance at 30 June 2020	(6,778,870)	33,124,517	21,426,923	47,772,570
Net result for the year	4,206,457	-	-	4,206,457
Changes in physical asset revaluation surplus (ii)	-	8,113,322	-	8,113,322
Balance at 30 June 2021	(2,572,413)	41,237,839	21,426,923	60,092,349

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes:

(i) This format is aligned to AASB 1049 Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting.

(ii) The amounts recognised in the physical asset revaluation surplus consists of revaluation of land (\$7,452,489) and buildings (\$760,832).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. NOTES TO THE REPORT

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is a government authority of the State of Victoria, established on 1 July 1997.

Its principal address is:

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority
64 Dennis Street
Colac, Victoria, 3250

A description of the nature of its operations and its principal activities is included in the Report of operations, which does not form part of these financial statements.

BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements are in Australian dollars and the historical cost convention is used unless a different measurement basis is specifically disclosed in the note associated with the item measured on a different basis

The accrual basis of accounting has been applied in preparing these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Accounting Policies

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the prior year.

Accounting Estimates

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about financial information being presented. The significant judgements made in the preparation of these financial statements are disclosed in the notes where amounts affected by those judgements are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions based on professional judgements are disclosed. Estimates and associated assumptions are based on professional judgements derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of Australian Accounting Standards that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates are disclosed in the notes under the heading: 'Significant judgement or estimates', and relate to:

- Employee benefit provisions (note 3.1.2);
- Estimation of useful life (note 4.1.1);
- Accrued revenue (Note 5.1);
- Accrued expenses (Note 5.2);
- Operating lease commitments (note 6.2)
- Fair value measurements of assets and liabilities (note 7.3.1);

Rounding

Unless otherwise stated, amount in the report have been rounded to the nearest dollar. Figures in the financial report may not equate due to rounding.

COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* (FMA) and applicable Australian Accounting Standards which include Interpretations, issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB). In particular, they are presented in a manner consistent with the requirements of AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*.

Where appropriate, those AASs paragraphs applicable to not-for-profit entities have been applied. Accounting policies selected and applied in these financial statements ensure that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the impact on the financial statement

In March 2020, the Victorian government announced a state of emergency and imposed Stage 3 restrictions on the community in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The impact of COVID-19 has created an unprecedented challenge to the community and to the Corangamite CMA as we have sought to keep our staff and community safe, comply with restrictions whilst continuing with the important program work we do.

Overall the pandemic has had a significant impact on the operating and economic environment for the Corangamite CMA and a number of policies were introduced to assist such as providing rent relief to lessees, payments to suppliers within 10 working days, support our workforce to manage the difficulties with home school via flexible working arrangements and special leave, establish remote working environments as well as to protect the health and wellbeing of our staff and the community.

During this time we have activated our COVID Safe plan and followed direction and advice from the Victorian Government and the Victorian Chief Medical Officer. We have been able to successfully continue to implement the majority of program activities utilising virtual mediums where possible or where social distancing can be safely achieved. Staff were effectively able to work from home during this time and our Offices have remained closed to the public. There have been some activities involving community engagement and on-ground activities that would have required close physical proximity that could not be undertaken in an alternate way. Where this has been the case, we have postponed those activities and have advised our investors regarding these impacts.

Management have considered the impacts of COVID-19 on the judgements and assumptions applied to accounting policies. Management have assessed no change in account balances affected by COVID-19. The impacts and assessments have been considered on assets and liabilities which are detailed in Note 4.1 Fair value determination, Note 4.1.1 Depreciation, amortisation and impairment, Note 7.1 Financial instruments specific disclosures, Note 7.2 Contingent assets and liabilities, Note 7.3 Fair value determination and Note 8.8 Subsequent Events.

Additional financial impacts have been considered on revenue and expense items in line with the government's announcements and Corangamite CMA policies, such as working for Victoria grant funding and the rent relief policy. This did have an impact on the revenue collected on licenses and rent within Note 2.2.3 and working for Victoria grant funding collected Note 2.2.1 and subsequent additional staff costs.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

2. FUNDING DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

The Authority's overall objective is for the co-ordinated control of natural resource management within the Corangamite region. The role of the Authority is to ensure effective implementation of the Regional Catchment Strategy and meet its responsibilities under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and *Water Act 1989* along with their complimentary Statement of Obligations.

The vision, purpose and strategies of the Authority is outlined in greater detail in the Authority's Corporate Plan.

To enable the Authority to deliver on its objectives, it receives income predominantly through State and Commonwealth Government Contributions.

STRUCTURE

2.1 Summary of income and revenue that funds the delivery of our services

2.2 Income and revenue from transactions

2.1 SUMMARY OF INCOME AND REVENUE THAT FUNDS THE DELIVERY OF OUR SERVICES

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
Government contributions	2.2.1	16,862,752	9,176,468
Interest	2.2.2	33,184	131,239
Other revenue	2.2.3	550,844	551,249
Total income and revenue from transactions		17,446,780	9,858,956

2.2 INCOME AND REVENUE FROM TRANSACTIONS

2.2.1 Government contributions

	2021 \$	2020 \$
State Government (Income for not-for-profit entities AASB 1058)		
Landcare	419,365	253,869
River Health/Healthy Waterways	2,144,271	5,828,641
Base Funding	1,264,800	843,200
Our Catchment, Our Communities	-	441,000
Working for Victoria	2,245,136	-
Victorian Government Supply Bill Funding	5,776,000	-
Other State Funding	272,176	611,788
	12,121,748	7,978,498
Commonwealth Government (Revenue from contract with customers AASB 15)		
National Landcare Program	4,741,004	1,197,970
	4,741,004	1,197,970
Total Government contributions	16,862,752	9,176,468

Grants recognised under AASB 1058

The Authority has determined that the grant income included in the table on the previous page under AASB 1058 has been earned under arrangements that are either not enforceable and/or linked to sufficiently specific performance obligations.

Income from grants without any sufficiently specific performance obligations, or that are not enforceable, is recognised when the Authority has unconditional right to receive cash which usually coincides with receipt of cash. On initial recognition of the assets, the Authority recognises any increase in liabilities, decrease in assets, and revenue ('related amount') in accordance with other Australian Accounting Standards. Related amounts may take the form of:

- Revenue or a contract liability arising from a contract with a customer, in accordance with AASB 15;
- A lease liability in accordance with AASB 16;
- A financial instrument, in accordance with AASB 9; or
- A provision, in accordance with AASB 137 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assts.*

Grants recognised under AASB 15

Income from grants that are enforceable and with sufficiently specific performance obligations are accounted for under AASB 15 as revenue from contracts with customers. Revenue is recognised at the point in time the Authority satisfies the performance obligation by completing the relevant service as specified in the contract. This is recognised based on the consideration specified in the funding agreement and to the extent that it is highly probable a significant reversal of the revenue will not occur. As this funding is invoiced in arrears of the work performed, the funding payments are normally received after the relevant obligation is satisfied.

2.2.2 Interest Revenue

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Interest on bank deposits	33,184	131,239

Interest revenue includes interest received on bank term deposits. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method which allocates the interest over the relevant period.

2.2.3 Other revenue

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Partnership Contributions	363,015	383,490
Rental Income	16,753	21,854
Employee Contributions	22,546	19,039
Ancillary Trading	148,530	126,866
Total other income	550,844	551,249

Partnership contributions consists of funds received from organisations as partners in major projects, and are recognised as income on receipt as they do not contain sufficiently specific performance obligations, and are disclosed in the comprehensive operating statement as other income.

Employee contributions include staff contributions towards the private use of motor vehicles. Rental Income from leasing of surplus office spaces, which are operating leases, are recognised on a straight line basis over the lease term. All other income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

3. THE COST OF DELIVERING SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

This section provides an account of the expenses incurred by the Authority in delivering services. In Section 2, the funds that enable the provision of services were disclosed and in this note the costs associated with the provision of services are recorded.

Significant judgement: Employee benefit provisions

In measuring employee benefits, consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Expected future payments are discounted using a single weighted average discount rate based on market yields of national government bonds in Australia that reflects the estimated timing and amount of benefit payment.

STRUCTURE

3.1 Expenses incurred in delivery of services

3.2 Materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies

3.1 EXPENSES INCURRED IN DELIVERY OF SERVICES

	NOTES	2021 \$	2020 \$
Employee expenses	3.1.1	4,739,153	4,082,594
Materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies	3.2	7,210,149	7,393,053
Interest Expense	6.2 (b)	8,417	10,045
Other operating expenses		474,199	562,201
Total expenses incurred in the delivery of services		12,431,918	12,047,893

3.1.1 Employee expenses in the comprehensive operating statement

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Salaries & wages	3,602,173	2,992,086
Annual leave	487,764	423,075
Long service leave	52,848	116,347
Other leave	115,906	123,364
Superannuation	387,442	327,440
Other	98,265	101,469
Movement in provisions for employee benefits	(5,245)	(1,187)
Total employee expenses	4,739,153	4,082,594

Employee expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, superannuation, payroll tax, fringe benefits tax, leave entitlements, termination payments and WorkCover premiums.

Superannuation represents compulsory contributions made by the Authority to the superannuation plan in respect to the current services of Authority staff.

Termination benefits are payable when employment is terminated before the normal retirement date, or when an employee decides to accept an offer of benefits in exchange for the termination of employment. Termination benefits are recognised when the Authority is demonstrably committed to either terminating the employment of current employees according to a detailed formal plan without possibility of withdrawal or providing termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to present value.

3.1.2 Employee related provisions in the balance sheet

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave (LSL) for services rendered to the reporting date and recorded as an expense during the period the services are delivered.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current provisions for employee benefits		
Time in lieu:		
Unconditional and expected to be settled within 12 months	48,711	30,293
Annual leave:		
Unconditional and expected to be settled within 12 months	318,470	270,359
Unconditional and expected to be settled after 12 months	-	-
Long service leave:		
Unconditional and expected to be settled within 12 months	51,532	39,215
Unconditional and expected to be settled after 12 months	304,227	278,689
	722,940	618,556
Provisions for on-costs		
Unconditional and expected to be settled within 12 months	50,904	42,595
Unconditional and expected to be settled after 12 months	36,986	34,928
Total current provisions	810,830	696,079
Non-current provisions for employee benefits		
Long service leave:		
Conditional and expected to be settled after 12 months	110,772	111,090
Provisions for on-costs		
Conditional and expected to be settled after 12 months	13,467	13,923
Total non-current provisions	124,239	125,013
Total provisions for employee benefits and on-costs	935,069	821,092
Reconciliation of movement in on-cost provision		
Opening balance	91,446	71,313
Additional provisions recognised	15,156	21,320
Reductions resulting from payments/other sacrifices of future economic benefit	-	-
Unwind of discount and effect of changes in the discount rate	(5,245)	(1,187)
Closing balance	101,357	91,446

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

3.1.2 Employee related provisions in the balance sheet cont.

Wages and salaries and annual leave:

Liabilities for wages and salaries (including non-monetary benefits, annual leave, time in lieu and on-costs) are recognised as part of the employee benefit provision as current liabilities, because the Authority does not have an unconditional right to defer settlements of these liabilities.

No provision has been made for sick leave as all sick leave is non-vesting and it is not considered probable that the average sick leave taken in the future will be greater than the benefits accrued in the future.

As sick leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as it is taken.

Employment on-costs such as payroll tax workers compensation and superannuation are not employee benefits. They are disclosed separately as a component of the provision for employee benefits when the employment to which they relate has occurred.

Long service leave (LSL):

Regardless of the expected timing of settlement, unconditional LSL is classified as a current liability because the Authority does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these liabilities.

Unconditional LSL liability amounts expected to be wholly settled within 12 months are measured at the nominal value. Unconditional LSL liability amounts that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months are measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the entity.

Unconditional LSL represents long service leave entitlements accrued for employees with more than 7 years of continuous service.

Conditional LSL is classified as a non-current liability and measured as the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the entity.

3.1.3 Superannuation contributions

Employees of the Authority are entitled to receive superannuation benefits. The Authority does not have any employees on a defined benefit superannuation plan.

The amount recognised in the comprehensive operating statement in relation to Superannuation is employer contributions for members that are paid or payable during the reporting period.

The name, details and amounts expensed in relation to the major employee superannuation funds and contributions made by the Authority are as follows:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Contribution plans:		
Vision super	114,012	105,841
Other private schemes	273,430	221,599
Total	387,442	327,440

There was \$63,434 in contributions outstanding to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021 (2020: \$17,493)

3.2 MATERIALS, MAINTENANCE, GRANTS, CONTRACTS AND CONSULTANCIES

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Materials	49,126	82,319
Repairs and maintenance	42,104	112,674
Grants paid	1,211,108	1,543,595
Contractors	4,024,243	3,999,889
Consultants	1,657,323	1,441,742
IT Software & Support	226,245	212,834
Total materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies	7,210,149	7,393,053

Materials, maintenance, grants, contracts and consultancies are recognised as an expense in the reporting period in which they are incurred.

4. KEY ASSETS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT OUTPUT DELIVERY

INTRODUCTION

The Authority controls property, plant and equipment that are utilised in fulfilling its objectives and conducting its activities. They represent the key resources that have been entrusted to the Authority to be utilised for delivery of those outputs.

Significant judgement: Fair value measurement

Where the assets included in this section are carried at fair value, additional information is disclosed in Note 7.3 in connection with how those fair values were determined.

STRUCTURE

4.1 Property, plant and equipment: Carrying amount

4.1 TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT		ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		NET CARRYING AMOUNT	
	2021 \$	2020 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
Land at fair value	16,046,000	16,767,768	-	-	16,046,000	16,767,768
Buildings at fair value (i)	1,750,000	790,100	-	(101,210)	1,750,000	688,890
Works assets at fair value	27,336,015	22,525,301	-	(2,348,816)	27,336,015	20,176,485
Plant and equipment at fair value	1,414,908	1,151,252	(737,281)	(637,945)	677,627	513,307
Office furniture and equipment at fair value	28,826	28,826	(28,779)	(28,154)	47	672
Motor vehicles at fair value (i)	365,674	365,674	(250,259)	(214,402)	115,415	151,272
Work in progress	-	177,924	-	-	-	177,924
Net carrying amount	46,941,423	41,806,845	(1,016,319)	(3,330,527)	45,925,104	38,476,318

(i) Excluding right of use assets. Refer Note 6.2

Initial recognition:

Items of property, plant and equipment, are measured initially at cost and subsequently revalued at fair value less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Where an asset is acquired for no or nominal cost, the cost is its fair value at the date of acquisition.

The cost of constructed non-financial physical assets includes the cost of all materials used in construction, direct labour on the project and an appropriate proportion of variable and fixed overheads.

Subsequent measurement:

Property, plant and equipment are subsequently measured at fair value less accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings are valued using the market approach, whereby assets are compared to recent comparable sales or sales of comparable assets that are considered to have nominal value.

The market approach is also used for specialised land, although is adjusted for the community service obligation (CSO) to reflect the specialised nature of the land being valued.

Works assets are measured at fair value less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Fair value for plant and equipment and office furniture and equipment that are specialised in use (such that it is rarely sold other than as part of a going concern) is determined using the depreciated replacement cost method. Vehicles are valued at fair value. The Authority acquires new vehicles and at times disposes of them before the end of their economic life. The process of acquisition, use and disposal in the market is managed by experienced fleet managers in the Authority who set relevant depreciation rates during use to reflect the utilisation of the vehicles.

Note 7.3 includes additional information in connection with fair value determination of property, plant and equipment.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

4.1.1 Depreciation and impairment

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Charge for the period		
Buildings	48,621	27,245
Motor vehicles	35,857	50,853
Works assets (Infrastructure)	565,828	587,204
Plant & equipment	99,336	97,665
Office furniture & equipment	625	797
Depreciation for assets	750,267	763,764
Depreciation on Right of use assets		
Right of use assets - Buildings	51,305	51,305
Right of use assets - Motor vehicles	6,833	4,555
Total depreciation	808,405	819,624

NB: The table incorporates depreciation of right-of-use assets as per AASB 16 Leases.

All buildings, plant and equipment and other non-financial physical assets that have finite useful lives are depreciated.

Land, which is considered to have an indefinite life, is not depreciated.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis, at rates that allocate the asset's value, less any estimated residual value, over its estimated useful life. Typical estimated useful lives for the different asset classes for current and prior years are included in the table below:

ASSET	USEFUL LIFE
Buildings	40 years
Buildings - Right of use assets	7 years
Works assets (Infrastructure)	10-100 years
Plant and equipment	3-10 years
Furniture & office equipment	3-10 years
Motor vehicles (including Motor vehicles - Right of use assets)	4-5 years

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each annual reporting period, and adjustments made where appropriate.

Right-of-use assets are generally depreciated over the shorter of the asset's useful life and the lease term.

Impairment

The recoverable amount of primarily non-cash-generating assets of not-for-profit entities, which are typically specialised in nature and held for continuing use of their service capacity, is expected to be materially the same as fair value determined under AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*, with the consequence that AASB 136 does not apply to such assets that are regularly revalued.

- The technical feasibility of completing the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- An intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
- The ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- The intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits;
- The availability of adequate technical, financial and other resources to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- The ability to measure reliably the expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development.

4.1.2 Reconciliation of movements in carrying values of property, plant and equipment

	LAND AT FAIR VALUE \$	BUILDINGS AT FAIR VALUE \$	WORKS ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE \$	PLANT & EQUIP. AT FAIR VALUE \$	OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIP. AT FAIR VALUE \$	MOTOR VEHICLES AT FAIR VALUE \$	WORK IN PROGRESS AT COST \$	TOTAL \$
2021								
Opening balance	16,767,768	688,890	20,176,485	513,307	672	151,272	177,924	38,476,317
Additions	-	-	-	85,732	-	-	-	85,732
Transfers	-	448,899	(448,899)	177,924	-	-	(177,924)	-
Revaluation	(721,768)	660,833	8,174,256	-	-	-	-	8,113,321
Depreciation	-	(48,621)	(565,828)	(99,336)	(625)	(35,857)	-	(750,267)
Closing balance	16,046,000	1,750,000	27,336,015	677,627	47	115,415	0	45,925,104
2020								
Opening balance	16,767,768	716,135	20,763,689	525,561	1,469	264,715	34,727	39,074,064
Additions	-	-	-	85,410	-	-	143,197	228,607
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(62,590)	-	(62,590)
Depreciation	-	(27,245)	(587,204)	(97,665)	(797)	(50,853)	-	(763,764)
Closing balance	16,767,768	688,890	20,176,485	513,307	672	151,272	177,924	38,476,317

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

5. OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

INTRODUCTION

This section sets out those assets and liabilities that arose from the Authority's operations.

STRUCTURE

5.1 Receivables

5.2 Payables

5.3 Other non-financial assets

5.1 RECEIVABLES

Significant judgement: Accrued revenue

Accrued revenue represent goods or services that have been delivered but have not been invoiced to the customer.

In estimating an amount of accrued revenue, consideration is given to the stage of completion of the services being performed, and the extent of the costs incurred that are recoverable.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current receivables		
Contractual		
Trade receivables	1,210,766	657,647
Contract Assets	1,759,569	9,795
	2,970,335	667,442
Statutory		
Tax credits recoverable	25,636	172,802
Payroll tax	70,227	-
Total current receivables	3,066,198	840,244

Receivables consist of;

Contractual receivables are classified as financial instruments and categorised as 'financial assets at amortised cost'. They are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial measurement they are measured at amortised cost less any impairment.

Contract assets relate to the department's right to consideration in exchange for services provided to customers for works completed, but not yet billed at the reporting date. The contract assets are transferred to receivables when the rights become unconditional, at this time an invoice is issued. This occurs when the department issues an invoice to the customer. The balance of the contract assets at 30 June 2021 was impacted by timing of the services completed by contractors and is not billable at this stage. The works are expected to be completed and recovered in 2021-22 year.

Statutory receivables do not arise from contracts and are recognised and measured similarly to contractual receivables (except for impairment), but are not classified as financial instruments.

Details about the Authority's impairment policies, the Authority's exposure to credit risk, and the calculation of the loss allowance are set out in note 7.1

5.2 PAYABLES

Significant judgement: Accrued expenses

Accrued expenses represent goods or services that have been received or supplied but have not been invoiced by the supplier.

In estimating the amount of an accrued expense, consideration is given to the stage of completion of the services being performed.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current payables		
Contractual		
Trade payables	732,449	989,563
Accrued expenses	261,288	159,405
Other payables	3,017	3,017
	996,754	1,151,985
Statutory		
PAYG & FBT	-	35,242
Superannuation	54,928	18,918
Payroll tax	1,034	10,276
	55,962	64,436
Total current payables	1,052,716	1,216,421

Payables consist of;

Contractual payables are classified as financial instruments and categorised as 'financial liabilities at amortised cost'. They are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial measurement, they are measured at amortised cost.

Statutory payables are recognised and measured similarly to contractual payables, but are not classified as financial instruments and not included in the category of financial liabilities at amortised cost, because they do not arise from contracts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

5.2.1 Maturity analysis of contractual payables

		MATURITY DATES			
		LESS THAN 1 MONTH	1-3 MONTHS	3-6 MONTHS	
	CARRYING AMOUNT				
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
2021					
Payables:					
Trade payables	732,449	732,449	-	-	
Accrued expenses	261,288	261,288	-	-	
Other payables	3,017	3,017	-	-	
Total	996,754	996,754	-	-	
2020					
Payables:					
Trade payables	989,563	989,563	-	-	
Accrued expenses	159,405	159,405	-	-	
Other payables	3,017	3,017	-	-	
Total	1,151,985	1,151,985	-	-	

Payables for supplies and services have an average credit period of 30 days.

Payables for supplies and services have an adjusted credit period of 10 working days inline with Government policy during COVID-19.

5.3 OTHER NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current other assets		
Prepayments	83,157	53,313
Total current other assets	83,157	53,313

Other non-financial assets include prepayments which represent payments in advance of receipt of goods or services or that part of expenditure made in one accounting period covering a term extending beyond that period.

6. HOW WE FINANCED OUR OPERATIONS

This section provides information on the sources of finance utilised by the Authority during its operations and other information related to financing activities of the Authority.

This section includes disclosures of balances that are financial instruments, such as cash balances. Notes 7.1.2 and 7.1.3 provide additional, specific financial instrument disclosures.

STRUCTURE

6.1 Cash flow information

6.2 Leases and Right of Use Assets

6.3 Commitments for Expenditure

6.4 Carry forward project funding

6.1 CASH FLOW INFORMATION AND BALANCES

Cash and deposits, including cash equivalents, comprise cash on hand and cash at bank, deposits at call and those highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, which are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment purposes, and which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash and deposits disclosed in the balance sheet:		
Cash at bank	1,156,843	1,523,849
Deposits at call	11,850,911	8,918,437
Balance as per cash flow statement	13,007,754	10,442,286

6.1.1 Reconciliation of net result to cash flow from operating activities

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Net result for the period	4,206,457	(2,972,606)
Non-cash movements:		
(Gain)/loss on disposal of non-current assets	-	(35,955)
Depreciation and amortisation of non-current assets	808,405	819,624
	5,014,862	(2,188,937)
Movements in assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in receivables	(2,225,954)	288,499
Decrease/(increase) in other non-financial assets	(29,844)	35,011
(Decrease)/increase in payables	(163,704)	126,357
(Decrease)/increase in employee related provisions	113,976	182,069
Net cash flows from/(used in) operating activities	2,709,336	(1,557,001)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

6.2 LEASES AND RIGHT OF USE ASSETS

The Authorities leasing activities

The Authority leases property and motor vehicles. The lease contracts are typically made for fixed periods of 1-7 years with an option to renew the lease after that date. Lease payments for properties are renegotiated every five years to reflect market rentals

The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- Any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentive received; plus
- Any initial direct costs incurred.

6.2 (a) Right-of-use Assets

Right-of-use asset – Subsequent measurement

The Authority depreciates the right-of-use assets on a straight-line basis from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The right-of-use assets are also subject to revaluation. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any and adjusted for certain remeasurements of the lease liability.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Right of use assets		
Buildings	222,302	273,607
Motor Vehicles	28,132	34,965
Total right of use assets	250,434	308,572
Opening Balance	308,572	324,912
Additions	-	39,520
Depreciation	(58,138)	(55,860)
Closing Balance	250,434	308,572
Lease Liabilities		
Current	60,419	58,062
Non-current	192,094	252,587
Total lease liabilities	252,513	310,649

6.2 (b) Amounts recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement

The following amounts are recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement relating to leases

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Depreciation charge of right of use assets		
Buildings	51,305	51,305
Vehicles	6,833	4,555
Total	58,138	55,860
Interest Expense on lease liabilities	8,417	10,045
Total amount recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement	66,555	65,905

6.2 (c) Amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet

The balance sheet shows the following amounts relating to leases:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Right-of-use assets		
Buildings	222,302	273,607
Vehicles	28,132	34,965
Right-of-use assets	250,434	308,572
Lease liabilities		
Current	60,419	58,062
Non – Current	192,094	252,587
Lease liabilities	252,513	310,649

6.2 (d) Amounts recognised in the Statement of Cashflows

The following amounts are recognised in the Statement of Cashflows for the year ending 30 June 2021 relating to leases.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Total cash outflow for leases	58,136	53,783

For any new contracts entered into on or after 1 July 2019, the Authority considers whether a contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as 'a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration'. To apply this definition the Authority assesses whether the contract meets three key evaluations:

- Whether the contract contains an identified asset, which is either explicitly identified in the contract or implicitly specified by being identified at the time the asset is made available to the Authority and for which the supplier does not have substantive substitution rights
- Whether the Authority has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the identified asset throughout the period of use, considering its rights within the defined scope of the contract and the Authority has the right to direct the use of the identified asset throughout the period of use; and
- Whether the Authority has the right to take decisions in respect of 'how and for what purpose' the asset is used throughout the period of use.

Lease Liability - Initial Measurement

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily determinable or the Authority's incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentive receivable;
- Variable payments based on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee; and
- Payments arising from purchase and termination options reasonably certain to be exercised.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

6.2 (d) Amounts recognised in the Statement of Cashflows cont.

Separation of lease and non-lease components

At inception or on reassessment of a contract that contains a lease component, the lessee is required to separate out and account separately for non-lease components within a lease contract and exclude these amounts when determining the lease liability and right-of-use asset amount.

Lease Liability – subsequent measurement

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification, or if there are changes in-substance fixed payments.

When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset, or profit and loss if the right-of-use asset is already reduced to zero.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets

The Authority has elected to account for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets using the practical expedients. Instead of recognising a right-of-use asset and lease liability, the payments in relation to these are recognised as an expense in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Presentation of right-of-use assets and lease liabilities

The Authority presents right-of-use assets as 'Right of use assets' and Lease liabilities are presented as 'Lease Liabilities' in the balance sheet.

6.3 COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

Commitments for future expenditure include operating and external program commitments arising from contracts. These commitments are recorded below at their nominal value and exclusive of GST. These future expenditures cease to be disclosed as commitments once the related liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet.

6.3.1 Total commitments payable

	2021 \$	2020 \$
External Program commitments payable		
Less than 1 year	1,973,957	2,010,069
1 to 5 years	1,370,961	-
5 years or more	-	-
Total commitments (exclusive of GST)	3,344,918	1,644,718

At 30 June 2021, the Authority was committed to leases and the total commitment at that date was \$252,513 (Less than 1 year \$60,419 and 1 to 5 years \$192,094.) In 2020 \$310,649 (Less than 1 year \$58,062 and 1 to 5 years \$252,587).

As at 30 June 2021 the Authority had \$0 in capital expenditure commitments (2020: \$0).

6.4 CARRY FORWARD PROJECT FUNDING

Catchment Management Authorities are responsible for the coordination of catchments in an integrated and sustainable manner. This is achieved by undertaking projects funded by Victorian and Australian Government programs. The Authority received funding for specific projects which are guided by the Regional Catchment Strategy and delivered in line with the Authority's Corporate Plan approved by the Minister for Water.

The projects funded by the State and Australian Governments can be undertaken over multiple financial years and fund can be received at various stages of the project life based on contractual agreements. At the end of the financial year there are some projects that have not reached completion but will be completed within the contractual terms in future financial periods. At balance date the Authority has cash and cash equivalents that will be utilised to complete these projects in future financial years.

7. RISKS, CONTINGENCIES AND VALUATION JUDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The Authority is exposed to risk from its activities and outside factors. In addition, it is often necessary to make judgements and estimates associated with recognition and measurement of items in the financial statements. This section sets out financial instrument specific information, (including exposures to financial risks) as well as those items that are contingent in nature or require a high level of judgement to be applied, which for the Authority relate mainly to fair value determination.

STRUCTURE

- 7.1 Financial instruments specific disclosures
- 7.2 Contingent assets and contingent liabilities
- 7.3 Fair value determination

7.1 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS SPECIFIC DISCLOSURES

Introduction

Financial instruments arise out of contractual agreements that give rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Due to the nature of the Authority's activities, certain financial assets and financial liabilities arise under statute rather than a contract, and as such, do not meet the definition of financial instruments.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Financial Assets		
Cash & Deposits	13,007,754	10,442,286
Receivables	1,306,629	830,449
Total Financial assets	14,314,383	11,272,735
Financial Liabilities		
Payables	1,052,716	1,216,421
Lease Liabilities	252,513	310,649
Total Financial Liabilities	1,305,229	1,527,070

Categories of financial instruments

Financial Assets are measured at amortised cost if they are held by the Authority to collect contractual cash flows, the contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest, and if they not designated as fair value through net result. These assets are initially recognised at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial measurement, these financial assets are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment. The financial assets at amortised cost category includes cash and deposits, and trade and other receivables (excluding statutory receivables).

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are initially recognised on the date they originated. They are initially measured at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial instruments are measured at amortised cost with any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value being recognised in profit and loss over the period of the interest bearing liability, using the effective interest rate method. Financial instrument liabilities measured at amortised cost include all of the Authority's contractual payables (excluding statutory payables).

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or expires.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7.1.1 Financial instruments: Impairment of Financial Assets

Contractual receivables at amortised cost

The Authority applies AASB 9 simplified approach for all contractual receivables to measure the expected credit losses using a lifetime expected loss allowance based on the assumptions about the risk of default and the expected loss rates. The Authority has grouped contractual receivables on shared credit risk characteristics and days past due, and select the credit loss rate based on the Authority's past history, existing market conditions, as well as forward-looking estimates at the end of the financial year.

Under this approach, the expected loss rate for the year ending 30 June 2021 has been calculated at 0%, and as such no loss allowance has been recognised. The Authority has a low expected loss rate due to majority of funding sourced from State and Federal government.

On this basis, the Authority determines the opening loss allowance on initial application date of AASB 9 and the closing loss allowance at the end of the financial year as follows:

	CURRENT \$	LESS THAN 1 MONTH \$	1-3 MONTHS \$	3 MONTHS - 1 YEAR \$	1-5 YEARS \$	TOTAL \$
30 June 2021						
Expected Loss Rate	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Gross carrying amount of contractual receivables	2,926,134	-	44,000	202	-	2,970,335
Loss Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-
30 June 2020						
Expected Loss Rate	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Gross carrying amount of contractual receivables	662,442	-	-	5,000	-	667,442
Loss Allowance	-	-	-	-	-	-

Statutory receivables at amortised cost

The Authority's non-contractual receivables arising from statutory requirements are not financial instruments. However, they are nevertheless recognised and measured in accordance with AASB 9 requirements as if those receivables are financial instruments.

Statutory receivables are considered to have low credit risk, taking into account the counterparty's credit rating, risk of default and capacity to meet contractual cash flow obligations in the near term. As a result, the loss allowance recognised for these financial assets during the period was limited to 12 months expected losses.

7.1.2 Financial instruments: Categorisation

	CONTRACTUAL FINANCIAL ASSETS - LOANS AND RECEIVABLES \$	CONTRACTUAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES AT AMORTISED COST \$	TOTAL \$
2021			
Contractual financial assets			
Cash and deposits	13,007,754	-	13,007,754
<i>Receivables: (i)</i>			
Trade receivables	1,210,766	-	1,210,766
Accrued revenue	1,759,569	-	1,759,569
Total contractual financial assets	15,978,089	-	15,978,089
Contractual financial liabilities			
<i>Payables: (i)</i>			
Trade payables	-	732,449	732,449
Accrued expenses	-	261,288	261,288
Lease liabilities (ii)	-	252,513	252,513
Other payables	-	3,017	3,017
Total contractual financial liabilities	-	1,249,267	1,249,267
2020			
Contractual financial assets			
Cash and deposits	10,442,286	-	10,442,286
<i>Receivables: (i)</i>			
Trade receivables	657,647	-	657,647
Accrued revenue	9,795	-	9,795
Total contractual financial assets	11,109,728	-	11,109,728
Contractual financial liabilities			
<i>Payables: (i)</i>			
Trade payables	-	989,563	989,563
Accrued expenses	-	159,405	159,405
Lease liabilities (ii)	-	310,649	310,649
Other payables	-	3,017	3,017
Total contractual financial liabilities	-	1,462,634	1,462,634

(i) The total amounts disclosed here exclude statutory amounts.

(ii) Lease liabilities are recognised using AASB 16 but are included here for completeness of financial liabilities' disclosures

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7.1.3 Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Authority's main financial risks include credit risk, liquidity risk and interest rate risk. The Authority manages these financial risks in accordance with its financial risk management policy.

The Authority uses different methods to measure and manage the different risks to which it is exposed. Primary responsibility for the identification and management of financial risks rests with the financial risk management committee of the Authority.

Financial instruments: Credit risk

Credit risk refers to the possibility that a borrower will default on its financial obligations as and when they fall due. The Authority's exposure to credit risk arises from the potential default of a counter party on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Authority. Credit risk is measured at fair value and is monitored on a regular basis.

Credit risk associated with the Authority's contractual financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is the Victorian Government. For debtors other than the Government, the Authority has adopted a policy of only dealing with creditworthy counterparties and obtaining sufficient collateral where appropriate. For cash assets, the Authority's policy is to only deal with banks with a high credit rating assigned by international credit-rating agencies. All cash and deposits are held with the Westpac Bank and National Australia Bank.

Financial instruments: Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk arises from being unable to meet financial obligations as they fall due. The Authority operates under the Government fair payments policy of settling financial obligations within 30 days and in the event of a dispute, making payments within 30 days from the date of resolution.

The Authority's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk. The Authority does not have any borrowings, and maintains high levels of cash and deposits readily available to meet its financial obligations. The Authority manages its liquidity risk by maintaining adequate cash reserves and continually monitoring the Authority's expenditure commitments and cash flow needs.

Financial instruments: Market risk

The Authority's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with significant surplus funds held in deposits at a call in the Central Banking System. The Authority has no exposure to foreign exchange risk or other price risk.

Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Authority is required to invest surplus funds with the State Government Central Banking System (CBS) in compliance with the Standing Directions 2018 under the *Financial Management Act 1994* (2018 Directions). The floating interest rates provided by the Central Banking System expose the Authority to interest rate risk. Management monitors movements in interest rates on a daily basis.

The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities that are exposed to interest rates and the Authority's sensitivity to interest rate risk are set out in the table that follows.



Interest rate exposure of financial instruments

	WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE %	CARRYING AMOUNT \$	INTEREST RATE EXPOSURE		
			FIXED INTEREST RATE	VARIABLE INTEREST RATE	NON-INTEREST BEARING
			\$	\$	\$
2021					
Financial assets					
Cash and deposits	0.31%	13,007,754	-	13,007,754	-
Contractual receivables	-	2,970,335	-	-	2,970,335
Total financial assets		15,978,089	-	13,007,754	2,970,335
Financial liabilities					
Contractual payables	-	996,754	-	-	996,754
Lease Liabilities	-	252,513	252,513	-	-
Total financial liabilities		1,249,267	252,513	-	996,754
2020					
Financial assets					
Cash and deposits	1.05%	10,442,286	-	10,442,286	-
Contractual receivables	-	667,442	-	-	667,442
Total financial assets		11,109,728	-	10,442,286	667,442
Financial liabilities					
Contractual payables	-	1,151,985	-	-	1,151,985
Lease Liabilities	-	310,649	310,649	-	-
Total financial liabilities		1,462,634	310,649	-	1,151,985

Interest rate risk sensitivity

The sensitivity analysis below shows the impact on the Authority's net result and equity for a movement of 50 basis points up and down in market interest rates.

	CARRYING AMOUNT \$	INTEREST RATE			
		-50 BASIS POINTS		+50 BASIS POINTS	
		NET RESULT \$	EQUITY \$	NET RESULT \$	EQUITY \$
2021					
Cash and deposits (i)	13,007,754	(65,039)	(65,039)	65,039	65,039
2020					
Cash and deposits (i)	10,442,286	(52,211)	(52,211)	52,211	52,211

(i) Cash and deposits includes \$13,007,754 (2020: \$10,442,286) that is exposed to floating rates movements. Sensitivities to these movements are calculated as follows:

- 2021 : \$13,007,754 X 0.5% = \$65,039
- 2020 : \$10,442,286 X 0.5% = \$52,211

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7.2 CONTINGENT ASSETS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet but are disclosed and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value.

Contingent assets

As at 30 June 2021, the Authority has no known contingent assets. (2020: Nil)

Contingent liabilities

As at 30 June 2021, the Authority has no known contingent liabilities. (2020: Nil)

7.3 FAIR VALUE DETERMINATION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Significant judgement: Fair value measurements of assets and liabilities

Fair value determination requires judgement and the use of assumptions. This section discloses the most significant assumptions used in determining fair values. Changes to assumptions could have a material impact on the results and financial position of the Authority.

The Authority's property, plant and equipment are carried at fair value.

In addition, the fair values of other assets and liabilities which are carried at amortised cost, also need to be determined for disclosure purposes.

The Authority determines the policies and procedures for determining fair values for both financial and non-financial assets and liabilities as required.

Fair value hierarchy

In determining fair values a number of inputs are used. To increase consistency and comparability in the financial statements, these inputs are categorised into three levels, also known as the fair value hierarchy. The levels are as follows:

- Level 1 – Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and
- Level 3 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

The Authority determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by reassessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

The Authority currently holds a range of financial instruments that are recorded in the financial statements where the carrying amounts are a reasonable approximation of fair value, either due to their short-term nature or with the expectation that they will be paid in full by the end of the 2021-22 reporting period.

These financial instruments include:

Financial assets

Cash and deposits

Receivables:

- Trade receivables
- Accrued revenue

Financial liabilities

Payables:

- Trade payables
- Accrued expenses
- Other payables
- Lease liability

Fair value measurement hierarchy

	CARRYING AMOUNT AS AT 30 JUNE 2021 \$	FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD USING:		
		LEVEL 1 (i) \$	LEVEL 2 (i) \$	LEVEL 3 (i) \$
Land at Fair Value				
Non-specialised land	955,000	-	955,000	-
Specialised land	15,091,000	-	-	15,091,000
Total Land at Fair Value	16,046,000	-	955,000	15,091,000
Buildings at Fair Value				
Non-specialised buildings	1,750,000	-	1,750,000	-
Right of use assets - Buildings	222,302	-	222,302	-
Total Buildings at Fair Value	1,972,302	-	1,972,302	-
Works (Infrastructure) assets at Fair Value				
Works (Infrastructure) assets	27,336,015	-	-	27,336,015
Total Works (Infrastructure) at Fair Value	27,336,015	-	-	27,336,015
Plant and equipment at Fair Value				
Plant and equipment	677,627	-	-	677,627
Total Plant and equipment at Fair Value	677,627	-	-	677,627
Office furniture and equipment at Fair Value				
Office furniture and equipment	47	-	-	47
Total Office furniture and equipment at Fair Value	47	-	-	47
Motor vehicles at Fair Value				
Motor vehicles	115,415	-	115,415	-
Right of use assets - Motor Vehicles	28,132	-	28,132	-
Total Motor vehicles at Fair Value	143,547	-	143,547	-

Note:

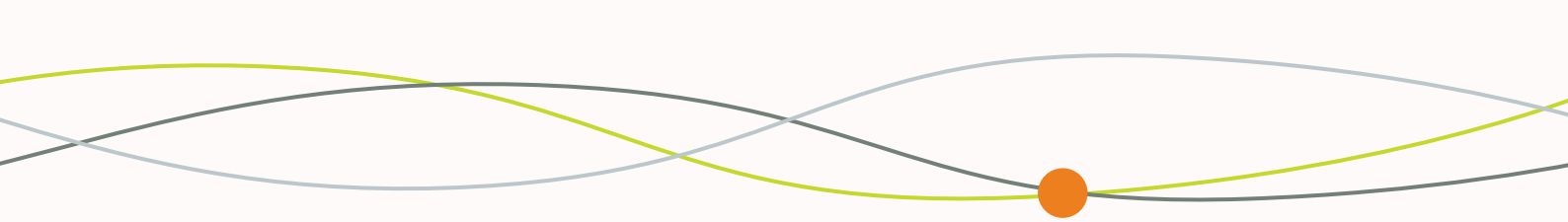
(i) Classified in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, see Note 7.3.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7.3 Fair value determination of financial assets and liabilities cont.

	CARRYING AMOUNT AS AT 30 JUNE 2020 \$	FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT AT END OF REPORTING PERIOD USING:		
		LEVEL 1 \$	LEVEL 2 \$	LEVEL 3 \$
Land at Fair Value				
Non-specialised land	950,000	-	950,000	-
Specialised land	15,817,768	-	-	15,817,768
Total Land at Fair Value	16,767,768	-	950,000	15,817,768
Buildings at Fair Value				
Non-specialised buildings	688,890	-	688,890	-
Right of use assets - Buildings	273,607	-	273,607	-
Total Buildings at Fair Value	962,497	-	962,497	-
Works (Infrastructure) assets at Fair Value				
Works (Infrastructure) assets	20,176,485	-	-	20,176,485
Total Works (Infrastructure) at Fair Value	20,176,485	-	-	20,176,485
Plant and equipment at Fair Value				
Plant and equipment	513,307	-	-	513,307
Total Plant and equipment at Fair Value	513,307	-	-	513,307
Office furniture and equipment at Fair Value				
Office furniture and equipment	672	-	-	672
Total Office furniture and equipment at Fair Value	672	-	-	672
Motor vehicles at Fair Value				
Motor vehicles	151,272	-	151,272	-
Right of use assets - Motor Vehicles	34,965	-	34,965	-
Total Motor vehicles at Fair Value	186,237	-	186,237	-



In 2020/21 there was a transfer of \$448,499 between level 3 and level 2 during the period.

The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate fair value:

Non-specialised land & non-specialised buildings

For non-specialised land and non-specialised buildings, an independent valuation was performed by the Valuer-General Victoria to determine the fair value using the Direct Comparison approach. The valuation of the subject property using this method we have had regard to the individual characteristics of the subject property relative to our analysis of the available market evidence. The effective date of the valuation was 30 June 2021.

Right of Use non-specialised buildings are valued as per the requirements of AASB 16 *Leases*. This is detailed further in note 6.2.

Significant valuation uncertainty

The market that the assets are valued in is being impacted by the uncertainty that the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has caused. The valuer has advised that the current market environment, impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), creates significant valuation uncertainty. The value assessed at the valuation date may therefore change over a relatively short time period.

Specialised land

An independent valuation of the Authority's specialised land, an independent valuation was performed by the Valuer-General Victoria using the Direct Comparison approach whereby the subject properties are compared to recent comparable land sales or land with no added or nominal added improvement value sales and making adjustment for points of difference to establish the Fair Value. The effective date of the valuation was 30 June 2021.

Significant valuation uncertainty

The market that the assets are valued in is being impacted by the uncertainty that the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has caused. The valuer has advised that the current market environment, impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), creates significant valuation uncertainty. The value assessed at the valuation date may therefore change over a relatively short time period.

Works assets

An independent valuation of the Authority's works assets was performed by the Valuer-General Victoria to determine the fair value using the cost approach. Where the fair value of an asset is not able to be reliably determined using market-based evidence, the cost approach is considered to be the most appropriate surrogate basis to determine fair value. The cost approach involves the establishment of the gross current replacement cost (GCRC) of an asset, which is then depreciated over the asset's normal useful life (NUL) to reflect its effective age. Due regard is made to any estimated end-of-life residual value. The effective date of the valuation was 30 June 2021.

Significant valuation uncertainty

The market that the assets are valued in is being impacted by the uncertainty that the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has caused. The valuer has advised that the current market environment, impacted by coronavirus (COVID-19), creates significant valuation uncertainty. The value assessed at the valuation date may therefore change over a relatively short time period.

Motor vehicles

Motor vehicles are valued at fair value. The Authority acquires new vehicles and at times disposes of them before the end of their economic life. The process of acquisition, use and disposal in the market is managed by experienced fleet managers in the Authority who set relevant depreciation rates during use to reflect the utilisation of the motor vehicles. These assets are classified as level 2 assets as there is an active secondary market where similar assets are valued, bought and sold in the ordinary course of business.

Right of Use motor vehicles are valued as per the requirements of AASB 16 *Leases*. This is detailed further in note 6.2.

Plant and equipment and office furniture and equipment

Plant and equipment and office furniture and equipment is held at fair value. When plant and equipment or office furniture and equipment is specialised in use, such that it is rarely sold other than as part of a going concern, fair value is determined using the depreciated replacement cost method. As depreciation adjustments are considered as significant, unobservable inputs in nature, these assets are classified as Level 3 fair value.

For all assets measured at fair value, the current use is considered the highest and best use.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7.3 Fair value determination of financial assets and liabilities cont.

Reconciliation of Level 3 fair value movements

	SPECIALISED LAND \$	WORKS ASSETS \$	PLANT & EQUIPMENT \$	OFFICE FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT \$
2021				
Opening Balance	15,817,768	20,176,485	513,307	672
Purchases (sales)	-	-	85,732	-
Transfers in (out) of Level 3	-	(448,898)	177,924	-
Depreciation	-	(565,828)	(99,336)	(625)
Subtotal	15,817,768	19,161,759	677,627	47
Gains or losses recognised in other economic flows - other comprehensive income				
Revaluation	(726,768)	8,174,256	-	-
Closing Balance	15,091,000	27,336,015	677,627	47
2020				
Opening Balance	15,817,768	20,763,689	525,561	1,469
Purchases (sales)	-	-	85,410	-
Transfers in (out) of Level 3	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	-	(587,204)	(97,665)	(797)
Subtotal	15,817,768	20,176,485	513,307	672
Gains or losses recognised in other economic flows - other comprehensive income				
Closing Balance	15,817,768	20,176,485	513,307	672

Description of significant unobservable inputs to Level 3 valuations

	VALUATION TECHNIQUE	SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS
Specialised land	Direct comparison approach	Sales evidence, unit of value by comparative basis (\$ per m ²) adjusted for a Community Service Obligation (CSO) adjustment
Works assets	Cost Approach	Gross current replacement cost (GCRC) of an asset, which is then depreciated over the asset's normal useful life (NUL) to reflect its effective age. Due regard is made to any estimated end-of-life residual value
Plant and equipment	Depreciated replacement cost	Useful life of the plant and equipment Cost per Unit
Office furniture and equipment	Depreciated replacement cost	Useful life of the office furniture and equipment Cost per Unit

8. OTHER DISCLOSURES

This section provides additional material disclosures required by accounting standards or otherwise, for the understanding of this financial report.

STRUCTURE

- 8.1 Ex-gratia expenses
- 8.2 Other economic flows included in net result
- 8.3 Reserves
- 8.4 Responsible persons
- 8.5 Remuneration of executive officers

8.6 Related parties

8.7 Remuneration of auditors

8.8 Subsequent events

8.9 Australian Accounting Standards issued that are not yet effective

8.10 Glossary of technical terms

8.1 EX-GRATIA EXPENSES

The Authority had no ex-gratia expenses for the year ending 30 June 2021 (2020 \$0).

8.2 OTHER ECONOMIC FLOWS INCLUDED IN NET RESULT

Other economic flows measure the change in volume or value of assets or liabilities that do not result from transactions.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-financial assets		
Proceeds from sale of non-financial assets	-	98,545
Less written down value	-	(62,590)
Total net gain/(loss) on disposal of non-financial assets	-	35,955

8.3 RESERVES

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Physical asset revaluation surplus		
Balance at beginning of financial year	33,124,517	33,124,517
Revaluation increments	8,113,321	-
Balance at end of financial year	41,237,839	33,124,517
Accumulated Deficit		
Balance at beginning of financial year	(6,778,870)	(3,806,264)
Net transfers from accumulated funds	4,206,457	(2,972,606)
Balance at end of financial year	(2,572,413)	(6,778,870)
Contributed Capital		
Balance at beginning of financial year	21,426,923	21,426,923
Balance at end of financial year	21,426,923	21,426,923
Total Reserves	60,092,349	47,772,570

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

8.4 RESPONSIBLE PERSONS

In accordance with the Ministerial Directions issued by the Minister for Finance under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, the following disclosures are made regarding responsible persons for the reporting period.

The names of the persons who were responsible persons of the Authority at any time during the financial year were:

The Hon. Lisa Neville, MP	Minister for Water	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
The Hon. Richard Wynne, MP	Acting Minister for Water	15 Feb 2021 to 30 Jun 2021
The Hon. Lily D'Ambrosio MP	Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Alice Knight	(Chair)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Catherine Jenkins	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Fiona Cumming	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Nick Reynard	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Kenneth Latta	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Lia Sarto	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Catherine Phelps	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
Wayne Weaire	(Board Member)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021
John Riddiford	(CEO)	01 Jul 2020 to 30 Jun 2021

Remuneration

Remuneration received or receivable from the Authority in connection with the management of the Authority during the reporting period was:

	2021	2020
Income band		
\$0-\$9,999	-	2
\$10,000-\$19,999	7	7
\$20,000-\$29,999	1	1
\$180,000-\$189,999	-	1
\$220,000-\$229,999	1	-
Total number of Responsible persons	9	11
Total Remuneration \$	375,468	325,212

The compensation detailed above excludes the salaries and benefits the Portfolio Ministers receive. The Ministers' remuneration and allowances are set by the *Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act 1968* and are reported within the Department of Parliamentary Services' Financial Report.

8.5 REMUNERATION OF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The number of executive officers, other than ministers and accountable officers, and their total remuneration during the reporting period are shown in the table below. Total annualised employee equivalents provides a measure of full time equivalent executive officers over the reporting period.

Remuneration comprises employee benefits in all forms of consideration paid, payable or provided by the entity, or on behalf of the entity, in exchange for services rendered, and is disclosed in the following categories.

Short-term employee benefits include amounts such as wages, salaries, annual leave or sick leave that are usually paid or payable on a regular basis, as well as non-monetary benefits such as allowances and free or subsidised goods or services.

Post-employment benefits include pensions and other retirement benefits paid or payable on a discrete basis when employment has ceased.

Other long-term benefits include long service leave, other long-service benefit or deferred compensation.

Termination benefits include termination of employment payments, such as severance packages.

Share-based payments are cash or other assets paid or payable as agreed between the entity and the employee, provided specific vesting conditions, if any, are met.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Remuneration		
Short-term employee benefits	443,978	428,894
Post-employment benefits	41,455	39,491
Other long-term benefits	10,598	10,478
Termination benefits	-	-
Share-based payments	-	-
Total remuneration (i)	496,031	478,863
Total number of executives (ii)	3	3
Total annualised employee equivalents (iii)	3	3

Notes:

(i) The definition of Executive Officer as per FRD 15E has been adopted to identify key management personnel in 2020-21

(ii) The total number of executive officers includes persons who meet the definition of Key Management Personnel (KMP) of the entity under AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures and are also reported within the related parties note disclosure (Note 8.6)

(iii) Annualised employee equivalent is based on the time fraction worked over the reporting period.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

8.6 RELATED PARTIES

The Authority is a wholly owned and controlled entity of the State of Victoria. Related parties of the Authority include:

- All key management personnel and their close family members;
- All cabinet ministers and their close family members; and
- All departments and public sector entities that are controlled and consolidated into the whole of state consolidated financial statements.

Transactions with government-related entities (over \$20,000)

During the year, the Authority received funding from the following government-related entities:

	FUNDING RECEIVED \$	OWING AT 30 JUNE 2021 \$
Entity		
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	10,315,586	-
Dept. of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	1,749,136	24,696
Barwon Water	227,580	200,000
Department of Transport	40,000	40,000
Central Highlands Region Water Authority	34,570	-
Wannon Water	20,308	-

During the year, the Authority made significant payments to the following government-related entities:

	PAYMENTS MADE \$	OWING AT 30 JUNE 2021 \$
Entity		
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	513,757	78,284
Central Highlands Water	472,912	-
Goulburn Broken CMA	184,331	73,832
Barwon Water	62,318	15,125
Parks Victoria	56,121	-
Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority	53,850	-
Wimmera CMA	43,000	-
Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions	34,205	-

Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the Authority, directly or indirectly, this comprises Board Members and the Chief Executive Officer. Key management personnel include all Responsible persons as listed in Note 8.4, and all members of the executive team which include:

Mr Chris Thompson	Business and Governance General Manager
Ms Sarah Holland-Clift	Community and Catchment Services General Manager
Ms Helen Watts	Planning and Strategy Services General Manager

The compensation detailed below excludes the salaries and benefits the Portfolio Ministers' receives. The Ministers' remuneration and allowances is set by the *Parliamentary Salaries and Superannuation Act 1968* and is reported within the Department of Parliamentary Services' Financial Report.

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Compensation of KMPs		
Short-term employee benefits	782,716	723,104
Post-employment benefits	73,276	66,528
Other long-term benefits	15,507	14,443
Total	871,499	804,075

Transactions with Key Management Personnel and Other Related Parties

Given the breadth and depth of State government activities, related parties transact with the Victorian public sector in a manner consistent with other members of the public e.g. stamp duty and other government fees and charges. Further employment of processes within the Victorian public sector occur on terms and conditions consistent with the *Public Administration Act 2004* and Codes of Conduct and Standards issued by the Victorian Public Sector Commission. Procurement processes occur on terms and conditions consistent with the Victorian Government Purchasing Board requirements.

Outside of normal citizen type transactions, there were no related party transactions that involved key management personnel, their close family members and their personal business interests.

8.7 REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Victorian Auditor-General's Office for audit of financial statements	12,000	11,800
Internal audit costs	28,340	10,320
Total remuneration of auditors	40,340	22,120

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

8.8 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has continued to create an unprecedented challenge to the community and to the Corangamite CMA as we have sought to keep our staff and community safe, comply with restrictions whilst continuing with the important program work we do. Management have considered subsequent events in relation to coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and have assessed no material impact on the Corangamite CMA's financial position but whilst not expecting a significant impact it's difficult to reliably estimate the potential impact on our operations, future results and financial position.

8.9 AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED THAT ARE NOT YET EFFECTIVE

Certain new and revised accounting standards have been issued but are not effective for the 2020-21 reporting period. These accounting standards have not been applied to the Model Financial Statements. The Authority is reviewing its existing policies and assessing the potential implications of these accounting standards which includes:

AASB 2020-1 Amendments to Australia Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current

This Standard amends AASB 101 to clarify requirements for the presentation of liabilities in the statement of financial position as current or non-current. It initially applied to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022 with earlier application permitted, however the AASB has recently issued AASB 2021-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current - Deferral of Effective Date to defer the application by one year to periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023. The Authority will not early adopt the Standard.

The Authority is in the process of analysing the impacts of this Standard. However, it is not anticipated to have a material impact.

Other Amending Standards

Several other amending standards and AASB interpretations have been issued that apply to future reporting periods, but are considered to have limited impact on the Authority's reporting.

- AASB 17 Insurance Contracts
- AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosure for For-Profit Tier 2 Entities
- AASB 2020-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Removal of Special Purpose Financial Statements for Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities
- AASB 2020-3 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Annual Improvements 2018-2020 and Other Amendments
- AASB 2020-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Covid-19-Rent Related Concessions: Tier 2 Disclosures
- ASB 2020-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Interest Rate Benchmark Reform - Phase 2
- AASB 2020-9 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Tier 2 Disclosures: Interest Rate Benchmark Reform (Phase 2) and Other Amendments.



8.10 GLOSSARY OF TECHNICAL TERMS

Associates are all entities over which an entity has significant influence but not control, generally accompanying a shareholding and voting rights of between 20 per cent and 50 per cent.

Borrowings refers to interest-bearing liabilities mainly raised from public borrowings raised through the Treasury Corporation of Victoria, lease liabilities, service concession arrangements and other interest-bearing arrangements. Borrowings also include non interest-bearing advances from government that are acquired for policy purposes.

Commitments include those operating, capital and other outsourcing commitments arising from non-cancellable contractual or statutory sources.

Comprehensive result is the amount included in the operating statement representing total change in net worth other than transactions with owners as owners.

Controlled item generally refers to the capacity of a Authority to benefit from that item in the pursuit of the entity's objectives and to deny or regulate the access of others to that benefit.

Current grants are amounts payable or receivable for current purposes for which no economic benefits of equal value are receivable or payable in return.

Depreciation is an expense that arises from the consumption through wear or time of a produced physical or intangible asset. This expense is classified as a 'transaction' and so reduces the 'net result from transaction'.

Effective interest method is the method used to calculate the amortised cost of a financial asset and of allocating interest income over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset or, where appropriate, a shorter period.

Employee benefits expenses include all costs related to employment including wages and salaries, fringe benefits tax, leave entitlements, redundancy payments, defined benefits superannuation plans, and defined contribution superannuation plans.

Ex gratia expenses mean the voluntary payment of money or other non-monetary benefit (e.g. a write off) that is not made either to acquire goods, services or other benefits for the entity or to meet a legal liability, or to settle or resolve a possible legal liability or claim against the entity.

Finance lease is a lease that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an underlying asset.

Financial asset is any asset that is:

- a. Cash;
- b. An equity instrument of another entity;
- c. A contractual right:
 - To receive cash or another financial asset from another entity; or
 - To exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially favourable to the entity; or
- d. A contract that will or may be settled in the entity's own equity instruments and is:
 - A non-derivative for which the entity is or may be obliged to receive a variable number of the entity's own equity instruments; or
 - A derivative that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the entity's own equity instruments.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

Financial liability is any liability that is:

- a. A contractual obligation:
 - To deliver cash or another financial asset to another entity; or
 - To exchange financial assets or financial liabilities with another entity under conditions that are potentially unfavourable to the entity; or
- b. A contract that will or may be settled in the entity's own equity instruments and is:
 - A non-derivative for which the entity is or may be obliged to deliver a variable number of the entity's own equity instruments; or
 - A derivative that will or may be settled other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of the entity's own equity instruments. For this purpose, the entity's own equity instruments do not include instruments that are themselves contracts for the future receipt or delivery of the entity's own equity instruments.

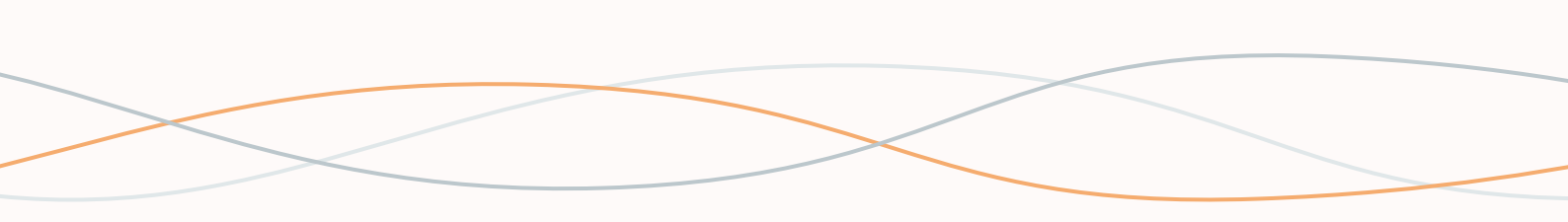
Financial statements in the Model report comprises:

- a. A balance sheet as at the end of the period;
- b. A comprehensive operating statement for the period;
- c. A statement of changes in equity for the period;
- d. A cash flow statement for the period;
- e. Notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information;
- f. Comparative information in respect of the preceding period as specified in paragraph 38 of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements; and
- g. A statement of financial position as at the beginning of the preceding period when an entity applies an accounting policy retrospectively or makes a retrospective restatement of items in its financial statements, or when it reclassifies items in its financial statements in accordance with paragraphs 41 of AASB 101.

Grant expenses and other transfers are transactions in which one unit provides goods, services, assets (or extinguishes a liability) or labour to another unit without receiving approximately equal value in return. Grants can either be operating or capital in nature.

While grants to governments may result in the provision of some goods or services to the transferor, they do not give the transferor a claim to receive directly benefits of approximately equal value. For this reason, grants are referred to by the AASB as involuntary transfers and are termed non-reciprocal transfers. Receipt and sacrifice of approximately equal value may occur, but only by coincidence. For example, governments are not obliged to provide commensurate benefits, in the form of goods or services, to particular taxpayers in return for their taxes.

Grants can be paid as general-purpose grants, which refer to grants that are not subject to conditions regarding their use. Alternatively, they may be paid as specific purpose grants, which are paid for a particular purpose and/or have conditions attached regarding their use.



General government sector comprises all government Authorities, offices and other bodies engaged in providing services free of charge or at prices significantly below their cost of production. General government services include those that are mainly non-market in nature, those that are largely for collective consumption by the community and those that involve the transfer or redistribution of income. These services are financed mainly through taxes, or other compulsory levies and user charges.

Interest expense represents costs incurred in connection with borrowings. It includes interest components of lease repayments.

Interest income includes interest received on bank term deposits and other investments.

Leases are rights conveyed in a contract, or part of a contract, the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

Net result is a measure of financial performance of the operations for the period. It is the net result of items of revenue, gains and expenses (including losses) recognised for the period, excluding those classified as 'other non-owner movements in equity'.

Non-financial assets are all assets that are not financial assets. It includes land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment, cultural and intangibles.

Operating result is a measure of financial performance of the operations for the period. It is the net result of items of revenue, gains and expenses (including losses) recognised for the period, excluding those that are classified as 'other non-owner movements in equity'. Refer also to 'net result'.

Other economic flows included in net result are changes in the volume or value of an asset or liability that do not result from transactions. In simple terms, other economic flows are changes arising from market remeasurements. They include gains and losses from disposals, revaluations and impairments of non-current physical and intangible assets; fair value changes of financial instruments and agricultural assets; and depletion of natural assets (non-produced) from their use or removal.

Other economic flows – other comprehensive income comprises items (including reclassification adjustments) that are not recognised in net result as required or permitted by other Australian Accounting Standards. They include changes in physical asset revaluation surplus; share of net movement in revaluation surplus of associates and joint ventures; and gains and losses on remeasuring available-for-sale financial assets. Payables includes short and long-term trade debt and accounts payable, grants, taxes and interest payable.

Produced assets include buildings, plant and equipment and certain intangible assets. Intangible produced assets may include computer software, motion picture films and research and development costs (which does not include the start-up costs associated with capital projects).

Receivables include amounts owing from government through appropriation receivable, short and long-term trade credit and accounts receivable, accrued investment income, grants, taxes and interest receivable.

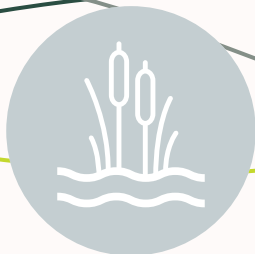
Sales of goods and services refers to income from the direct provision of goods and services and includes fees and charges for services rendered, sales of goods and services, fees from regulatory services and work done as an agent for private enterprises.

Supplies and services generally represent cost of goods sold and the day-to-day running costs, including maintenance costs, incurred in the normal operations of the Authority.

Taxation income represents income received from the State's taxpayers and includes:

- Payroll tax, land tax and duties levied principally on conveyances and land transfers;
- Insurance duty relating to compulsory third-party, life and non-life policies;
- Insurance company contributions to fire brigades;
- Motor vehicle taxes, including registration fees and duty on registrations and transfers; and
- Other taxes, including landfill levies, licence and concession fees.

Transactions are those economic flows that are considered to arise as a result of policy decisions, usually an interaction between two entities by mutual agreement. They also include flows into an entity such as depreciation, where the owner is simultaneously acting as the owner of the depreciating asset and as the consumer of the service provided by the asset. Taxation is regarded as mutually agreed interactions between the government and taxpayers. Transactions can be in kind (e.g. assets provided/given free of charge or for nominal consideration) or where the final consideration is cash.



SECTION 4

Appendices- Key Performance Indicators

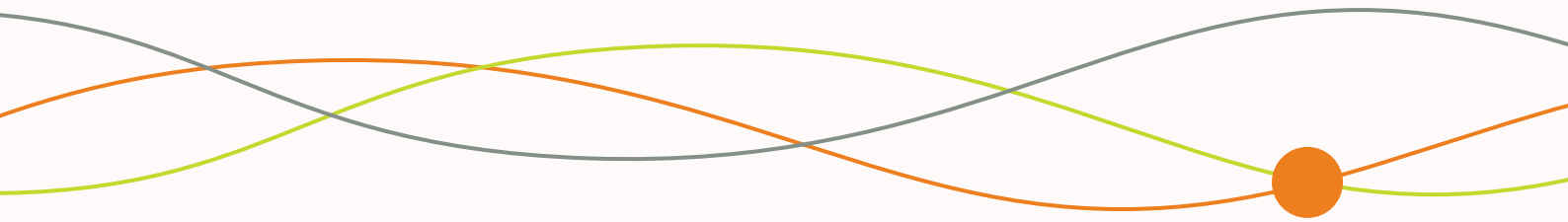
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The Victorian Government set the following performance indicators and targets for all CMAs to report against annually.



APPENDIX NO 1 PERFORMANCE TARGETS

PERFORMANCE AREA	PERFORMANCE TARGET	PROGRESS 2020-21
Business Management and Governance	Submit annually, a board performance assessment report according to any guidelines issued.	Board performance report submitted on 4 August 2020.
	A risk management strategy/plan approved by the board and being implemented.	The Board approved the risk management plan on 26th November 2021 which is being implemented.
	One hundred per cent of the CMA's policies and procedures reviewed every three financial years.	Review of the authority's policies and procedures is on-going. 93% of policies and procedures were reviewed in the last 3 years.
	Full compliance with all applicable Standing Directions under the Financial Management Compliance Framework Checklist.	3 Compliance Deficiencies (Non Material) recorded in 2020-21 of which 1 have been addressed by 30 June 2021.
Regional planning and coordination	A regional catchment strategy (RCS) approved by the minister.	The renewed RCS was approved by the Ministers in May 2013.
	A stakeholder and community engagement framework/plan approved by the board.	The Communications and Brand Strategy was endorsed at the November 2018 Board Meeting. The Community Engagement Framework was endorsed by the Board at the November 2018 meeting.
	A regional Landcare support plan approved by the Board.	The new Corangamite Landcare Support Plan is to be developed in partnership with the Landcare Chairs forum in 2021-22.
	A regional waterways strategy approved by the minister.	The Corangamite Waterway Strategy 2014-22 was approved by the Minister in 2014.
	A regional floodplain strategy approved by the Board.	The Corangamite Regional Floodplain Management Strategy has been approved by the Board in February 2018 and delivered to DELWP who have signed off on the strategy.
Regional delivery	Progress with implementation of the RCS (and its major sub-strategies) is reviewed by the board annually.	The Board approved the midterm RCS review on 23 March 2017.
	Projects/activities to implement the regional waterways strategy and the regional floodplain management strategy delivered and reported according to associated funding agreements.	All waterway and floodplain manage projects/activities were delivered and reported in accordance with associated funding agreements under the Victorian Water Program Investment Framework.



PERFORMANCE AREA	PERFORMANCE TARGET	PROGRESS 2020-21
Statutory Functions under part 10 of the Water Act	Ninety per cent of statutory requirements (permits, referrals, advice and licences) associated with waterway and floodplain management are responded to within the prescribed period.	<p>73% of statutory requirements were met within the prescribed period. The reason for this is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A high demand of referrals/flood advice: 1,346 response requested up from 1,147 in 2019-20 which corresponds to a 17% increase (or 119 additional responses). Inadequate resource to meet demand and hence response times not achieved• Significant increase in the number of incoming phone calls and emails without adequate resource to meet demand• Ongoing reliance on external consultants to provide statutory support• Significantly increased number of complex referrals/advice• Significant increase in the number of reported unauthorised works which take considerable time to resolve• Considerable staff time spent providing technical support to large projects across the region, such as Planning Scheme Amendments, flood studies, large scale construction projects such as rail upgrades, Barwon Heads Road Duplication, etc. <p>Other tasks include stakeholder meetings, strategic planning, flood investigations, emergency response commitments, and flood data management.</p>

***Derived from the 2015 Ministerial Form guidelines*

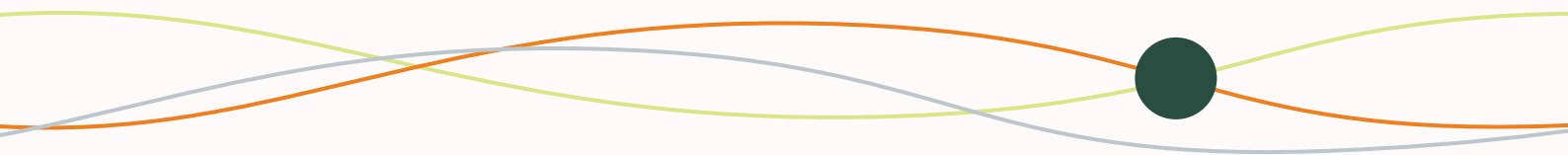
APPENDIX NO 2 PERFORMANCE AGAINST OUTCOMES AND LETTER OF EXPECTATION TARGETS

The table below outlines the key indicators that we will use to monitor and report on the achievement of outcomes. The table recognises the longer-term nature of the outcomes we are aiming to achieve through the four-year indicators and the standard outputs that are reported annually that contribute to the achievement of the outcome indicator. The indicators incorporate the outcome indicators aligned to the Minister for Water's priority areas as set out in the Letter of Expectations to CMAs.

PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
Healthy resilient and biodiverse environment	Increasing area (ha) of land managed for conservation.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Increase condition and extent of native habitats.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Reduction in threats to priority flora and fauna.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
Improved waterway health	Improved health of priority waterways and their catchments.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Increasing opportunities for Traditional Owner and Aboriginal communities to be respectfully engaged in waterway programs.	The Corangamite CMA has continued to build strong relationships with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation and is continuing to develop relationships with the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation. The development of EC5 bids included consultation and incorporation of Country Plan outcomes into the project plans. In relation to our Australian Government Programs, we have actively collaborated and involved Traditional owners in a Cultural Burning program and in our Threatened Species project on-ground assessments. The Corangamite CMA continues to look to improve our own cultural competency.
	Number of engagement processes with community or stakeholders that identified and considered recreational values of waterways.	The renewal of the Regional Catchment Strategy has included significant consultation through 18 workshops and via the Engage Victoria site. Total number of non CMA attendees at workshops includes was 113 which included 80 community based attendees and 33 participants from various government agencies and municipalities. The Corangamite CMA has undertaken significant consultation in regards to Seasonal Watering Strategy that has involved consideration of recreational values. In 2020-21, a Community Advisory Group was formed with community representation across the Catchment. Further activities and achievements are outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).

PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
Improved waterway health	Evidence that recreational values were considered in waterway health and environmental water planning and management.	<p>The development of the Barwon Parklands Masterplan which included input from a number of agencies and Mapping of Amenities project along the Barwon River Parklands involved consideration of recreational values.</p> <p>The Regional Catchment Strategy and recent EC5 bid applications also considered recreation values in their development.</p> <p>The Corangamite CMA's own vision statement was amended in 2021-22 to reflect.</p> <p>"Health and Productive Lands and Waters cared for and enjoyed by thriving communities" in line with feedback from the RCS consultation process.</p> <p>Further activities and achievements are outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).</p>
	Participating in the development and implementation of integrated water management plans, particularly through prioritising measures to enhance urban waterway values.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Evidence of improvements to information sources (e.g. online)	<p>In 2020-21 the Corangamite CMA developed a Portal Strategy to increase the usability and accessibility of its information Portals. 3 projects were undertaken with Federation Uni to further enhance the operation and usage.</p> <p>For the first time the RCS moved online and integrates with our NRM Planning portal.</p> <p>The Corangamite CMA website was further designed in 2020-21 to improve accessibility to information in regards to projects and services of the CMA.</p>
	Develop and coordinate the implementation of your new regional catchment strategy according to legislative changes and new guidelines established by the Victorian Catchment Management Council.	<p>The renewal of the NRM Plan has included significant consultation with Eastern Maar Traditional Owner, Wadawarrung Traditional Owner, NRM State Agencies, Industry representatives, Local Government, Community Groups, landholders and community representatives. This has been undertaken through 18 workshops and via the Engage Victoria site. Total number of non CMA attendees at workshops was 113 which included 80 community based attendees and 33 participants from various government agencies and municipalities.</p> <p>The final RCS is due to be submitted to the Victorian Minister (as per legislation) by September 2021. The CMA has been liaising with the State RLP Team over the course of the renewal process.</p>

PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
Improved waterway health	Deliver integrated catchment management in line with Water for Victoria and building on the legacy of Our Catchments, Our Communities, for better catchment stewardship with strengthened performance across environmental, social and economic outcomes.	<p>The renewal of the NRM Plan has included significant consultation with Eastern Maar Traditional Owner, Wadawarrung Traditional Owner, NRM State Agencies, Industry representatives, Local Government, Community Groups, landholders and community representatives. This has been undertaken through 18 workshops and via the Engage Victoria site. Total number of non CMA attendees at workshops was 113 which included 80 community based attendees and 33 participants from various government agencies and municipalities.</p> <p>The final RCS is due to be submitted to the Victorian Minister (as per legislation) by September 2021. The CMA has been liaising with the State RLP Team over the course of the renewal process.</p> <p>In 2020-21, the Corangamite CMA continued to implement the EC4 Our Catchments, Our Communities program and in planning for the future developed 2 projects for implementation in 2021-22 as part of the EC5 bid process that will focus on land stewardship for peri urban landholders and continued development of the Catchment Partnerships Agreement and the implementation of our Community Advisory Group.</p>
Sustainable land management	Increasing number of land managers participating in sustainable land and water management practices.	<p>In 2020-21 the Corangamite CMA continued to run the Sustainable Agriculture Committee and worked closely with Landcare to support and deliver on-ground programs.</p> <p>Funded by the Commonwealth, the Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator continued to support sustainable landcare practices across the catchment via education and engagement activities.</p> <p>Further activities and achievements are outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).</p>
	Providing flexibility for agriculture to continue to adapt to change and help the sector do more with less water.	As above.
	Demonstrated active partnerships in delivering integrated land management projects.	As above.
Partnerships are effective, diverse and delivering shared outcomes	90% of stakeholders rating overall satisfaction with the Corangamite CMA at "Satisfactory" or better.	<p>The Corangamite CMA undertook a stakeholder survey in December 2020 the results of which were an improvement on the previous survey undertaken in 2018. Relevance of the CMA increased from 80% to 91%.</p>
	Healthy communities and supporting resilient environments.	Activities and achievements are outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).



PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
Partnerships are effective, diverse and delivering shared outcomes	Report on Catchment Partnership Agreements for your region in accordance with the Framework for Catchment Partnership Agreements.	The Corangamite CMA continues to chair a strong Catchment Partnership Agreement group with membership from Key Agencies and Traditional Owners. The group provided significant input into the development of the Regional Catchment Strategy. The terms of reference of the group was also reviewed in 2020-21 to support more effective collaboration.
	Collaborating with water corporations and local government, including participation in Integrated Water Management Forums, to help facilitate integrated water management, with a focus on enhancing public open spaces (such as waterway corridors).	In 2020-21, the Corangamite CMA developed 3 MoUs with Barwon Water, Central Highlands Water and Wannon Water outlining collaboration activities and points of collaboration already in place. This group also jointly developed a communication for the public on the roles of agencies in water management.
	Evidence of collaboration with other organisations or agencies to support recreational values, such as sharing of information on recreational value planning or management with other organisations, partnerships with other organisations or agencies in site-based or regional projects, and/or amounts of co-investment with other organisations.	In addition to the above, the Corangamite CMA collaborated strongly with DELWP and Parks Victoria to progress the Australian Government Funded Wild Otways Initiative. Further projects were developed with Barwon Water and Wannon Water to improve waterway health.
Increased breadth and depth of participation	Continue to build extensive, effective and consistent approaches to community engagement and partnerships in regional planning and implementation.	In 2020-21 the Corangamite CMA implemented a new Community Advisory Group with representation across the catchment to provide input into the RCS development and to support understanding of regional issues and concerns. Whilst COVID-19 provided challenges for engagement, the Corangamite CMA experimented in the use of online engagement means to reach community audiences including workshops and educational events held online as well as trialling podcasts. Corangamite CMA significantly increased its online presence with a significant increase in Facebook and other social media tools.
	Increase in community participation in natural resource management educational and behavioural change events supported by or coordinated by the Corangamite CMA.	WaterWatch and EstuaryWatch programs continue to be very successful throughout the region. Additional activities and achievements are outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Work collaboratively with organisations and communities to strengthen engagement approaches and capacity.	As outlined above.
	Commit to working collectively via Vic Catchments membership to strengthen collaboration and performance in the catchment management sector in Victoria.	The Corangamite CMA has committed to the Vic Catchments membership and strategic priorities including oversight of the statewide working groups' project plans and identification of ministerial opportunities.

PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
Increased breadth and depth of participation	Number of effective engagements and partnerships with Traditional Owners in water planning and management that have led to improved outcomes for Aboriginal communities.	<p>The Corangamite CMA has continued to build strong relationships with the Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Aboriginal Corporation and is continuing to develop relationships with the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation. The development of EC5 bids included consultation and incorporation of Country Plan outcomes into the project plans. In relation to our Australian Government Programs, we have actively collaborated and involved Traditional owners in a Cultural Burning program and in our Threatened Species project on-ground assessments. The Corangamite CMA continues to look to improve our own cultural competency.</p> <p>The Corangamite CMA continued to implement its Social Procurement Framework which includes increasing spend with Aboriginal businesses.</p>
	Progress on climate change adaptation initiatives outlined in 'Climate Change and Catchment Strategies' (see page 10).	Corangamite CMA is a member of both the Barwon South West and Grampians Adaptation Project coordinated by DELWP, is a founding member of the newly formed Barwon South West Climate Alliance and is an active contributor to the Statewide CMA Climate Network. Many climate change initiatives from our plan are being implemented through these forums.
Increased resilience and adaptation of natural assets to climate change	Explore opportunities to sequester carbon and generate carbon offsets.	Corangamite CMA is developing a Barwon South West Carbon Offset Program with 10 LGAs. The Corangamite CMA is also a partner in the Statewide Carbon Sequestration Project with all CMAs and Water Corporations, is exploring carbon offset opportunities with Barwon Water, Central Highlands Water and Wannon Water. We have also continued to explore both blue and teal carbon opportunities with Deakin's Blue Carbon Lab and are developing soil carbon opportunities with local Landcare Networks and South Pole.
	Fulfil statutory obligations for floodplain management, estuaries, drainage schemes and environmental water.	2020-21 proved a challenging year for managing statutory obligations particularly for floodplain management. Only 73% of statutory requirements were met within the prescribed period primarily due to significant growth in the region resulting in a high demand for referrals/flood advice: 1,346 response requested up from 1,147 in 2019-20 which corresponds to a 17% increase (or 119 additional responses). Inadequate resource to meet demand and hence response times not achieved.
The Corangamite CMA is a respected and trusted regional leader in catchment health and management	Improving diversity and inclusion.	In 2020-21, the Corangamite CMA continued to implement its diversity and inclusion strategy, with supportive recruitment processes. As part of the Youth Employment Program, the Corangamite CMA engaged 8 young graduates (including 6 women and with different backgrounds) to various areas of the Corangamite CMA to obtain vital work experience and mentoring to continue to develop their skills and employability.
	Improving performance and demonstrated results against outcomes.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).



PERFORMANCE AREA	4 YEAR OUTCOME INDICATOR	2020-21 PERFORMANCE
The Corangamite CMA is a respected and trusted regional leader in catchment health and management	Developing strategies and goals that will increase cultural diversity in the workforce and gender equity in executive leadership and throughout the organisation.	<p>The Corangamite CMA was a lead participant in the Bridging The Gap program that seeks to improve Leadership opportunities for Women.</p> <p>The Corangamite CMA is currently reviewing its Diversity and Inclusion plan which will include an action plan based upon staff data, learnings from the Bridging the Gap program, people matters survey and staff input.</p>
	Encouraging staff participation in the Victorian Public Sector Commission "People Matter Survey".	The most recent People Matter Survey had a response rate of 72%.
	Collaborate with DELWP to improve reporting systems and processes.	Via the CMA Corporate Services Managers group, the CMAs worked with DELWP to improve governance and financial management processes. The CMA Regional Investment Coordinators Group met regularly with DELWP to implement a new Grant Management System "Enquire" and to review the DELWP standard outputs.
	Demonstrate outcomes of government investment into waterways and catchment health.	As outlined in the section 'Achievements, Operational Performance and Key Initiatives' (see page 15).
	Deliver efficiency through shared services, smarter procurement and lower-cost technology.	<p>The Corangamite CMA continued to be involved with 2 shared services arrangements with Barwon Water in relation to reception and HR/OH&S services.</p> <p>7 CMAs collaborated to implement a new finance and payroll system D365FO.</p> <p>The CMA Corporate Services Managers, via the DELWP funded Compliance Project, collaborated on shared governance activities and policies.</p>
	Increase in the information available and its timely delivery to partners, community and investors.	<p>In 2020-21 the Corangamite CMA developed a Portal Strategy to increase the usability and accessibility of its information Portals. 3 projects were undertaken with Federation Uni to further enhance the operation and usage.</p> <p>For the first time the RCS moved online and integrates with our NRM Planning portal.</p> <p>The Corangamite CMA website was further designed in 2020-21 to improve accessibility to information in regards to projects and services of the CMA.</p>

APPENDIX NO 3 DISCLOSURE INDEX

The Annual Report of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the Corangamite CMA's compliance with statutory disclosure requirements.

FRD	DISCLOSURE	PAGE	FRD	DISCLOSURE	PAGE
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ACRONYMS AND TERMS

CMA	Catchment Management Authority	ML	Megalitre
BP	Bellarine Peninsula	MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
CaLP	Catchment and Land Protection Act	MP	Member of Parliament
CEN	Community Engagement Network	NLP	National Landcare Program
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	No.	Number
CFA	Country Fire Authority	NRM	Natural Resource Management
CHW	Central Highlands Water	NV	Native Vegetation
Corangamite Authority CMA (CCMA)	Corangamite Catchment Management	OCOC	Our Catchments, Our Communities
CPA	Corangamite Partnership Agreement	OH&S	Occupational Health and Safety
CPSU	Community and Public Sector Union	PPB	Port Phillip Bay
CRFMS	Corangamite Regional Floodplain Management Strategy	QAQC	Quality Assurance Quality Control
CVA	Conservation Volunteers Australia	RALF	Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator
CWS	Corangamite Wetlands Strategy	RFMS	Regional Floodplain Management Strategy
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	RLC	Regional Landcare Coordinators
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services	RLP	Regional Land Partnerships
EC5	Environmental Contribution Tranche 5	SEPP	State Environment Protection Policy
EEMSS System	Estuary Entrance Management Support	SPF	Social Procurement Strategy
EPA	Environment Protection Authority	VEAC	Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
EPBC	Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act	VEPP	Victorian Environment Partnership Program
EVC	Ecological Vegetation Class	VEWH	Victorian Environmental Water Holder
FOI	Freedom of information	VHF	Very High Frequency
FTE	Full-time equivalent	VPSC	Victorian Public Sector Commission
Ha	Hectare	VVP	Victorian Volcanic Plain
IBAC	Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission	WFOV	Working For Victoria
MAC	Ministerial Advisory Committee	WTOAC	Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
MBI	Market Based Instrument	YEP	Youth Employment Program
MERI	Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement	Ramsar	Iranian town, location of the first convention (1971) where the Wetland Conservation Treaty was signed



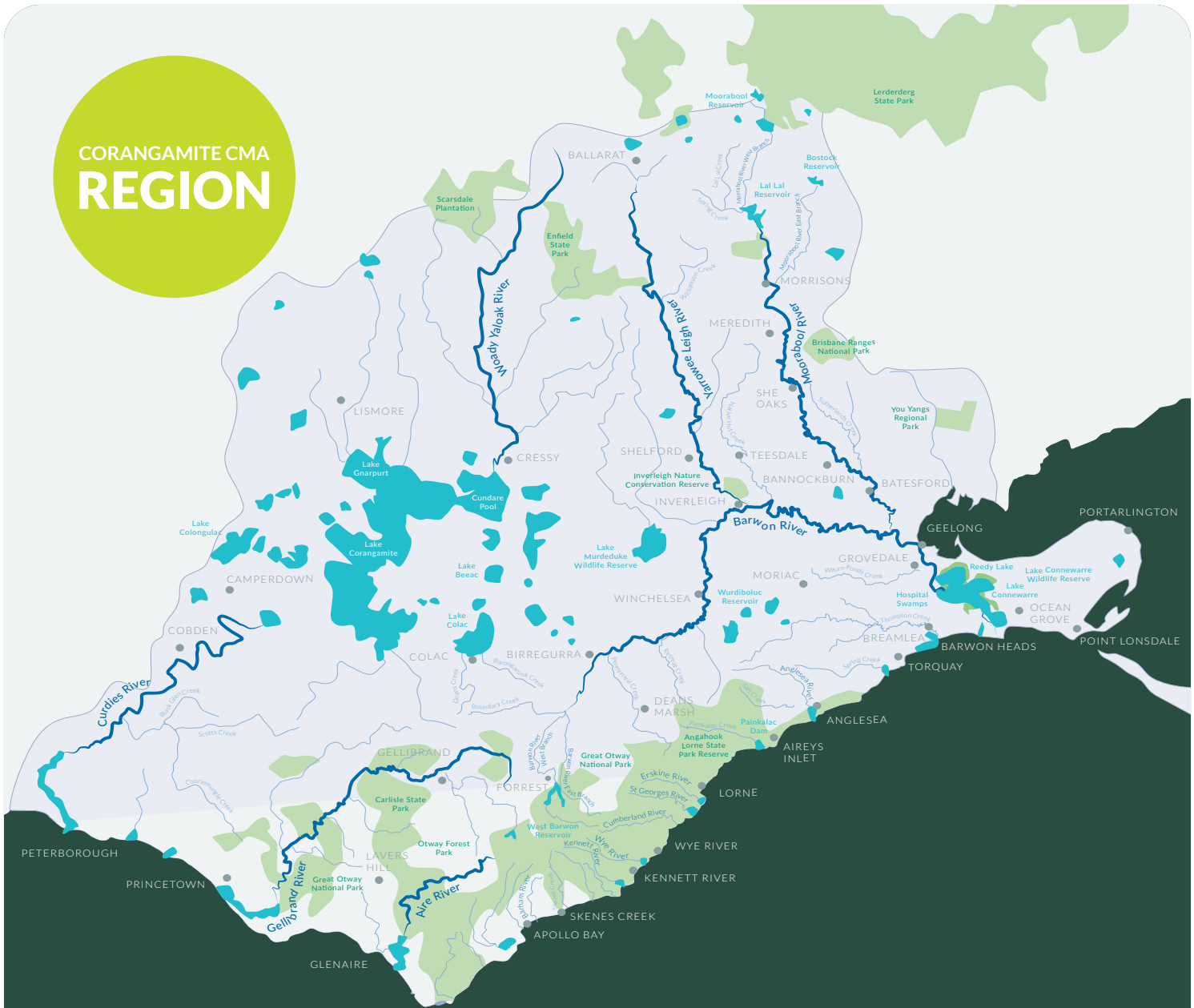
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