



ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

**EAST GIPPSLAND
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY**



Acknowledgement

Front cover photo of callistemon by the Cann River

Photo supplied by Clint Bain, Catchment Planner - Crown Frontages - East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

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EGCMA ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT	2
CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT	3
1. EAST GIPPSLAND REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY VISION	4
1.1 OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION	4
1.1.1 CATCHMENT AND LAND PROTECTION ACT 1994 (CALP ACT):	4
1.1.2 WATER ACT 1989 (WATER ACT) - CARETAKER OF RIVER HEALTH:	4
1.2 ABOUT THE EAST GIPPSLAND REGION	4
1.3 ABOUT THE AUTHORITY	5
1.3.1 BACKGROUND	5
1.3.2 WHAT DOES THE AUTHORITY DO?	5
2. CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS	7
2.1 CORPORATE PLAN PROGRESS	11
2.1.1 GOVERNANCE	11
2.1.2 EFFICIENCY AND ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE	11
2.1.3 EFFECTIVENESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES	13
3. CORPORATE PLAN GOALS	14
3.1 PROGRESS TOWARDS CATCHMENT GOALS	14
3.1.1 WILLOW CONTROL	14
3.1.2 STOCK EXCLUSION FENCING AND REVEGETATION	15
3.1.3 RIVER STABILISATION	16
3.1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL FLOWS	16
3.2 PROGRESS TOWARDS ENGAGEMENT GOALS	16
3.3 NRM PLANNING	18
3.3.1 REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY	18
4. CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES IN THE REGION 2012/2013	19
4.1 INTRODUCTION	19
4.2 OVERVIEW OF 2012/13 VICTORIAN INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK PROJECTS IN EAST GIPPSLAND ..	19
4.3 HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES	21
4.4 CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT – GIPPSLAND AND HINTERLAND PROGRAM AREA	21
4.5 CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT – ALPS AND UPLANDS PROGRAM AREA	25
4.6 CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT – FAR EAST PROGRAM AREA	27
4.7 CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT – REGION WIDE	31
4.8 CASE STUDIES	32
5. STATUTORY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION	34
6. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	41
7. AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT	64
APPENDIX 1	66
LIST OF USED ACRONYMS/ABRIEVIATIONS	68

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

In accordance with the *Financial Management Act 1994* I am pleased to present the Annual Report of Operations for the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority for the year ending 30 June 2013.

Our close connection and cooperation between the Authority, community and government partners is something we pride ourselves on in East Gippsland. Close working relationships can only be built on consistent and deliberate effort.

With this priority in mind the Authority participated in a state-wide project to provide a consistent framework for CMA Community Engagement and Partnership development. The Framework for Victoria's Catchment Management Authorities has agreed on key principles to be applied consistently around the state. The Authority is in the process of embedding these principles into our engagement and partnership development processes and plans.

A key engagement and partnership undertaking by the Authority in 2012/13 was completing the development of a new Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) to apply for the six year period 2013 to 2019. The 2013 RCS is the third for East Gippsland; the first was published in 1997, the second in 2005.

Whilst the Strategy highlights natural resource priorities for the region, the main strategy is the further strengthening of our East Gippsland regional partnerships with other natural resource departments, agencies and our community.

The Authority continues to host the Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee (GLMAC) providing corporate and administrative support for all GLMAC activities.

Regional agency partnerships and role definition has also been a strong focus this year through trialling a formal agreement process called a Regional

Operating Agreement. The agreement is at draft stage and clarifies lead agency responsibilities between the Catchment Management Authority, Department of Environment and Primary Industries and Parks Victoria. It will be completed next year to assist community and agencies to understand the various roles these three agencies play in the region.

The Regional Waterway Strategy is also being reviewed and due for completion next year. The Authority has completed the first stage of consultation and has a sub-committee overseeing its development.

Our board values the strong relationship between ourselves, our partners, our staff and our community and thanks everyone who was involved in the significant outcomes achieved this year.



Dr Peter Veenker
Chairperson

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Authority has completed a very successful year of operations in an environment significantly different because of changed weather conditions. We have had to adapt our operations around a wetter period. Whilst the rainfall is very welcome, it has created challenges for some of our program delivery through issues of access and safety.

Despite these challenges the works program has met our targets for the year with some examples below.

The Authority is now at 96% achievement of our combined willow control goals in the region. Nearly all targeted rivers have now had a primary willow treatment undertaken with many secondary and tertiary treatments well underway.

The fencing goals for the Mitchell and the Snowy have been exceeded and the Authority continues to work with landholders on the Nicholson, Bemm and Far East Rivers to exclude stock from these rivers in priority areas.

The Snowy revegetation program is now into a maintenance phase and the Authority works closely with Moogji Aboriginal Council that provides a works crew to control weeds, encouraging natural regeneration along the lower Snowy River.

The Authority also completed an environmental flow monitoring plan for the Victorian reach of the Snowy River. When implemented over three years this program will enable the Authority to meet its responsibility from the Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy (2011) to evaluate the effects of environmental flow releases from the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme to the Snowy River on the Victorian reach of the river.

This year our 23 staff completed a funded program of \$13.6m. The Authority directly delivered a program of \$8.3m and \$5.3m was delivered through partners. Increasing the number of partnerships created in delivering our on-ground works is a key focus of our ongoing engagement programs.

Over the past twelve months the Authority conducted over 800 engagement activities involving about 2,700 people.

The Authority's financial and compliance frameworks are very strong, resulting in excellent reviews from all external and internal audit processes again this year. We have also achieved further efficiency gains within our internal processes and systems, data and information capture and storage, project management and administration.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Authority board, staff and our many partner organisations and community individuals who have worked together to deliver on our priorities this year.



Graeme Dear
Chief Executive Officer

1. EAST GIPPSLAND REGIONAL CATCHMENT STRATEGY VISION

The Regional Catchment Strategy Vision for East Gippsland states:

The 2033 Environment

A rich, biologically diverse region, managed on sound scientific principles in a way that responds to the values and needs of its human communities; a place where residents and visitors alike respect and conserve its natural wealth, as the foundation of their well-being; a place whose people, acting for all Australians, accept collective responsibility for the region's future.

1.1 OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Our strategic direction is enshrined in the Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS). The roles and responsibilities of the Authority in achieving the RCS vision are set out in governing legislation. The major functions are:

1.1.1 Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 (CaLP Act): Coordinating the Regional Catchment Strategy and supporting plans

We complete the Regional Catchment Strategy and associated action plans and oversee implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Community Engagement

We help build government and community cooperation in maintaining our natural resources.

1.1.2 Water Act 1989 (Water Act) – Caretaker of River Health: On-ground river health works

We oversee river health works guided by the Regional River Health Strategy through our own contractors, partner agencies and organisations.

Statutory Functions

We authorise works on waterways via a waterway works permit and assess planning referrals on floodplains.

1.2 ABOUT THE EAST GIPPSLAND REGION

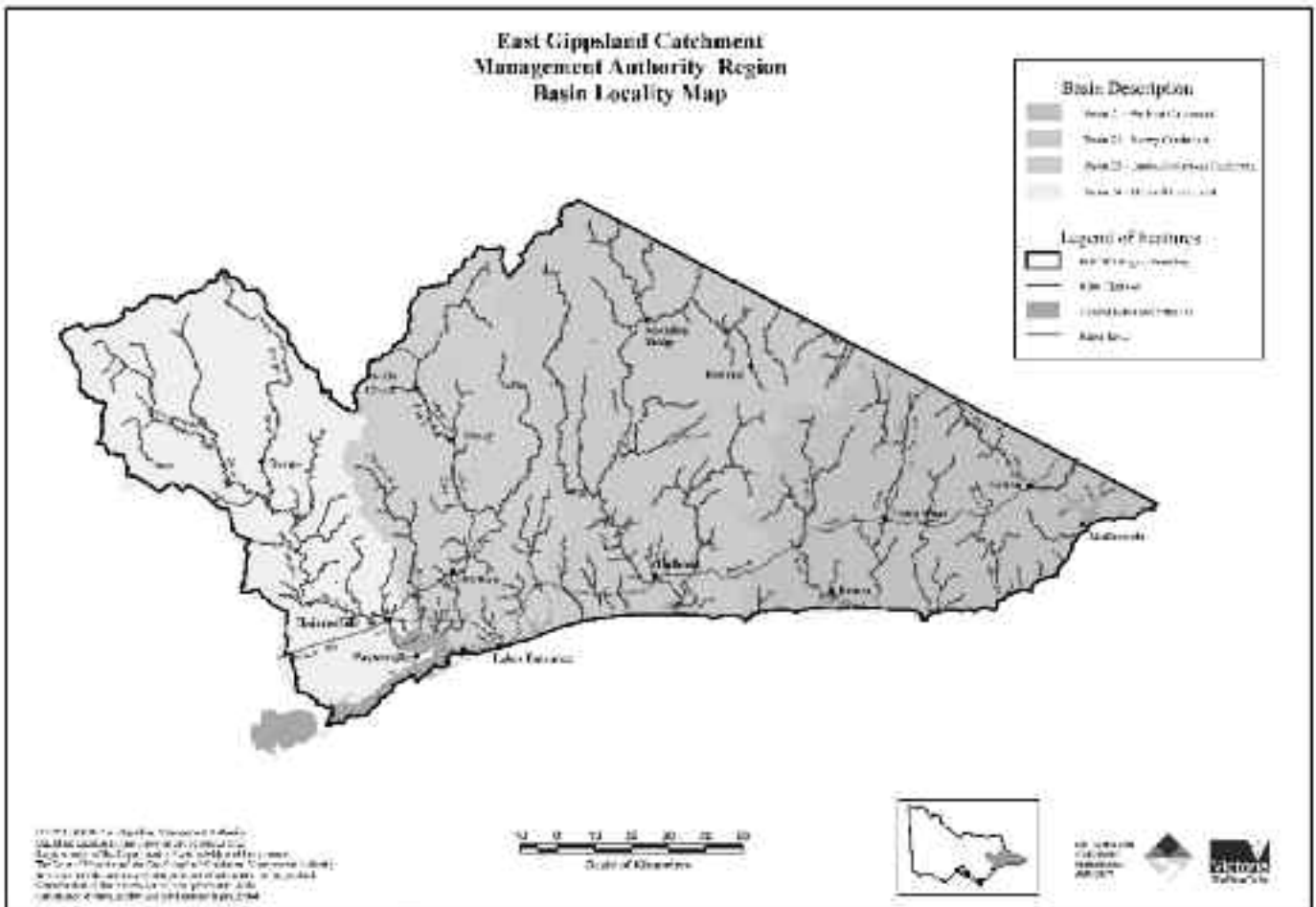


Figure 1. The East Gippsland Catchment Management Region

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Region (Figure 1) covers 2.2 million hectares of land, lakes, and coastal waters out to 5.5 kilometres, in the eastern-most part of Victoria. It is entirely south of the Great Dividing Range and includes the catchments of streams from the Mitchell River eastwards. The region covers about ten per cent of Victoria.

The region includes most of the East Gippsland Shire, the northern part of the Wellington Shire, and that part of the Alpine Shire south of the Great Dividing Range. It abuts the Rural City of Wangaratta and the New South Wales Shires of Snowy River, Bombala, and Eden Valley.

The Victorian Alps and mountains of the Great Dividing Range extend from the west to east across the northern boundary of the region. Foothills, lowland forests and coastal complexes to the south also extend from west to east, while rivers generally run north to south through the region, dissecting these landforms. Some catchments, such as the Mitchell, Tambo, Snowy and Cann River include deep, mid-catchment, mountain basins which have been extensively cleared for dry land agriculture.

Major land uses and industries include conservation, agriculture, tourism, native forestry, plantation forestry and fisheries. About 80% of the land in the region is in public ownership, mainly as State Forests or National Parks.

Most freehold land is used for farming, ranging from large commercial enterprises to small 'rural residential' properties. Cities and towns occupy a small proportion of land in the region.

Some of the important features of East Gippsland are:

- The Gippsland Lakes, which have significant environmental, social and economic value and are on the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance;

- Its array of streams, especially the wild rivers, including the iconic Snowy River and Victoria's biggest unregulated stream, the Mitchell River;
- Its long coastal reach with undeveloped estuaries, ocean beaches and spectacular headlands;
- Its mountains and forests, which provide great scenery, clean air, clean water, recreational opportunity and forestry products;
- Its scenic and productive farming lands, especially in the river valleys; and,
- Its living wealth in the form of native plants and animals, some of which occur only in this region.

The Mitchell, Tambo, and Snowy Rivers have substantial alluvial floodplains in their lower reaches containing the region's highly productive irrigation areas, including the Lindenow, Bruthen and Snowy Flats, which are used intensively for horticulture, dairying, and cattle production.

The 'Red Gum Plains' are located in the south-west of the region, and extend from Bairnsdale to the Perry River in the west. As the name suggests the area was originally covered by Red Gums and native grasses, but is now used predominantly for dry land agriculture. The plains are noted for their dwindling areas of high value remnant Red Gum woodlands.

A complex of dunes and coastal vegetation extends along most of the coastline inclusive of amongst the best wetlands and estuarine systems in the state. The region includes the area of ocean out to three nautical miles from the coast which contains significant marine national park areas such as Beware Reef.

1.3 ABOUT THE AUTHORITY

1.3.1 Background

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (the Authority) was established under the CaLP Act.

The responsible Ministers during the 2012/2013 reporting period were The Hon Ryan Smith MP, Minister for Environment and Climate Change and The Hon Peter Walsh MLA Minister for Water. Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) also have specific functions under the Water Act and are accountable to The Hon Peter Walsh MLA Minister for Water for these functions. The CMAs were established to provide for the integrated management of land, biodiversity and water resources within their region.

The Authority consists of:

- A Board, responsible for strategic direction of natural resource management in the Region;
- Several formal Advisory Groups consisting of local community members and agencies with a range of backgrounds and experience in natural resource management;
- A Chief Executive Officer reporting directly to the Board and managing the day-to-day activities of the Authority; and,
- The staff.

1.3.2 What does the Authority do?

Responsibilities under the CaLP Act and Water Act are summarised below:

Coordinating the Regional Catchment Strategy and Supporting Plans

Responsibilities under the CaLP Act include providing government with the collective strategic views of this region, which takes account of state and federal policy under the framework of the Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) and associated action plans.

In delivering the RCS, the Authority seeks to maximise the impact and coordination of on-ground work by supporting agencies, individuals and community groups.

The Authority disseminates Government policy and information to the community of East Gippsland and acts as a conduit for government investment into the region for Natural Resource Management (NRM) activities and projects.

Caretaker of River Health

The Water Act establishes the Authority as caretaker for the rivers of East

Gippsland. This means planning and delivering on-grounds works designed to maintain or improve the health of our rivers. This is the only NRM on-ground works area for which the Authority has direct responsibility; most works undertaken within the riverbanks are completed under some form of Authority supervision or approval.

There are a number of statutory activities for which the Authority is

directly accountable including licensing works on waterways and planning referrals on floodplains. The Authority is also responsible for establishing and monitoring the Environmental Water Reserves for all our rivers. Advice and information on other river health related issues including comment on farm dam applications and input to strategies and plans being developed by other agencies and stakeholders is also provided.

2. CORPORATE AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Authority Board

The Board is responsible for:

- Setting the strategic goals, objectives and performance targets of the Authority in conjunction with management and government (Corporate Plan);
- Ensuring resources are available to achieve these goals, including approving annual budgets and long term financial and capital management plans;
- Appointing the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), setting CEO remuneration, assessing CEO performance annually and providing for CEO succession;
- Reviewing the performance of the Authority;
- Identifying and monitoring major risks as well as reviewing and ratifying systems of risk management and internal compliance and control;
- Establishing and reviewing the Terms of Reference of all Committees of the Board; and,
- Ensuring appropriate delegation of authority.

Board Members

Member	Meeting Attendance
Dr Peter Veenker (Chairperson)	5 of 6
Ms Helen Bull	5 of 6
Mr William Bulmer	5 of 6
Mr John Groom	5 of 6
Mr Ross Ingram	5 of 6
Mr Kenneth Norris	6 of 6
Mr Neville Penrose	5 of 6
Dr Nicola Watts	5 of 6
Mrs Kate Young	6 of 6

The following Committees report to the Board:

Audit and Finance Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

- Mr Ken Jones (Convenor & Independent Member)
- Mr John Groom
- Mr Ross Ingram
- Mr John Williams (Independent Member)

The committee's responsibilities include monitoring and oversight of:

- Financial performance and the effectiveness of the financial reporting process, including performance against the annual budget, the annual financial statements and all other internal controls;
- The scope of work, performance and independence of internal audit;
- Ratifying the engagement and dismissal by management of any chief internal audit executive;
- Review the operation and implementation of the risk management framework;
- The sign off of finance, risk and related policies;
- The Authority's process for monitoring compliance with laws and regulations and Codes of Financial Practice;
- In performing its duties, the Committee will maintain effective working relationships with the Board, management, and the internal and external auditors; and,
- To perform his or her role effectively, each Committee member will obtain an understanding of the detailed responsibilities of Committee membership as well as the Authority's business, operations and risks by undertaking appropriate due diligence.

Communications and Engagement Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

- Dr Peter Veenker (Convenor)
- Mrs Kate Young
- Dr Nicola Watts
- Mr Frank O'Connor (external member)

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Overseeing annual review of the Board Engagement Plan and recommend the completed plan to the Board for endorsement;
- Oversee implementation of the Board Engagement Plan; and,
- Oversee production of the Annual Report.

Gunaikurnai Land & Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) Reference Group Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

- Mr Leo Hamilton (Convenor & external member)
- Mr William Bulmer
- Nominees from GLaWAC

The purpose of the GLaWAC Reference Group is to provide a forum for sharing information and ideas of mutual interest to the two organisations. The Reference Group will provide an avenue to coordinate dialogue and projects between the GLaWAC and the Authority.

Lands Programs Committee

The panel is skills based and comprises a broad cross section of community interests.

The members are:

Mrs Katrina Simpson (Convenor and Community Member)

Mr Norm Wilkinson (Deputy Chairperson and Community Member, Landcare)

Dr Nicola Watts

Mr Neville Penrose

Mr Andrew Brown (Community Member)

Mr Stephen Henry (Department of Sustainability and Environment)

Mr Michael Freshwater (East Gippsland Shire Councillor)

Mr Eric Sjerp (Community Member)

Ms Yasmin Aly (Parks Victoria)

Ms Natasha Vasey-Ellis (Gippsland Coastal Board)

Mr Wayne Burton (Department of Primary Industries)

The Lands Program Committee is responsible for:

- Recommending prioritisation and/or endorsement of all Land Program proposals to the Authority; and,
- Reviewing all large scale programs and targets proposed by the Program Working Groups (PWG's) for recommendation to the board.

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Graeme Dear (Convenor)

Mr Ken Judd

Mrs Joanne Jones

Mrs Amanda Bartkowski

Mr Peter Brooks

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Involving management and employees in the formulation and implementation of health and safety standards in the workplace; and,
- Communication and consultation with all staff.

Remuneration Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Dr Peter Veenker (Convenor)

Mr John Groom

Dr Nicola Watts

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Overseeing the performance review, remuneration and personal development of the CEO.

Regional Catchment Strategy Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Ms Helen Bull (Convenor)

Mr Bill Bulmer

Mr John Groom

Mr Ken Norris

The committee's responsibilities include:

- Working as a steering committee on the RCS and recommending the document to the board.

The RCS committee was disbanded in August 2012, once its steering committee duties were completed in accordance with the committee's Terms of Reference (TOR).

Regional Waterway Strategy Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Neville Penrose (Convenor)

Ms Helen Bull

Mr Bill Bulmer

Mr Ross Ingram

The committee's responsibilities include:

- To oversight development of the Regional Waterway Strategy consistent with the development plan approved by the board in December 2012.

Lindenow Valley Water Security

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Ross Ingram (Convenor)

Mr Bill Bulmer

Mr Graeme Dear

The committee members are ministerial appointments to a broader committee (The Lindenow Valley Water Security Committee) established by the Minister for Agriculture and Water to investigate options for providing improved water security for Lindenow Irrigators.

Responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the board is kept informed of the dealings of the ministerial committee progressively through the project.

Lower Snowy Project Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Neville Penrose (Convenor)

Mr Graeme Dear

Responsibilities include:

- Overseeing development of management options for the Lower Snowy for recommendation to the board.

Native Vegetation Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Graeme Dear (Convenor)

Mr Ken Norris

Mrs Kate Young

Responsibilities include:

- Further development of the HabHa Bank proposal and consider and recommend alternatives to the existing Native Vegetation Framework to the board.

Green Team Committee

The committee consists of the following members:

Mr Rick Davies (Convenor)

Mr Clint Bain

Ms Helen Bull

Mr Ian Hearn

Mrs Sharon Williams

Responsibilities include:

- Developing and implementing the Authority's Environmental Resource Smart Strategy.

Executive Function

Manages the Authority day to day on behalf of the Board and is responsible to the Board for delivery of the Corporate Plan.

Chief Executive Officer:

Graeme Dear

Corporate & Program Unit

This unit is responsible for providing corporate services to the Authority as well as the delivery of the Authority's program through the Water and Land Teams.

Corporate services includes financial management, risk management, human resources & payroll, information technology & management and administrative support.

The Water Team implements the Authority's program of river health works and fulfils its responsibilities as Caretaker of River Health. The Land Team coordinates project activities with partner agencies on land based objectives. This unit manages the State and Commonwealth funding rounds and coordinates the monitoring, evaluation and reporting obligations of the Authority.

Manager: Rick Davies

NRM Strategy and Planning Unit

This unit provides leadership in the natural resource management strategy and plan development responsibilities of the Authority. Central to the unit is the completion of the Regional Catchment Strategy and all linking strategies and plans required to be prepared by the Authority from time to time.

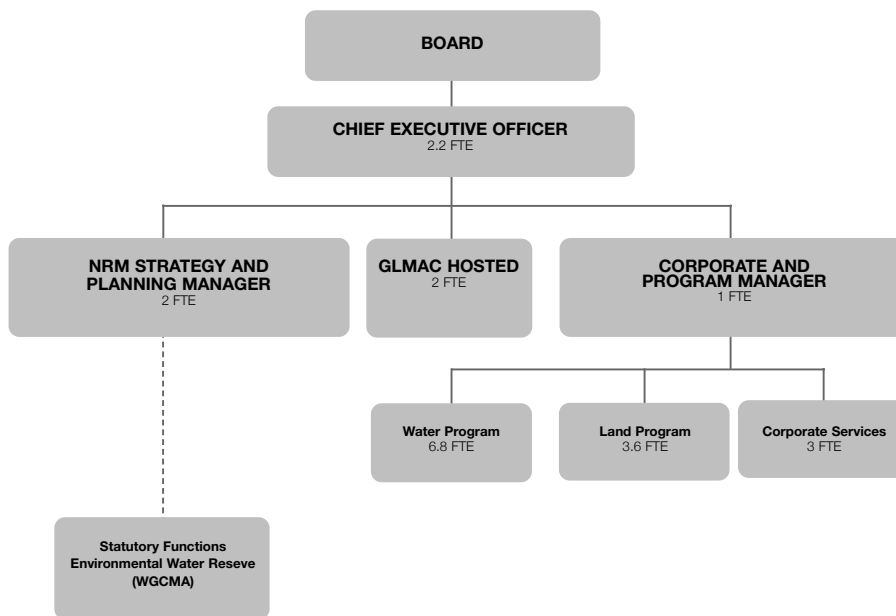
The unit is the focal point for provision of technical support to the Board, Authority staff and other government agencies, principally on matters relating to the Regional Catchment Strategy and will be responsible for all statutory and licensing functions referred to the Authority under the Water Act and CaLP Act.

Manager: Rex Candy

EMPLOYMENT AND CONDUCT PRINCIPLES

The *Public Administration Act 2004* specifies a number of employment and conduct principles that must be observed by public sector organisations and their employees.

The Authority is committed to the principles of equal employment opportunity (EEO). Employment decisions are based on merit where employees are treated fairly and reasonably and have appropriate avenue to redress against any unfair and unreasonable treatment. The Authority recruits, promotes and trains employees on the basis of merit and open competition without prejudice or discrimination.



Workforce Data

The Authority's philosophy of cost control and project delivery through partners is further demonstrated in our workforce data. Total staff numbers at June 30 2013 was 20.6 FTE. The breakdown of staff for the Authority at the end of 2012/13 compared to 2011/12 is as follows:

Full Time Equivalent	2012/13	2011/12
Executive Officers	3	3
Managers	3	3
Corporate Services	3	3
Program Staff	11.6	12.8
TOTAL	20.6	21.8
Full Time Equivalent		
Male	12.4	12.4
Female	8.2	9.4
TOTAL	20.6	21.8
Full Time Equivalent		
Ongoing	17	19
Fixed Term	3.6	2.8
Casual	–	–
TOTAL	20.6	21.8

These figures include 2 FTEs hosted on behalf of the Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee (GLMAC).

2.1 CORPORATE PLAN PROGRESS

The Authority's Corporate Plan outlines the key Performance Areas, Performance Indicators and Targets consistent with the Statement of Obligations issued by the Minister on 20th June 2007 under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

The following tables reflect those obligations and reports on the Authority's performance against both statements.

2.1.1 Governance

Performance Area	Performance Indicators	Targets	Progress
Board performance	Complete and submit an annual board performance assessment report, according to any guidelines issued	By 31 August annually	Completed August 2012
	Participation by board members in development activities	All board members participate in development activities	Ongoing
Board charter	Develop and implement a board charter	The board charter is reviewed (and if necessary, amended) by 30 June annually	Completed August 2012
Risk and financial management	Compliance to risk management plans for each program	All programs have risk management plans in place	Completed
		Nil non compliances with risk management plan	Nil non-compliances
Policies and procedures	Regular review of policies and procedures	Each policy and procedure is reviewed at least every five years	All policies and procedures reviewed during 2012/13

2.1.2 Efficiency and organisational performance

Performance Area	Performance Indicators	Targets	Progress
Grant Management	Administration costs of grants are minimised	10 per cent or less of grant funds is spent on administration	No grant funds are spent on administration. Nil funds are deducted by the Authority.
	Minimise time taken to determine grant applications	Grant applications are determined within one month of being received	All approved grants are formalised when funding is secured

2.1.2 Efficiency and organisational performance (Continued)

Performance Area	Performance Indicators	Targets	Progress
Regulatory waterway/water functions	Number of days to process works on waterway permits	Not more than 20 working days	Average number of working days to process permits : 11.3 Number of permits that took more than 20 working days to process: 1
	Number of days to process referrals for any works on or in relation to a dam	Not more than 20 working days	Nil applications
	Number of days to process referrals from local government on flooding and controls on planning scheme amendments, and planning and building approvals	Not more than 20 working days	Average number of working days to process referrals: 10.6 Number of referrals that took more than 20 working days to process: 12
	Number of days to process referrals from local government on flooding and controls on planning scheme amendments, and planning and building approvals	Not more than 20 working days	Aggregated with referrals data above
	Number of days to process enquiries from local government and the community on flooding	Not more than 20 working days	Aggregated with referrals data above
	Number of days to process referrals for Water Use Licences that don't meet the standard water-use conditions	Not more than 20 working days	Nil applications
	Number of days to process enquiries from Rural Water Corporations on irrigation and drainage plans and seasonal adjustments to annual use limits	Not more than 20 working days	Nil applications
	Number of days to process enquiries from Rural Water Corporations issuing Take and Use Licences	Not more than 20 working days	Nil applications

2.1.3 Effectiveness and Environmental Outcomes

Performance Area	Performance Indicators	Targets	Progress
Integrated River Health Management	Revise Regional River Health Strategy to plan for waterways in relation to their economic, social and environmental values	Regional River Health Strategy revised every six years	New Regional Waterway Strategy being developed for completion in 2013/14
	Develop and revise Environmental Operating Strategies and Annual Watering Plans to manage the environmental water reserve in accordance with objectives	N/A	N/A
	Implement annual river health programs and activities to improve environmental values and health of water ecosystems	All annual river health targets and works programs achieved	All targets achieved or exceeded in river health works with the exception of some pest plant treatments
Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS)	Complete and submit the developed or revised RCS according to any guidelines, standards and related information issued	Submit the developed or revised RCS by the due date as required in any guidelines, standards and related information issued	RCS submitted and approved in May 2013
	Percentage of RCS annual actions implemented	N/A	N/A
Regional Native Vegetation Plan (RNVP) implementation	Percentage of RNVP annual actions implemented	N/A	N/A
Invasive plant and animal management	Regional Invasive Plant and Animal Strategies incorporating related priorities in all land tenures in the region	Invasive Plant and Animal Strategies revised by 30 June every five years	Not required in 2012/13
Regional and statutory planning	Provide advice on dryland salinity, irrigation management, soil erosion, or any other land management issue identified in the local Municipal Strategic Statement as the referral body	N/A	N/A
Salinity management	Implementation and periodic review of Regional Salinity Management Plans (RSMP) and Land and Water Management Plans (LWMP)	N/A	N/A
	Progress against annual action targets	N/A	N/A
	Develop regional salinity targets and corresponding works programs in accordance with the Murray Darling Basin Salinity Agreement (for applicable CMAs only)	N/A	N/A
	Annual report on the allocation and update of salt disposal entitlements submitted to the responsible Minister	N/A	N/A
Regional Landcare groups, networks and other community groups	Deliver the Regional Landcare Support Strategy, including coordination of Landcare at a regional scale	Evaluate and revise the strategy every five years	Not required in 2012/13

3. CORPORATE PLAN GOALS

Under the Water Act the Authority has a responsibility as the 'caretaker of river health' for the implementation of the East Gippsland Regional River Health Strategy.

The intent of the River Health Strategy on-ground works priorities is captured in the Authority's catchment goals. These do not describe all planned works, but instead set five year targets for

mitigating the key threats to rivers across East Gippsland and help form the strategic framework for the Authority's on-ground works programs.

The board regularly monitors and reviews the catchment goals to ensure they are still relevant.

The Authority is currently developing the new Regional Waterway Strategy. As part of this strategy, new goals will be developed and reported on in 2013/14.

required to control willows with on average a 90% kill rate for each treatment. The Authority is now at 96% achievement of our combined catchment goals in the region.

In the Mitchell basin, willow control was targeted in the upper reaches of the catchment including the upper Dargo and Wongungarra. Willow control and removal in the Dargo township was once again a high priority. The Authority will continue to work with the community to carry out further works in the future.

A sweep through the main stem of the Tambo River confirmed that there are few remaining willows throughout these reaches. Works were also carried out on tributaries flowing into the Tambo to reduce willow spread and re-infestations.

Continual willow control works within the Snowy, Deddick and Buchan Rivers has achieved the willow goal set for this catchment. The willow program for this catchment will now move into an investigation and maintenance phase.

Willow control in the Bemm and Cann catchments continue using the top down approach. In conjunction with Parks Victoria willow control was carried out on the Genoa River from the NSW border to the estuary.

3.1 PROGRESS TOWARDS CATCHMENT GOALS

The Catchment Goals are as follows:

We will achieve the following Catchment goals:

1. The willow control works completed in the Mitchell River by June 2009, will be consolidated as free of willows. An additional 50km above the Glenaladale off-take will be fenced from grazing stock and revegetated.
2. The Tambo and feeder streams will be free of willows above Ramrod Creek.
3. The Nicholson and feeder streams will be free of willows and have a continuous riparian zone between the Princes Highway Bridge and the Great Alpine Road fenced from grazing stock.
4. The Snowy catchment will be free of willows from the Victorian headwaters to the Jarrahmond Gauge. The floodplain reach will have a continuous riparian zone from the Jarrahmond gauge to the estuary fenced from grazing stock.
5. The Bemm River will be free of willows and fenced from grazing stock.
6. The Cann River channel will be stabilised in the floodplain reach. All reaches above Weeragua and below the Princes Highway Bridge will be free of willows.
7. All rivers east of the Cann will be free of willows and fenced from grazing stock.
8. Environmental Water Reserves will be established for all waterways in East Gippsland.

3.1.1 Willow Control

Willow infestations are a key threat to the river systems in East Gippsland affecting river stability, flows, water quality and the condition of the riparian vegetation. They have a major impact on reducing biodiversity values both in-stream and riparian. This year the program focused on consolidating previous willow control

works to minimise re-infestation and reduce further spread.

Nearly all targeted rivers have had a primary treatment undertaken. The secondary and tertiary passes are completed over several years to maintain the balance from a willow dominated environment to a native vegetation environment. Three treatments are

Table 1: Catchment Goals 2004-2013 Willow Treatments

Catchment Goal	Description	Total River Length (Km)	First Treatment (Km)	Second Treatment (Km)	Third Treatment (Km)	% Complete
1	Mitchell	729	687	718	88	94
2	Tambo	201	201	201	135	99
3	Nicholson	104	91	82	36	86
4	Snowy River and tributaries	712	712	712	712	100
5	Bemm River	173	173	69	3	94
6	Cann River	119	106	100	20	88
7	Rivers east of Cann	302	302	158	0	95
Total		2,340	2,272	2,040	994	96

3.1.2 Stock Exclusion Fencing and Revegetation

Stock exclusion fencing is required to remove the threat of stock impacting on the condition of riparian areas and instream habitats. Stock exclusion is often followed up with revegetation to rehabilitate river banks and riparian habitat.

The fencing goals for the Mitchell and the Snowy have been achieved and the Authority continues to work with landholders on the Nicholson, Bemm and Far East Rivers to exclude stock from these rivers.

The Authority has worked closely with landholders in the Combienbar Valley to secure an additional 8 kilometres of

frontage. The Combienbar River is an important link to the upper and lower high value reaches of the Bemm catchment.

The Authority is committed to the Securing Priority Riparian Areas program and is actively negotiating with partner landholders to secure sites for stock exclusion fencing.

Table 2: Catchment Goals Fencing 2004-2013

Catchment Goal	Target Length (Km)	Length Fenced (Km)	% Complete
1 Mitchell River an additional 50kms fenced from grazing stock	50	54	108
3 Nicholson fenced between the Princes Highway bridge and the Great Alpine Road	22	9	39
4 Snowy fenced between the Jarrahmond gauge to the estuary	56	56	100
5 Bemm fenced from grazing stock	106	31	29
7 All rivers east of Cann fenced from grazing	114	55	48

Table 3a: Nicholson Catchment Goal Revegetation 2004-2013

Catchment Goal	Length requiring Revegetation (Km)	Length Revegetated (Km)	% Completed
3 Nicholson River continuous riparian zone between Princess Highway bridge and Great Alpine Road.	11.8	4	34

Table 3b: Snowy Catchment Goal Revegetation 2004-2013

Catchment Goal	Total River Length (Km)	First Treatment (Km)	Second Treatment (Km)	Third Treatment (Km)	% Complete
4 Snowy floodplain reach will have a continuous riparian zone from Jarrahmond gauge to the estuary	56	56	56	56	100

The Snowy revegetation program was completed last year. This program is now into a maintenance phase and the Authority works closely with Moogji Aboriginal Council that provides a works crew to control weeds, encouraging natural regeneration along the lower Snowy River.

The fencing and revegetation along the Nicholson River has continued with small sections of frontage secured this year. The Authority will continue to work with landholders to secure and revegetate additional frontage.

3.1.3 River Stabilisation

The remaining grade control structures and installation of large wood to stabilise the bed of the Cann River was completed this year. These works will reduce deepening of the channel and provide an opportunity for vegetation to establish, increasing channel resilience and resistance.

3.1.4 Environmental Flows

Securing environmental flows for rivers in the region is vital to maintain the health of rivers, wetlands and estuaries. The majority of the rivers in the region with the exception of the Snowy and Nicholson are unregulated, meaning they maintain their natural seasonal flow patterns. A Sustainable Water Strategy is in place for Gippsland to strategically guide management of our water resources.

The Authority was a major contributor to the development of the Gippsland Sustainable Water Strategy. The Strategy describes how the environmental needs of East Gippsland rivers will be managed into the future.

3.2 Progress Towards Engagement Goals

In 2007/2008 the Authority developed an engagement plan to help guide activities for the following five years. The plan contains a number of key engagement goals to help steer progress:

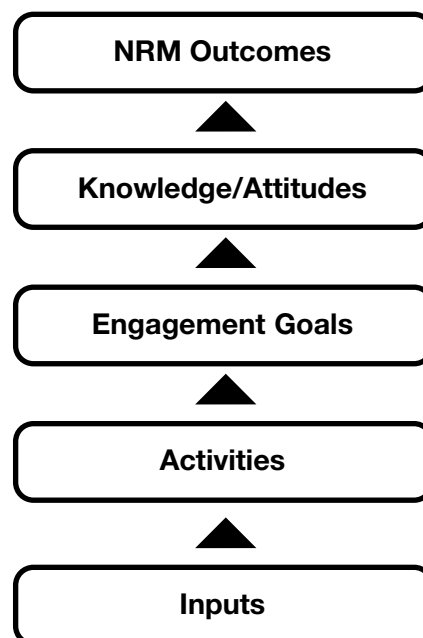
- Increase community awareness and satisfaction;
- Conduct effective engagement activities;
- Increase participation with stakeholders;
- Manage enquiries promptly and accurately;
- Stimulate knowledge and attitude change; and,
- Identify key NRM issues to inform strategies.

The Authority recognises that achieving our catchment goals will require significant levels of engagement to ensure the community understand our strategic direction and are given a chance to get involved. The Authority utilises the Bennett's Hierarchy approach (Source: Bennett, C.; and K. Rockwell - 1995) to measure how we are progressing. The Bennett's Hierarchy approach assumes inputs such as investment and skills contribute to the conduct of a wide range of activities. These activities support the engagement of the community and environmental improvement such as removal of weeds and water quality monitoring. The development of knowledge and attitudes from this process contributes to sustainable improvement in the condition and management of our natural resources (NRM Outcomes).

This 2012/13 engagement data measures the first three levels of the hierarchy and reflects our focus and

effort in this area of our activities. The Authority has greater emphasis on the quality of our engagement activities (see graph C) over the number. We have learnt that good quality engagement has a greater value than seeking gross numbers at a lesser quality standard. Therefore, the Authority continues to aim for less events aimed at attracting larger numbers to hear a general message, preferring to target partners who can make a real contribution to improved asset condition.

Figure 2. A Bennett's Hierarchy framework for the Authority's achievement of outcomes.



Achievement of the Engagement Goals using Bennett's Hierarchy

Inputs

The Authority employed 23 staff and funded a program of \$13.6m. The Authority directly delivered a program of \$8.3m and \$5.3m was delivered through partners.

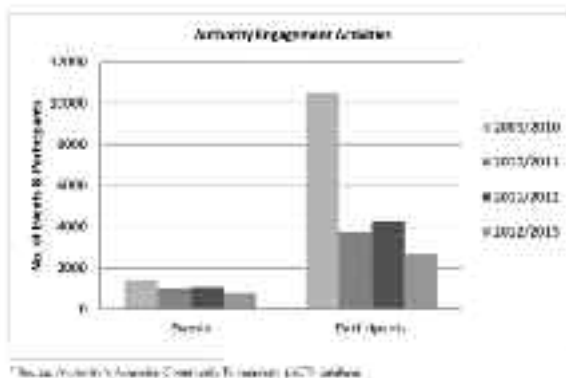
Activities

Over the past twelve months the Authority has conducted over 800 engagement activities (Graph A) involving over 2,700 people.

Some of those activities are categorised as follows:

- Communication and liaison with government agencies to develop and implement strategy;
- One on one engagement with landholders including site visits;
- Education and up-skilling of landholders and stakeholders to improve the capacity and efficiency of on-ground works;
- Community, education and promotional events;
- Significant links to community organisations, government departments and non government organisations to deliver on-ground works; and,
- Media and publicity including newspaper articles, signage and radio interviews.

Graph A – The number of events conducted and the individuals engaged by the Authority between 2009/10-2012/13.

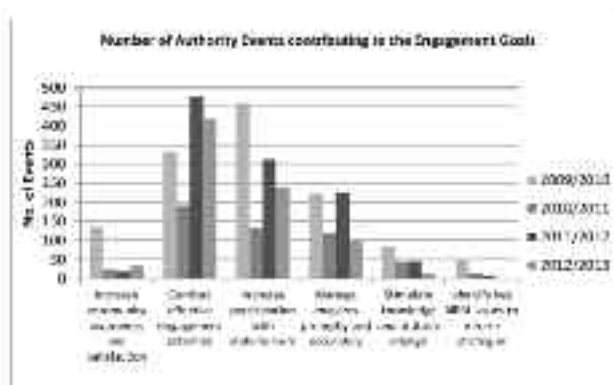


Engagement

The spread of activities continued the focus on broad participation with our stakeholders. The figures in Graph B reflect this focus.

The Authority has continued to gather data demonstrating improved landholder attitudes towards river health works through targeted engagement. This data will be used in the development of the new Regional Catchment Strategy, currently underway.

Graph B – Events conducted by the Authority that are achieving the engagement goals



Each activity is rated from poor to excellent based on evidence of participant's satisfaction and also the perceived success in delivering the Authority's goals (Graph C). The ratings are designed as a learning tool in review processes with individual staff and functional areas.

Graph C – The quality of engagement activities conducted by the Authority



3.3 NRM Planning

3.3.1 Regional Catchment Strategy

A key undertaking by the Authority in 2012/13 was completing the development of a new Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS) to apply for

the six year period 2013 to 2019. The 2013 RCS is the third for East Gippsland; the first was published in 1997, the second in 2005.

The Authority was advised on 9 May 2013 that the 2013 RCS had been

approved by the Minister for Environment and Climate Change and the Minister for Water.

4. CONDITION AND MANAGEMENT OF LAND AND WATER RESOURCES IN THE REGION 2012/2013

4.1 Introduction

Under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act (1994)* the Authority is required to report annually on the condition and management of land and water resources within its region. This chapter is structured to provide information on the condition of land and water resources and the management activities undertaken in 2012/13, based on the following program areas: the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland, Alps and Uplands, Far East, and Region Wide.

The use of Program areas to structure this section of the Annual Report represents a departure from previous years, which utilised the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPIs) Headline Themes. The program areas have been adopted by the region to support project integration and provide a new framework for reporting on management activities by a range of delivery partners.

The management activities described are those that have been undertaken during 2012/13 via projects funded through the Victorian Investment Framework (VIF). The Investment Programs that participate in VIF are: Land Health Program, Victorian River and Wetland Management Program, Sustainable Irrigation Program, Biodiversity Program, Victorian Landcare Program, and the Natural Resources Investment Program (NRIP). Individual projects that form part of the region's VIF Regional Investment Proposal (RIP) can be funded by one or more Investment Programs.

4.2 Overview of 2012/13 Victorian Investment Framework projects in East Gippsland

The Authority and partners work collaboratively together on program delivery. Our delivery model allows each agency and group to determine their priorities dependant on their land management responsibilities, respective strategic objectives and priorities and seeks to align these actions with the priorities expressed in the Regional Catchment Strategy. There are examples where the investment fund priorities are not directly aligned with the Regional Catchment Strategy as there are other frameworks that guide activity such as threatened species action plans and National Park action plans.

Despite this, our delivery partners do their best to align all actions. Our renewed RCS is designed to draw our respective priority works even closer by establishing joint delivery targets that we will share over the coming years. This process has begun, but will take time to establish.

In 2012/13, the VIF programs funded 11 projects in East Gippsland. Each project was undertaken in one of four geographic Program areas:

- Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland;
- Alps and Uplands;
- Far East; and,
- Region Wide.

A map of the East Gippsland CMA region indicating the three sub-regional Program areas adopted in the 2012/13 VIF Regional Investment Proposal is shown below.

Figure 3: East Gippsland CMA region and sub regional Program areas for 2012/13



EGCMA ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

The table below lists all 12/13 VIF funded projects, grouped under the respective regional program headings and shows the primary delivery partners responsible for implementation of each project.

Table 4a 2012/13 VIF Projects by regional Program area

Project number	Project title	Delivery partner)
Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland Program area		
EG1213.20.256	Waterway management in the Mitchell/Tambo Basins	EGCMA, EGSC
EG1213.20.257	Reducing sediment sources from farms	DEPI
EG1213.20.258	Protecting biodiversity in the GL Hinterland	GPCMN, EGRCMN, DEPI, TFN, PV
EG1213.20.259	Landcare in the GL Hinterland	Landcare Network and Groups
Alps and Uplands program area		
EG1213.21.255	Protecting biodiversity in the Vic Alps	PV, DEPI
Far East program area		
EG1213.22.260	Waterway management in the Far East Basin	EGCMA
EG1213.22.261	Protecting biodiversity in the Far East	DEPI, TFN, PV, EGRCMN
EG1213.22.262	Landcare in the Far East	Landcare Groups and Networks
EG1213.22.266	Snowy River	EGCMA
Region Wide program area		
EG1213.23.263	Water Statutory, Water Quality Monitoring and Environmental Water Reserve	EGCMA
EG1213.23.264	Regional Landcare Coordinator	EGCMA

Key to Delivery Partners: GPCMN (Gippsland Plains Conservation Management Network), EGRCMN (East Gippsland Rainforest Conservation Management Network), DEPI (Department of Environment and Primary Industries), TFN (Trust for Nature), EGCMA (East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority), EGSC (East Gippsland Shire Council), PV (Parks Victoria), Landcare (Landcare Groups and Networks).

4.3 Highlights and Challenges

The Authority continued to facilitate a multi-partner approach as its investment delivery model. This method recognises the expertise and complementary nature of agencies and non-profit organisations in East Gippsland. Most of the management activities described were delivered utilising this approach.

A number of highlights in 12/13 related to threatened species recovery projects, including;

- The completion of a three year White-bellied Sea-eagle nest mapping and monitoring project. The project was able to compare the number of nest sites with similar surveys undertaken in the 1980s, with results indicating the sea-eagle population is being maintained;
- The success of shorebird nesting season, including the fledging of 40 Little Tern chicks - the best result for several years. Ongoing nesting protection work has maintained high levels of publicity and areas with restricted public access around nests were well respected by the community; and,
- Significant rainfall in June saw the inundation of wetlands in the Gippsland Lakes hinterland area that contain populations of the endangered Dwarf Kerrawang. Flooding of these wetlands is an important ecological process for the health and long term sustainability of the Dwarf Kerrawang population.

A significant number of delivery partners involved in biodiversity management reported challenges with managing the impacts of wild deer on revegetation activities. Anecdotally, an increase in the number of deer hunters, together with illegal hunting activity such as spotlighting, has had a significant impact on deer behaviour, making the species difficult to manage.

Project partners have evolved new techniques to manage deer, including large guards to protect new and existing plants, temporary electric fencing, the use of accredited hunters and the formation of The Deer Management Group, developed in collaboration between EGRCMN, TFN and the Australian Deer Association (ADA).

An ever present problem in the management of farms and biodiversity assets in the region is the pressure from invasive pest plants and animals. In East Gippsland this issue is the most commonly spoken about when engaging with community and partnership delivery organisations.

The control of weeds is targeted towards new and emerging species, however, maintenance controls on existing weeds needs to be conducted annually to ensure continued productivity on farms and to ensure priority biodiversity assets are not threatened.

4.4 Condition and management - Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland Program area

The Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland geography embraces the terrestrial environments adjoining the Gippsland Lakes including the Red Gum Plains, extending west to the catchment of Toms Creek, the foothills of the hinterland to the north and extending east to Lakes Entrance. Major sections of the Gippsland Lakes including Lake Victoria and Lake King are also contained within the program area.

The Gippsland Lakes and its fringing wetlands are internationally listed under the Ramsar Convention and form a group of aquatic ecosystems that are of high social and environmental value to the region. The lower reaches of major river systems, including the Heritage listed Mitchell River, flow through the program area and are major contributors of freshwater inflows to the Gippsland Lakes.

The program area contains perhaps the most impacted part of the region and is the centre of development and tourism, containing the significant townships of Bairnsdale, Lakes Entrance and Paynesville. Increased impacts from human activity have the potential to affect significant natural values, including threatened species and communities, water regimes and water quality.

The terrestrial environments of the foothills and plains support a diverse range of important flora and fauna including many rare and threatened species. Habitat for these species is often limited to high value remnant areas of native vegetation, including the nationally threatened Central Gippsland Plains Grassland and the Forest Red Gum Grassy Woodland ecological communities found in the Red Gum Plains. These temperate grassland communities are the most severely depleted of any ecological community in Victoria, with few remnants occurring on public land in the region. *The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act (1988)* Action Statement No. 182 (Grassy Woodlands and Grasslands) states that the Forest Red Gum Grassy Woodland has declined to between 2% and 4%, and that livestock grazing is a threat.

The purpose of the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland Program was to draw together activities to protect and enhance the natural values of the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland, with a focus on catchment based management activities to improve the condition of the receiving waters of the Gippsland Lakes system. This program, in addition to addressing the high value assets of the Gippsland Lakes and the Red Gum Plains, addressed the main threatening process impacting on these assets, including:

- increased sediment and nutrient loads entering the Gippsland Lakes;
- loss of indigenous vegetation and subsequent impact on biodiversity values; and,

- invasive pest plants and animals; in particular their impact on riparian vegetation and threatened species.

This program was developed to systematically address these threats, using a theme based approach to projects, including the following themes:

- Waterway health (1);
- Sediment/erosion mitigation (1);
- Biodiversity protection/enhancement (1); and,
- Landcare/land stewardship (1).

The expected program outcomes generated through these themes include:

- Increased resilience of the soil asset in the Hinterland and subsequent reduction in sediment and nutrient imports to the waterways;
- Improved riparian management of the major river systems feeding the Gippsland lakes (in the EGCMA region);
- An increase in the security and size of known populations of high priority threatened species and communities;
- Improvement in the security and connectivity of endangered remnant vegetation through the implementation of covenanting and other land stewardship mechanisms; and,

- Increased capacity of landholders resulting in increased engagement in and ownership of appropriate natural resource management practices by the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland community.

VIF Management Activities

Projects and management activities that contributed to the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland program were undertaken through partnerships between nine delivery partners, and are listed below.

Table 4b: Major VIF Management activities in the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland program

Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Pest inspections	Other State Prohibited Weeds	Area of land inspected (ha)	250.00	275.00
Pest inspections	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area of land inspected (ha)	250.00	275.00
Completed high priority actions at high priority sites in ABC database	No Qualifier	Percent of sites	10.50	118.00
Property management plans	Other	Area covered by plans (ha)	250.00	275.00
Awareness raising	Other	No. of events held	1.00	1.00
Awareness raising	Other	No. of participants	10.00	17.00
Skills and Training	Other	No. of events held	11.00	14.00
Skills and Training	Other	No. of participants	14.00	21.00
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Length of river (km)	1.50	1.50
Grazing regime change	Other	Area established (ha)	10.00	10.00
Fence Remnant Vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Area fenced (ha)	10.00	10.00
Fence Remnant Vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Length of river (km)	1.00	1.00
Management of Significant Species	Birds	Area of habitat managed (ha)	5010.00	15020.00
Management of Significant Species	Flora	Area of habitat managed (ha)	228.00	488.00

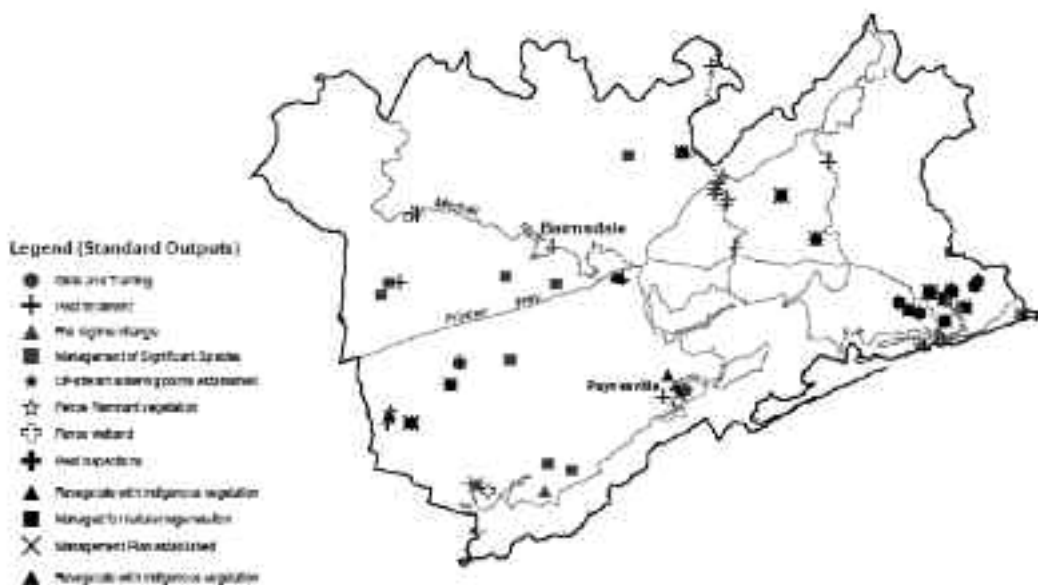
Table 4b: Major VIF Management activities in the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland program (cont.)

Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Pest treatment	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area treated (ha)	100.00	100.00
Pest treatment	Other	Area treated (ha)	124.00	395.00
Managed for natural regeneration	Other terrestrial zones	Area managed (ha)	374.00	445.00
Pest inspections	Willow	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	50.00	113.00
Conservation Agreements	Agreements between landholder and agency	Area covered (ha)	3.50	5.20
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Area of indigenous revegetation (ha)	3.75	1.00
Pest treatment	Willow	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	50.00	113.00
Pest treatment	Other	Area treated (ha)	221.25	43.25
Action Plans and Statements	Other	No. completed	1.00	1.00
Grazing regime change	Other	Area established (ha)	850.00	900.00

Due to an extension of the completion date of Victorian Landcare Grant projects, the standard outputs relating to this funding are not available for inclusion in this report. However the data received to date indicates that the projects are on track to achieve all the required outputs.

Figure 4: Gippsland Lakes Hinterland Program Area showing location of Standard Outputs

Program Area: Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland



Project: Protecting Biodiversity in the Gippsland Lakes Hinterland (GPCMN, EGRCMN, DEPI, TFN, PV)

This project sought to enhance the health, ecological functions and resilience of the Gippsland Lakes system and the associated hinterland. The project implemented activities aiming to:

1. Enhance the functioning of the water dependent ecosystems of the lakes by reducing sediment and nutrient input through rehabilitation, revegetation and the protection of foreshore areas.
2. Increase the biodiversity values of the Lakes system and hinterland by continued implementation of recovery programs for selected nationally and state listed threatened species.

This project operated at a landscape scale, with complementary activities being undertaken on both public and private land. Activities on public land addressed major threats to these largely intact ecosystems including pest plant control, whilst activities on the more fragmented and modified private land focussed on restoration, revegetation and protection through covenanting, fencing for stock exclusion, developing management plans and building the capacity of the specific individual land managers to manage for biodiversity. Threatened species management work was guided by National Recovery Plans or Action Statements and documented in the Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) database. All actions were high priority, at high priority sites in the ABC database.

TFN undertook activities to protect and improve habitat and ecosystem resiliency over 700 ha of the program area, with particular focus on the nationally endangered Dwarf Kerrawang wetland plant. 275 ha of high value habitat across 15 properties containing ABC listed and nationally threatened Red Gum

Woodlands or Rainforest communities were managed for natural regeneration, inspected for weeds and management plans were completed. African Love Grass was successfully sprayed across 100 ha containing Red Gum Woodland.

The GPCMN undertook the removal of a grazing licence, fencing, weed control and revegetation to protect a private land remnant and link this to the high value Forge Creek Reserve. The project worked with community groups, who were involved in project design and revegetation.

The DEPI component included threatened community and species management for 8 species and 2 vegetation communities. Of significance was the completion of a three year White-bellied Sea-eagle nest mapping and monitoring project comparing the number of nest sites with similar surveys undertaken in the 1980's, the successful fledgling of 40 Little Tern Chicks and the response of Dwarf Kerrawang to invasive plant control.

Parks Victoria controlled and contained new infestations of Sea Spurge within the eastern reaches of the Gippsland Lakes, with assistance from community groups. The volunteer program associated with this program is likely to continue into the future as a result of the catalytic effect of NRIP investment.

The East Gippsland Rainforest CMN focussed on the monitoring and removal of Sambar deer, to reduce the browsing pressure on existing and emergent native species across 157ha in the Lakes Entrance area and TFN covenanted properties. This project involved deer hunter accreditation, deer harvesting and monitoring.

This project contributed to 3 of the 5 investment themes for the Victorian Biodiversity Program:

- Terrestrial environments – delivering on ground management actions that will manage threats to retain and protect healthy ecosystems and ecological processes;
- Inland aquatic environments – deliver on ground management actions to protect, enhance and restore priority riverine, wetland and estuarine aquatic habitat; and,
- Build on ground capability and capacity - building the capacity of groups and networks such as Conservation Management Networks to contribute significantly to addressing regional and State priorities for biodiversity.

In addition, the project addressed the following NRIP priorities:

- Protecting significant natural resource assets - the Gippsland Lakes system; and,
- Maintain ecosystem services through protecting priority areas – The Gippsland lakes system.

Project: Reducing Sediment Sources from Farms (DEPI)

This project sought to reduce the threat of soil erosion to high value rivers and the Gippsland Lakes, by improving the resilience of the soil asset and remediating priority erosion sites.

Preliminary planning undertaken by DEPI indicated the presence of 15 gully erosion sites in high priority sub-catchments of the Tambo River. Seven of these gullies were surveyed to quantify potential sediment movement. Those deemed suitable for remediation had Soil Erosion Management Plans (SEMPs) developed and implemented, including recommendations for farm management to decrease erosion and build soil carbon, as well as ongoing management responsibilities. Remediation activities included ground cover management and works that arrest erosion, transportation and deposition of sediments and nutrients.

A further 7 Soil Erosion Management Plans were developed with targeted landholders to facilitate land management change in priority sub-catchments. Where works were undertaken on private land the landholders contributed at least 50% of the cost of remediation works.

Project: Waterway Management in the Mitchell/Tambo Basins (EGCMA and EGSC)

This project was implemented by the Authority itself in partnership with adjoining landholders. In 2012-13 the East Gippsland Shire also contributed to this project.

In 2012-13 the project implemented priority, on-ground river health activities, guided by the East Gippsland Regional River Health Strategy and the draft for Strategic Directions for Healthy Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands in East Gippsland.

This project undertook stock exclusion fencing, weed control and revegetation, and worked towards the final year of the Authority's catchment goals. Where possible, fencing works included a binding agreement with the frontage landholder to ensure the sites are maintained over time. This component was a highlight for the project, with additional hectares protected under riparian agreements. The predominant weed species controlled were willows and blackberries. In some cases willow control is in its third pass, and significant inroads have been made.

This project also delivered revegetation of strategically defined urban waterways guided by the EGSC 'Urban Waterway Strategic Statement' (draft). This activity built on previous VIF investment and included site preparation, revegetation and erosion control at three sites to extend the linear corridors created by previous works undertaken.

Project: Landcare in the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland (Landcare Networks and Groups)

This project supported 24 community NRM groups and one Landcare Network to undertake projects within the Gippsland Lakes and Hinterland landscape area, to improve natural resources and community capacity.

Victorian Landcare Grant (VLG) funding was devolved to six projects, due for completion at the end of 2013. Works being undertaken include broad scale revegetation works, sediment mitigation, protective fencing, revegetation works to filter urban runoff into the Mitchell River system, vehicle exclusion fencing to protect a fragile river peninsular, extension of a sedge wetland to aid the recovery of a threatened species, strategic weed removal and revegetation of drainage lines to connect two important waterways across the Gippsland Plains, rehabilitation and amenity enhancement of a walking track, and revegetation along the banks of the Mitchell River.

4.5 Condition and management - Alps and Uplands Program area

The Alps and Uplands Program area covers the upper reaches of the Mitchell and Tambo/Nicholson Basins. It incorporates part of the Victorian Alps that fall within the East Gippsland region. All of this Program area lies within the catchment of the Gippsland Lakes.

Much of the land within the Alps and Uplands Program area is within the public estate, including large continuous tracts of land within the distinctive alpine environment of the Alpine National Park. This unique environment is home to many rare and threatened species, as well as the nationally listed Alpine Sphagnum Bogs and Associated Fens ecological community.

Large river systems including the Heritage listed Mitchell and Wonnangatta Rivers, as well as the Tambo and Nicholson Rivers, are key features within this landscape. The large areas of native forest and woodland are punctuated by relatively confined areas of land cleared for agriculture, primarily in river valleys, and including towns and localities of Dargo, Ensay, Swifts Creek and the Wonnangatta Valley.

The purpose of this Program was to draw together activities that protect and enhance the values of the western alpine and high country areas of the region.

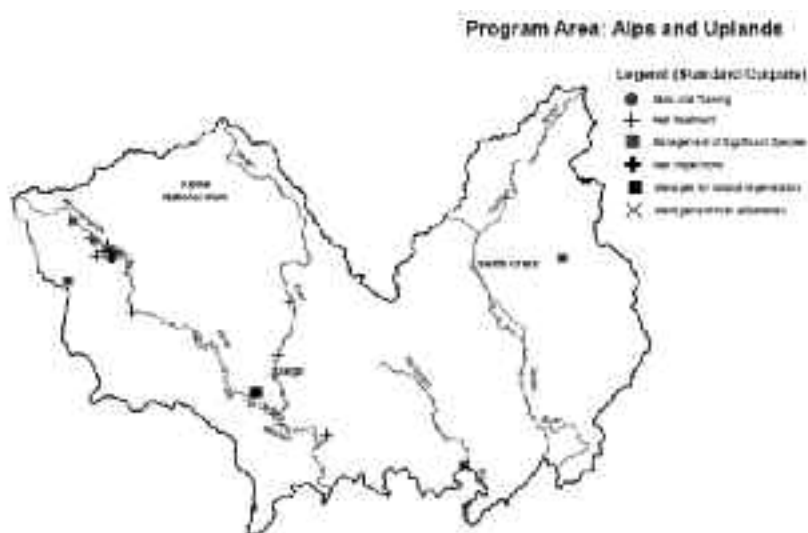
VIF Management Activities

In 12/13 there was one project in this Program with a biodiversity protection and enhancement theme, focussed on public land assets.

Table 4c: Major VIF Management activities in the Alps and Uplands Program Area

Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Pest inspections	Willow	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	20.00	20.00
Pest inspections	Willow	Area of land inspected (ha)	12.00	12.00
Pest inspections	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	30.00	30.00
Pest inspections	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area of land inspected (ha)	500.00	500.00
Pest inspections	Other	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	50.00	50.00
Pest inspections	Other	Area of land inspected (ha)	300.00	300.00
Completed high priority actions at high priority sites in ABC database	No Qualifier	Percent of sites	6.00	7.00
Management of Significant Species	Flora	Area of habitat managed (ha)	90.00	90.00
Pest treatment	Willow	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	1.00	1.00
Pest treatment	Willow	Area treated (ha)	0.05	0.05
Pest treatment	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	30.00	30.00
Pest treatment	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area treated (ha)	6.00	6.00
Pest treatment	Other	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	0.05	1.00

Figure 5: Alps and Uplands Program Area showing location of Standard Outputs



Project: Protecting Biodiversity in the Vic Alps (DEPI and PV)

The Victorian Alps are recognised as a high value natural asset both regionally and State-wide. This project implemented activities to protect this asset, in particular the upper Dargo, Wonnangatta, Nicholson and Tambo catchments. It built on previous successful activities in the Alps area, including the ongoing *Highlands Down* initiative, which focuses on reducing the impacts of invasive pest plants.

Weed control works were targeted at protecting high priority natural assets, including alpine and sub-alpine areas, riparian corridors, threatened communities and the habitats of threatened species. Additional activities relating to implementation of National Recovery Plans or Action Statements for 4 threatened flora species were undertaken and included continued implementation of recovery plans.

The specific outcomes for the project included:

- Eradication and control of Willow, Hawthorn, Sweet Briar, False Acacia, Blackberry, St John's Wort, Ox-eye Daisy and other priority weeds over 500ha; and,
- Targeted weed control and monitoring over 90ha to protect 4 threatened species.

4.6 Condition and management - Far East Program area

The Far East Program area includes the entire Snowy and Far East Basins, and the catchments of Lake Tyers and Ewings Morass. The program area includes some of the Victorian Alps together with the coastline from Lake Tyers to Cape Howe.

The Far East is characterised by large tracts of intact, continuous, high quality native vegetation communities and ecosystems, particularly rivers and streams. The majority of land is within the public estate. Many streams are connected entirely from their source to the estuary, with minimal or no impacts from adjoining land use.

The area includes a diversity of environments from sub-alpine and montane ecosystems to lowlands foothill forest and streams, and is recognised as one of the most ecologically diverse areas in the State. It contains natural resource assets recognised as high value regionally and State wide.

The Far East program involved government agencies, land holders and Landcare to implement activities that protect and restore biodiversity and natural ecosystems. This program included projects from the following three themes:

- Waterway health (2);
- Biodiversity protection/enhancement (1); and,
- Landcare/land stewardship (1).

The program outcomes included:

- Implementation of rehabilitation works and progress towards maintenance of riparian works on the Lower Snowy;
- Works to stabilise the Cann River within the floodplain reach;
- Increased control of invasive plants and animals with a particular focus on waterways and high value ecological communities;
- An increase in the security and size of known populations of high priority threatened species and communities;
- Improvement in vegetation connectivity through the implementation of covenanting on high priority (NaturePrint) freehold locations; and,
- Increased ownership of appropriate natural resource management practices by the Far East community.

VIF Management Activities

In 12/13 there were four projects in this Program with a protection/enhancement theme focussed on public land assets.

Table 4d: Major VIF Management activities in the Far East Program Area

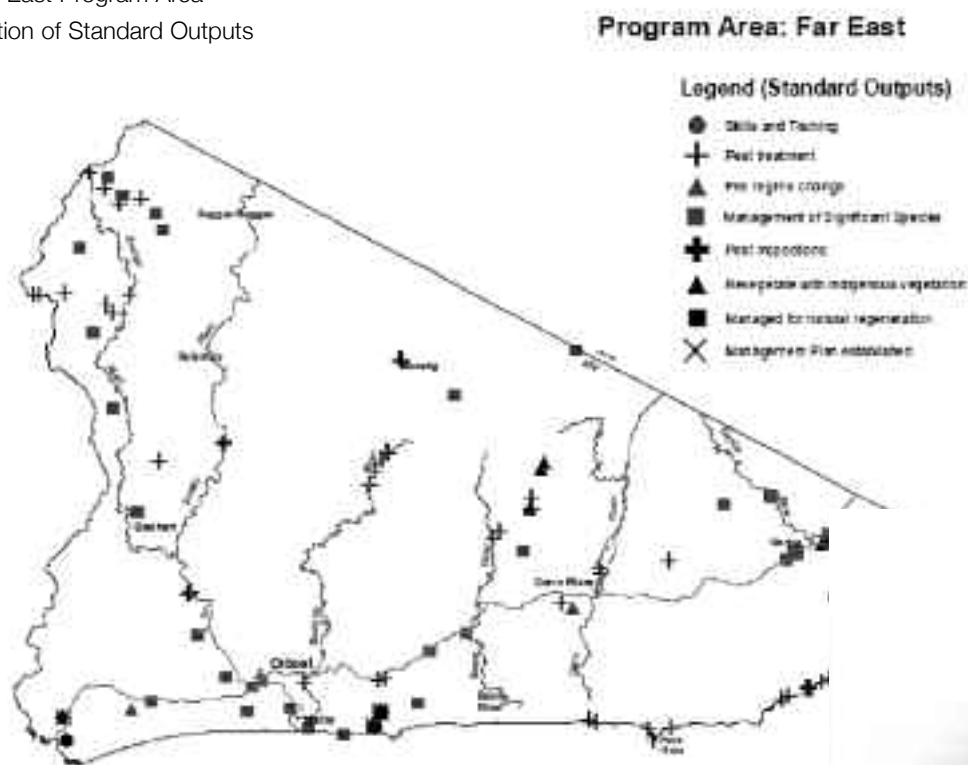
Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Pest inspections	Willow	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	10.00	4.00
Conservation Agreements	Agreements between landholder and agency	Area covered (ha)	6.50	14.62
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Area of indigenous revegetation (ha)	6.50	1.00
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Length of river (km)	6.50	0.60
Pest treatment	Willow	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	10.00	4.00
Pest treatment	Other	Area treated (ha)	80.00	28.00
Pest inspections	Regionally Prohibited Weeds	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	300.00	406.00
Pest inspections	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area of land inspected (ha)	300.00	406.00
Pest inspections	Other	Area of land inspected (ha)	100.00	60.00
Completed high priority actions at high priority sites in ABC database	No Qualifier	Percent of sites	16.00	16.00
Property management plans (including EMS)	Other	Area covered by plans) (ha	300.00	406.00
Skills and Training	Other	No. of events held	6.00	8.00
Skills and Training	Other	No. of participants	12.00	16.00
Management of Significant Species	Birds	Area fenced (ha)	5010.00	10010.00
Management of Significant Species	Flora	Area of habitat managed (ha)	605.00	731.00
Management of Significant Species	Mammals	Area of habitat managed (ha)	25050.00	25050.00
Pest treatment	Regionally Controlled Weeds	Area treated (ha)	10.00	26.00
Pest treatment	Other	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	50.00	30.00
Pest treatment	Other	Area treated (ha)	376.00	133.00
Managed for natural regeneration	Other terrestrial zones	Area managed (ha)	426.00	514.00

Table 4d: Major VIF Management activities in the Far East Program Area (cont.)

Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Pest inspections	Willow	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	155.00	243.00
Pest inspections	Other	Length of land or waterway inspected (km)	77.00	89.00
Pest inspections	Other	Area of land inspected (ha)	260.00	260.00
Action Plans and Statements	Other	No. completed	2.00	2.00
Conservation Agreements	Agreements between landholder and agency	Area covered (ha)	2.00	13.90
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Area of indigenous revegetation (ha)	312.00	8.00
Revegetate with indigenous vegetation	Within Riparian zones	Length of river (km)	79.00	4.00
Pest treatment	Willow	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	155.00	93.00
Pest treatment	Other	Length of waterway or land treated (km)	97.00	108.30
Pest treatment	Other	Area treated (ha)	260.00	260.00

Due to an extension of the completion date of Victorian Landcare Grant projects, the standard outputs relating to this funding are not available for inclusion in this report. However the data received to date indicates that the projects are on track to achieve all the required outputs.

Figure 6: Far East Program Area showing location of Standard Outputs



Project: Waterway Management in the Far East Basin (EGCMA)

This project implemented priority, on-ground river health activities in high value waterways in the Far East Gippsland basin, including willow control, stock exclusion fencing, weed control as per the EGCMA Landholder Incentive Procedure and revegetation. In addition to the on-ground works component, the Strategy for Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands in East Gippsland is in development and due to be released by the end of 2013. This document will map out the Authority's river health works for the next eight years.

Landholders in the Combiobar valley continued to work with the EGCMA, protecting additional hectares under environmental works agreements. These agreements will build on proposed stabilisation works in 2013/14 and form part of works to protect the Heritage listed Bemm River.

Project: Snowy River (EGCMA)

This project continued the implementation of on-ground works in the Snowy basin aligned with the Regional River Health Strategy - Actions Plans, the Draft Strategic Directions for Healthy Rivers, Estuaries and Wetlands in East Gippsland and the Snowy River Rehabilitation Plan of Works.

The project focussed on weed control, revegetation, willow control and debris removal and two studies, including an investigation into the stabilisation of Gilbert's Gulch and a review of the Snowy River rehabilitation project. The Moogji Aboriginal works crew continued to undertake works on the Buchan and Snowy Rivers as part of the Authority's aim to provide natural resource employment opportunities for indigenous people. Continued works on the Lower Snowy have consolidated ten years of large scale rehabilitation works, allowing the Authority to move to a maintenance phase. Owing to the Authority's ongoing Willow control program, only 600 meters

of established willow remain on the Victorian section of the Snowy River.

Project: Protecting Biodiversity in the Far East (DEPI, TFN, PV, EGRCMN)

This project utilised a multi partner approach to increase the resilience and long term security of the intact landscapes of the Far East. The major components of this approach were:

- invasive plant and animal control;
- habitat protection, restoration and management; and,
- threatened species management.

TFN undertook weed and pest control, monitoring and developed 8 management plans over 400 hectares, for natural regeneration and protection of significant species, including the Grey-headed Flying Fox, Diamond Carpet Python, the Smokey Mouse and ABC listed Warm Temperate Alluvial and Gallery Rainforest.

DEPI implemented priority actions from the Actions for Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) database for 20 threatened species, including ecological burning and species monitoring. The Brush Tailed Rock-wallaby program continued to show encouraging results as a result of a continued rehabilitation program, including Wild Dog control. The Wild Dog program has also seen benefits to the communities of Bonang and Deddick.

EGRCMN mitigated Sambar deer impacts to 108 ha of rainforest EVC's and associated vegetation, including site assessments, monitoring, application of browsing deterrents and deer removal.

Parks Victoria undertook three project components, including:

- sustained control of pigs within the Snowy River National Park and a small section of the Alpine National Park. This activity complemented existing programs administered by PV and DEPI in 2011/12. Goats within the Snowy River corridor from the NSW border to the southern

boundary of the Snowy River National Park continued to be monitored through satellite tracking and control was undertaken as required;

- continued coastal pest plant control, from Sydenham Inlet to Cape Howe, including Gabo Island and Tullaberga Islands. Species targeted included Sea Spurge, Beach Daisy, Beach Gladiolus, Mirror Bush and Bitou Bush. The project has complemented work undertaken by NSW Parks and Wildlife for Sea Spurge as part of a cross border initiative. The work completed on Gabo and Tullaberga Island had excellent results with Storm Petrels returning to Tullaberga Island again this year; and,
- continued works to eradicate willow in the Buchan Wilderness Area, and the eradication of emerging weeds such as Water Forget-me-Not.

Project: Landcare in the Far East (EGCMA and Landcare)

This project continued to improve natural resources and community capacity within the Far East Catchment landscape area. It supported nine community based natural resource management groups and one Landcare Network encompassing an area greater than 61,000 ha to undertake projects within the Far East area. Victorian Landcare Grant (VLG) funding was devolved to five projects, due for completion at the end of 2013. Works undertaken include rehabilitation of the banks of a creek denuded by fire last year, weed management and revegetation activities along a public walking track in the Far East, erection of stock exclusion fencing to protect native grassy woodland habitat and remove grazing pressure from the Deddick River, erection of fencing to create a corridor of connectivity between the Alpine National Park and the Deddick River and revegetation and weed management works along the foreshores of Lake Tyers.

4.7 Program Area – Region Wide

In addition to the geographically based programs, the Authority implemented a region wide program, focussed on the following outcomes:

- Support for water quality monitoring activities;
- Statutory and regulatory functions carried out under the *Water Act 1989*, and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*; and,
- Coordination, strategic advice and advocacy of the Landcare program within the East Gippsland region.

The Program projects are described below.

Table 4e: Major VIF Management activities in the Region Wide Program area

Output Description	Qualifier	Unit	Target	Actual
Asset condition monitoring	Surface water / inland aquatic	No. of reports produced	6.00	1.00
Asset condition monitoring	Surface water / inland aquatic	No. of databases maintained	1.00	1.00
Institutional Capacity to support delivery of VIF (ICR.6)	No Qualifier	No. of activities	7.00	12.00
Community Groups Supported	Waterwatch	No. of sites monitored	70.00	70.00
Community Groups Supported	Waterwatch	No. of participants	20.00	20.00
Permit Applications	Waterway works	No. of permits issued	60.00	62.00
Planning referrals / referrals received	Floodplain	No. received	380.00	512.00
Community Groups Supported	Landcare	No. of groups supported	34.00	35.00

Project: Water Statutory, Environmental Water Reserve Officer and Water Quality Monitoring (EGCMA and WGCMA).

The Authority's statutory planning activities continued to be delivered through a shared services agreement with the West Gippsland CMA, to allow for more efficient provision of services across the Gippsland region. The program fulfilled the Authority's obligations under the *Water Act 1989* and *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, including the provision of flood advice, responding to statutory referrals from local government, and issuing permits for works on waterways. The number of statutory referrals in East Gippsland increased by 39% from 2011-12, due a greater awareness of coastal climate change within the community and changes to planning controls. In 12-13, 512 planning referrals were received and

62 permits were issued.

Water quality monitoring that aligns with the Gippsland Regional Water Monitoring Partnership was undertaken through a shared service with West Gippsland CMA and comprised of 6 sites monitored on a quarterly basis. In addition, the EGCMA continued to support 20 volunteer water quality monitors to collect data for 70 Waterwatch sites across the region. The Environmental Water Reserve officer implemented the EGCMA's environmental water reserve responsibilities, including:

- Provision of technical advice to the water security options assessment for Lindenow irrigators;
- Input into the development of the East Gippsland Regional Catchment

Strategy, Regional Waterway Strategy, and Southern Rural Water's *Gippsland Groundwater Atlas*, and the implementation of the Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy; and,

- Responding to referrals from Southern Rural Water and/or East Gippsland Shire related to the take and use of surface or groundwater.

A highlight was the development of a draft environmental flow monitoring program for the Victorian Snowy River. When implemented, this program will enable the authority to meet its responsibility from the Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy (2011) to evaluate the effects of environmental flow releases from the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme to the Snowy River on the Victorian reaches of the river.

Project: Regional Landcare Coordinator (EGCMA)

The Regional Landcare Coordinator (RLC) continued to actively participate in delivering the Victorian Landcare Program regionally, by providing strategic advice and support to 31 Landcare and community NRM groups and 3 networks in the East Gippsland region. The RLC role includes actions to implement the East Gippsland Regional Landcare Support Action Plan, including;

- supporting the development of skills and knowledge within the Landcare community;
- working with groups and networks to facilitate inclusion in landscape scale projects;
- enabling volunteer recruitment and producing information relating to Landcare;
- providing reporting on regional Landcare activities to the State; and,
- monitoring and evaluating Landcare funded projects.

In 2012-13 the Regional Landcare Coordinator directly coordinated 47 state funded projects. The programs that funded these included VLG (MLG devolved grants are outlined in section 4.4 and 4.6), the Volunteer Recruitment Initiative (VRI) and Giving a Hand on Public Land. The RLC also hosted the biennial Regional Landcare Awards to celebrate and recognise the outstanding achievements of Landcare volunteers. Included in those recognised were

- Landcarers demonstrating innovative sustainable agriculture;
- outstanding community groups working towards sustainable landuse and protection of natural assets, and;
- individuals promoting Landcare and natural resource management through community awareness activities and educational opportunities amongst young people.

4.8 Case Studies

The following case studies provide examples of the approach taken to NRM delivery in the region. The first case study describes a sustainable agriculture project, funded by the Australian

Governments Caring for our Country program. The second case study demonstrates the Authority's approach to monitoring its waterway management activities.

4.8.1 Case Study: Caring for our Country - Sustainable Practices

Over the past four years there has been a concerted effort to increase the use of sustainable land management practices by the region's farmers and landholders. The Sustainable Practices project funded by the Federal Government through its Caring for our Country program, has been implemented across the East Gippsland CMA region from July 2009 through to June 2013. The project increased sustainable land management practices on privately managed land by using a combination of knowledge and skill building activities such as field days and workshops, together with support to implement improved practices, such as incentives for fencing and revegetation.

East Gippsland farmers and other private land managers have been integral to the success of the project due to their enthusiastic response and involvement in the project activities, with some parts of the project such as land use fencing incentives being oversubscribed. The Sustainable Practices project has resulted in over 500 farmers improving soil management practices through improved pasture management and a further 193 farmers or landholders implementing activities that contribute to the ongoing conservation and protection of biodiversity.

These activities included:

- 16850 hectares of feral animal control (wild dogs, foxes, rabbits and pigs);
- 31 km of fencing to protect native vegetation (remnant and revegetation); and,
- 240 ha of revegetation including the planting of 29545 seedlings.

The Sustainable Practices project was implemented by four EGCMA delivery partners, including Greening Australia, Southern Farming Systems, the East Gippsland Landcare Network and the Far East Victoria Landcare Network. Each organisation brought to the project a

different set of skills and knowledge, giving farmers and other landholders a broader range of land management practices to experiment with. Good coordination and communication between the project partners meant that interested farmers and landholders were able to work with the organisation that best suited their needs and farming goals.

The project included a number of trials and demonstrations including a series of pasture cropping trials implemented by Southern Farming Systems. Pasture cropping aims to increase grazing productivity while at the same time reducing the amount of bare earth in pasture that can erode and become a source of sediments in creeks and rivers. It involves using zero till methods to sow annual cereal crops into perennial pasture, with the crop being grazed over the winter months and then either cropped or used as a fodder source later in the year, allowing the perennial pasture to grow and become established for long term grazing. Other benefits of this technique include improved weed control as the thick litter from the crop and pasture helps prevent weed germination, improved soil condition, water infiltration and holding capacity, due to the deeper root system of the annual crop.

During 2013 the EGCMA undertook an evaluation of the Caring for our Country projects including the Sustainable Practices project. The evaluation found that overall the on-ground activity targets had been achieved and exceeded, and that there is anecdotal evidence from field visits and interviews that there has been a change in management practices from landholders involved in the project activities. The evaluation also highlighted some challenges including the need for better methods to influence and measure practice change and to reach beyond the existing networks to those who have not yet taken on these land management concepts and practices.

A new multi year sustainable agriculture project is in development and will seek to address these challenges and build on the success of the Sustainable Practices project.

4.8.2 Case Study: Waterway Condition Monitoring

The *Water Act 1989* establishes the Authority as the caretaker for the rivers of East Gippsland. As part of this role the EGCMA has begun a waterway condition monitoring program to assess the changes in river condition over time. The program is based on the Works Monitoring Method (WMM), a river health monitoring system developed by the Victorian River Health Industry (CMAs, Melbourne Water and DEPI).

This monitoring method was originally initiated to provide information and data to assess the impact of works and measure the change in river condition over time. The ability to measure impact and condition change is particularly important when evaluating the effect and value of the river work undertaken by the Authority.

The Authority has modified this method so that it provides an indicative Good, Fair or Poor condition rating for riparian areas which is generated by the biophysical and ecological data collected at each site.

As well as Transect Photo Points, the WMM records the following information:

- bioregion and EVC;
- extent and nature of vegetation (ground cover, indigenous cover, natural recruitment, weed cover and presence of high threat weeds);
- stream flow height and width;
- bank profile including condition stability;
- bank and bed material;
- presence of erosion including head cuts;
- presence of in-stream vegetation and large wood;

- presence of fish barriers; and,
- longitudinal continuity (the occurrence of gaps or discontinuity in vegetation).

Since August 2011, 125 sites have been assessed using this method with 14 sites determined as in "Good" condition, 62 sites in "Fair" and 49 sites in "Poor" condition.

The use of this method is not limited to sites where restoration or rehabilitative work has been undertaken, it can be implemented anywhere along a river system to gain an insight into condition, and the Authority will be systematically assessing an additional 75 sites across the region during 2013/14 with the intention of extrapolating this data to gain an assessment of reach condition.

5. STATUTORY, FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

Freedom of Information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1982* allows the public access to documents held by government agencies, which includes right of access to documents held by the Authority. In the reporting period there was one request for information.

The Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer is the Finance and Business Coordinator. Ph. (03) 5150 3585.

A decision to release information is made by an Authorised Officer. Requests for information should be directed to:

The FOI Officer,
East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority,
PO Box 1012,
Bairnsdale, Vic 3875.
Phone: 03 5152 0600
Email: egcma@egcma.com.au

The current application fee of \$25.70 applies to all requests at the time of publication of this report.

Protected Disclosures

Compliance with the *Protected Disclosures Act 2012* and the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* (repealed)

The Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001 (Whistleblowers Act) was repealed and replaced with the Protected Disclosure Act 2012 (PD Act) on 10 February 2013. As the change of legislation occurred midway through the 2012-13 financial year, this disclosure complies with the requirements of the PD Act and the Whistleblowers Act, for each of the relevant time periods.

Compliance with the *Protected Disclosures Act 2012*

The PD Act was part of a package of integrity reforms introduced by the Victorian Government, which also established the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC).

The PD Act enables people to make

disclosures about improper conduct within the public sector without fear of reprisal. It aims to ensure openness and accountability by encouraging people to make disclosures and protecting them when they do.

What is a 'protected disclosure'?

A protected disclosure is a complaint of corrupt or improper conduct by a public officer or a public body. The Authority is a "public body" for the purposes of the Act.

What is 'improper or corrupt conduct'?

Improper or corrupt conduct involves substantial:

- mismanagement of public resources; or;
- risk to public health or safety or the environment; or,
- corruption.

The conduct must be criminal in nature or a matter for which an officer could be dismissed.

How do I make a 'Protected Disclosure'?

You can make a protected disclosure about the Authority or its board members, officers or employees by contacting the Authority or Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC) on the contact details provided below.

Please note that the Authority is not able to receive protected disclosures.

How can I access the Authority's procedures for the protection of persons from detrimental action?

The Authority has established procedures for the protection of persons from detrimental action in reprisal for making a protected disclosure about the Authority or its employees. You can access the Authority's procedures on its website at: www.egcma.com.au

Contacts:
Rick Davies, Corporate & Program Manager
East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
PO Box 1012
Bairnsdale VIC 3875

Ph: 5150 3564

Website: www.egcma.com.au

Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission (IBAC) Victoria
Address: Level 1, North Tower,
459 Collins Street, Melbourne
Victoria 3001

Mail: IBAC, GPO Box 24234, Melbourne
Victoria 3000

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.

Building Act Compliance

The Authority complies with the building maintenance provisions of the *Building Act 1993*.

National Competition Policy

Competitive neutrality seeks to enable fair competition between government and private sector businesses. Any advantages or disadvantages that government businesses may experience, simply as a result of government ownership, should be neutralised. The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority continues to implement and apply this principle in its business undertakings. Where appropriate, competitively neutral price adjustments have been made from July 1, 1997.

Availability of Information

Information relevant to Financial Reporting Direction 22B is held at the Authority office and is available on request, subject to the Freedom of Information Act 1982.

Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003

The Authority reports that it had Nil (0) tenders over \$1 million during the reporting period.

Community Inclusiveness

The Authority recognises that the community comprises a range of diverse and disparate communities. The Authority seeks to ensure that any special needs are considered when engaging these sections of the community in the activities of the Authority (refer section 3.2).

Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The Authority is required to act compatibly with the Charter and gives proper consideration to human rights when making decisions. This responsibility is set out in the Charter and also the *Public Administration Act* and the *Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees*. The Authority ensures that human rights are taken into account when making decisions, providing advice and delivering services. The Authority ensures that changes

made to guidelines, policies or the legal framework take human rights into account. The Authority also ensures that its grievance processes comply with the Charter and are consistent with the *Public Administration Act*.

In the reporting period, there have been no complaints related to the Charter.

Environmental Reporting

As part of the Authority's continued commitment to reducing its environmental impacts, the Authority's Green Team Committee continues to monitor the implementation of the Authority's Environmental ResourceSmart Strategy.

During the year, the committee met periodically to review and discuss the Authority's progress against original set targets in the strategy. As a consequence of these meetings the strategy has been updated to reflect the Authority's progress in containing resource consumption and capturing environmental reporting data.

EGCMA ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

Disclosures under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* (up to 9 February 2013).

The archived procedures established under the *Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001* are available upon request.

	2011-12 Number	2012-13 Number
The number and types of disclosures made to the Authority from 1 July 2012 – 9 February 2013:	0	0
Public interest disclosures	0	0
Protected disclosures	0	0
The number of disclosures referred during the year by the public body to the Ombudsman for determination as to whether they are public interest disclosures	0	0
The number and types of disclosed matters referred to the public body by the Ombudsman for investigation	0	0
The number and types of disclosures referred by the public body to the Ombudsman for investigation	0	0
The number and types of investigations taken over from the public body by the Ombudsman	0	0
The number of requests made by a whistleblower to the Ombudsman to take over an investigation by the public body	0	0
The number and types of disclosed matters that the public body has declined to investigate	0	0
The number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated upon investigation and the action taken on completion of the investigation	0	0
Any recommendations made by the Ombudsman that relate to the public body: Recommendation regarding file security and management	N/A	N/A

Environmental Impact Data

Data	Site(s):					
	Main Office – Bairnsdale		Depots – Mitchell, Snowy & Genoa			
	Quantity 2011-12	Quantity 2012-13	Measure 2011-12	Measure 2012-13	Greenhouse gas emissions 2011-12	Greenhouse gas emissions 2012-13
Energy consumption	213400Mj	212067Mj	9789 Mj per FTE	10295 Mj per FTE	35.54t CO2-e	35.90t CO2-e
Water consumption	374Kl	41Kl	17.15 Kl per FTE	1.99Kl per FTE	0.87t CO2-e	0.09t CO2-e
Total recycled waste	210Kgs	151Kgs	9.63 Kgs per FTE	7.33Kgs per FTE	0.13t CO2-e	0.16t CO2-e
Fuel usage – Fleet	40349Lt	37712 Lt	1850Lt per FTE	1830Lt per FTE	112.27t CO2-e	105.55t CO2-e
Km's travelled – Domestic Air Travel	7630Km's	0Km's			2.47t CO2-e	0.0t CO2-e
Paper purchased	12 reams per FTE	12.6 reams per FTE			1135t CO2/kg	1141t CO2/kg

Occupational Health & Safety

The safety of Authority employees and contractors is our highest priority and one of our core values.

The Occupational Health & Safety management system underpins our policy which aims to build a culture that provides a working environment, resources and support to make safety and well being everyone's responsibility and it empowers people to be proactive in eliminating and minimising risks and hazards to achieve the highest possible safety standards.

The Occupational Health and Safety Committee, established as a formal sub committee of the board, meets quarterly and facilitates cooperation between managers, employees and contractors in regard to health and safety at the Authority. The OH&S Committee has undertaken a review of aspects of the Authority's safety management system during the year including the:

- OH&S Policy;
- Safe Work Procedures; and,
- OH&S Employee Induction Procedure.

A culture of safety awareness for all staff begins at induction and continues throughout the duration of employment, via formal accredited training programs, robust project management practices including project audits, contractor performance audits, accident/incident/near miss and hazard reporting and promoting an ongoing commitment to continuous improvement in OH&S.

Occupational Health & Safety Statistics

Incidents	2012/13
Contractor time lost to injuries/accidents (days)	0
Contractor – Accident/Incident/ Near Miss Notifications:	1
Staff time lost to injuries/accidents (days)	0
Staff – Accident /Incident/ Near Miss Notifications:	8

Risk Management Compliance Attestation

I, Dr Peter Veenker, certify that the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority has risk management processes in place consistent with the *Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard (AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009)* and an internal control system is in place that enables the executive to understand, manage and satisfactorily control risk exposures. The board verifies this assurance and that the risk profile of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority has been critically reviewed within the last 12 months.



Signed:
Date: 31st July 2013
Dr Peter Veenker
Chairperson

Insurance Compliance Attestation

I, Dr Peter Veenker, certify that the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority has complied with Ministerial Direction 4.5.5.1 – Insurance, except for one class of insurance currently placed outside the VMIA. This will be rectified at the time of the next renewal.



Signed:
Date: 31st July 2013
Dr Peter Veenker
Chairperson

Statement of Financial Position

The Authority is financially sound, with adequate provisions in place to fulfil our obligations to staff and replacement of plant and equipment. Sufficient resources are now allocated to deliver the Corporate Plan objectives for 2013/14.

There were no significant matters which changed our financial position during the reporting period.

Operational and Budgetary Objectives

The operational and budgetary objectives for 2013/14 are outlined in the Corporate Plan. This plan takes account of resources carried forward from 2012/13 along with known funding allocations for the new year. The Authority enters the new year in a strong financial position.

Events Subsequent to Balance Date

There were no events occurring after balance date which may significantly affect the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority's operations in subsequent reporting periods.

Financial Results Summary

The Authority's activity levels increased significantly in 2012/13 when compared to the prior year. Flood response, the flood support program and the financial impact of hosting the activities of the Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee all contributed to this outcome. Operational activity by the Authority for the year was \$8.3m. and partnership activity was \$5.3m. Committed funds to ongoing projects for 2013/14 are \$4.6m. and these projects are in the planning and implementation stages already. The Authority plans to operate at a similar activity level in 2013/14 as for 2012/13.

EGCMA ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

Comparison of 5 year results

	2013 \$	2012 \$	2011 \$	2010 \$	2009 \$
Operating Revenue					
State Government	10,396	7,437	9,159	11,926	11,292
Federal Government	2,336	2,335	2,335	2,335	2,350
Other Revenue	368	506	539	688	919
Total Operating Revenue	13,100	10,278	12,033	14,949	14,561
Operating Expenses					
Governance & Corporate	960	954	1,011	988	969
Project Expenditure	13,655	10,112	10,678	13,898	14,476
Total Operating Expenses	14,615	11,066	11,689	14,886	15,445
Total Assets	8,120	9,360	9,943	9,329	9,526
Total Liabilities	1,091	723	511	396	655

Consultancies – Greater than \$10,000

Consultant	Purpose of consultancy	Total approved project fee (excluding GST)	Expenditure 2012-13 (excluding GST)	Future expenditure (excluding GST)
Alluvium Consulting Pty Ltd	Data analysis, prioritisation and target setting for the Regional Waterway Strategy	39,984	17,524	22,460
GHD Pty Ltd	Gilberts Gulch geophysics investigation	22,467	22,467	-
Monash University	Study into the ecological impact of the 2011/12 Nodularia bloom on nitrogen dynamics in seagrass beds	114,253	114,253	-
Alluvium Consulting Pty Ltd	Evaluation of four 2009-2013 Caring for our Country projects	119,780	116,220	3,560
Lloyd Environmental Pty Ltd	Development of the Gippsland Lakes Environmental Strategy	99,980	99,980	-
Water Technology Pty Ltd	Review of the Snowy River Restoration project	40,000	20,000	20,000
Ethos NRM Pty Ltd	Development of the Gippsland Lakes report on governance roles and responsibilities	30,050	30,050	-
Alluvium Pty Ltd	Inspection and modelling work for 2012 flood response	14,202	14,202	-
Water Technology Pty Ltd	Snowy estuary levy assessment	10,000	-	10,000

Consultancies – Less than \$10,000

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority engaged 17 consultants where the total fees payable to the consultants were less than \$10,000, with a total expenditure of \$58,958 (excl. GST).

Major Contracts

There were no contracts greater than \$10m commenced during the reporting period.

Pecuniary Interests

All Board Members and Senior Officers completed the required declarations of pecuniary interest. These are available to any persons who apply according to section 18M (2) of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.

Publications

A range of publications is readily available on the Authority's web site.

External Reviews

Nil.

International Visits

Nil.

Public Relations

The Authority has continued its public relations activities during the year as documented in the Community Engagement and Awareness section of this report.

Industrial Relations

Time lost because of disputes: Nil

Major changes or factors affecting performance

There were no significant changes or factors which affected our performance during the reporting period.

EGCMA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

General Purpose
Financial Report
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013**EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY****FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****For the Year Ended 30 June 2013****STATUTORY CERTIFICATION**

We certify the attached financial statements for the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority have been prepared in accordance with Standing Direction 4.2 of the *Financial Management Act 1994*, applicable financial reporting directions, applicable Australian Accounting Standards, 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 notes to and forming part of the financial statements, presents fairly the financial transactions during the year ended 30 June 2013 and the financial position of the Authority as at 30 June 2013.

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

We authorise the attached financial statements for issue on 9th September 2013.

**Dr Peter Veenker**

Chairperson

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

**Graeme Dear**

Chief Executive Officer

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

**Rick Davies**

Corporate & Program Manager and CFO

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

Dated 9th September 2013

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY COMPREHENSIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2013	Notes	2013 \$	2012 \$
Revenue			
Grants and Government Contributions	1(b) 4	12,732,510	9,772,331
Interest Income	1(b)	328,508	463,439
		<u>13,061,018</u>	<u>10,235,770</u>
Revenue from Non Operating Activities			
Net Gain/(loss) on disposal of non-financial assets	8	1,887	6,194
Other Income		37,238	36,569
		<u>39,125</u>	<u>42,763</u>
Total Revenue		<u>13,100,143</u>	<u>10,278,533</u>
Expenses			
Employee Benefits	1(k) 5(a)	(2,192,677)	(2,226,675)
Operational Costs	5(b)	(11,324,465)	(7,931,713)
Depreciation & Amortisation	1(c) 8	(157,866)	(180,256)
Other Expenses	5(c)	(940,146)	(842,994)
Total Expenses		<u>(14,615,154)</u>	<u>(11,181,638)</u>
Net result for the period	10(b)	<u>(1,515,011)</u>	<u>(903,105)</u>
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Net Gain/(loss) on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	10(d)	22,098	(7,308)
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>22,098</u>	<u>(7,308)</u>
Comprehensive Result		<u>(1,492,913)</u>	<u>(910,413)</u>

The above Comprehensive Operating Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

EGCMA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2013	Notes	2013 \$	2012 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1(e)6	5,515,132	8,130,096
Receivables	1(f)7	1,300,324	80,321
Prepayments		59,040	70,053
Total Current Assets		6,874,496	8,280,470
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	1(d)8	1,245,507	1,079,778
Total Non-Current Assets		1,245,507	1,079,778
TOTAL ASSETS		8,120,003	9,360,248
Current Liabilities			
Payables	1(j) 9(a)	671,324	472,100
Employee Benefits	1(k) 9(b)	307,194	269,591
Total Current Liabilities		978,518	741,691
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee Benefits	1(k) 9(c)	112,586	96,745
Total Non-Current Liabilities		112,586	96,745
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,091,104	838,436
NET ASSETS		7,028,899	8,521,812
EQUITY			
Contributed Capital	1(n) 10(a)	6,987,366	6,987,366
Reserves	10(c)	576,277	554,179
Accumulated Funds/(Deficiency)	10(b)	(534,744)	980,267
TOTAL EQUITY	10(d)	7,028,899	8,521,812

The above Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the Financial Year ended 30 June 2013	Notes	Contributed Capital \$	Reserves \$	Accumulated Funds \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2011		6,987,366	561,487	1,883,372	9,432,225
Net result for year		-	(7,308)	(903,105)	(910,413)
Total comprehensive income for the year as reported in the 2012 financial statements		-	(7,308)	(903,105)	(910,413)
Transactions with the state in its capacity as an owner:					
Contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Total Transactions with the State in its capacity as owner for the financial year		-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2012		6,987,366	554,179	980,267	8,521,812
Net result for year			22,098	(1,515,011)	(1,492,913)
Total comprehensive income/(expense) for the financial period		-	22,098	(1,515,011)	(1,492,913)
Transactions with the state in its capacity as an owner:					
Contributions by owners		-	-	-	-
Total Transactions with the State in its capacity as owner for the financial year		-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2013		6,987,366	576,277	(534,744)	7,028,899

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the Year Ended 30 June 2013	Notes	2013 \$	2012 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Government Contributions		11,681,988	9,929,698
GST received from Australian Tax Office		897,308	959,109
Interest received		313,618	447,510
Other Revenues		40,959	107,445
Payments to suppliers and employees		(15,249,227)	(11,523,975)
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	11(b)	(2,315,354)	(80,213)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for purchase of property, plant and equipment	8	(347,079)	(287,204)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	8	47,469	256,291
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities		(299,610)	(30,913)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(2,614,964)	(111,126)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		8,130,096	8,241,222
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the financial year	11(a)	5,515,132	8,130,096

The above Cash Flow Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF
SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING
POLICIES****(a) Basis of Accounting
General**

The financial report includes the separate financial statements for East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (the Authority) as an individual reporting entity. This financial report is a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Operating Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Cash Flow Statement and notes accompanying these statements.

The general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994* and applicable Ministerial Directions. The Authority is a not for-profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The accrual basis of accounting has been applied in the preparation of 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.

The principal address is:
East Gippsland Catchment
Management Authority
574 Main Street
Bairnsdale VIC 3875

The annual financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors of the Authority on the 9th September 2013.

Accounting policies

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies applied are consistent with those of the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to align with current presentation and disclosure.

**Functional and presentation
currency**

Items included in this financial report are measured using the currency of the

primary economic environment in which the Authority operates ('the functional currency'). The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Authority's functional and presentation currency.

Classification between current and non-current

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be realised or paid. The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be turned over within the next twelve months, being the Authority's operational cycle. See Note 1(k) for a variation in relation to employee benefits.

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets and certain classes of property, plant and equipment.

Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AAS's requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amount of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Authority's accounting policies.

The most significant accounting estimates undertaken in the preparation of this financial report relate to:

- estimation of useful lives
- the impairment of assets
- the calculation of provisions
- the determination of contingent assets and liabilities.

**(b) Revenue Recognition
Revenue**

Revenue is brought to account when services have been provided.

Government Grants and Contributions

Government grants and contributions are recognised as operating revenue on receipt or when the entity obtains control of the contribution and meets certain other criteria as outlined by AASB 1004, whichever is the sooner, and disclosed in the comprehensive operating statement as government grants and contributions. However, grants and contributions received from the Victorian State Government, which were originally appropriated by the Parliament as additions to net assets or where the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Water have indicated are in the nature of owners' contributions, are accounted for as Equity – Contributions by Owners.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rates method.

**(c) Depreciation and Amortisation
of Non-current Assets**

All non-current physical assets that have a limited useful life are depreciated. Where assets have separate identifiable components that have distinct useful lives and/or residual values, a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Depreciation is calculated using the diminishing value method to allocate their cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives, commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortised as an expense on a systematic basis (typically straight line) commencing from the time the asset is available for use. The amortisation periods are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate at each balance date. Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortised. However, all intangible assets are assessed for impairment annually as outlined in Note 1(d).

**EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

Major depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year, unless otherwise stated:

Equipment	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	10% Diminishing
Furniture and Equipment	15% Diminishing
Plant and Equipment	15% Diminishing
Information Technology	50% Diminishing
Motor Vehicles	20% Diminishing

**(d) Property, Plant & Equipment
Recognition and Measurement of Assets**

Property, plant and equipment represent non-current physical assets comprising land, buildings, plant, equipment and motor vehicles, used by the Authority in its operations.

Items with a cost or value in excess of \$1,000 and a useful life of more than one year are recognised as an asset. All other assets acquired are expensed.

Repairs & Maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold, the cost is capitalised and depreciated.

Assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration by the Authority are recognised at fair value at the date of acquisition.

Measurement of Non-Current Physical Assets

All non-current physical assets are recognised initially at cost and subsequently revalued at fair value less accumulated depreciation and impairment in accordance with the requirements of Financial Reporting Direction (FRD) 103D.

Revaluations are conducted in accordance with FRD 103D. Scheduled revaluation is undertaken every five years with an annual

assessment of fair value to determine if it is materially different to carrying value. If the difference to carrying value is less than 40 per cent, a management revaluation is undertaken while a movement greater than 40 per cent will normally involve an Approved Valuer (usually the Valuer General of Victoria) to perform detailed assessment of the fair value. If the movement in fair value since the last valuation is less than or equal to 10%, then no change is made to the carrying amounts.

Plant, equipment and motor vehicles are measured at fair value.

For the plant, equipment and vehicles asset class, where the Authority is able to demonstrate that there is no evidence that a reliable market-based fair value (or other fair value indicators) exist for these assets, depreciated replacement cost is used to represent a reasonable approximation of fair value.

Revaluation of Non-Current Physical Assets

Revaluation increments are credited directly to equity in the revaluation reserve, except that, to the extent that an increment reverses a revaluation decrement in respect of that class of asset previously recognised as an expense in determining the net result, the increment is recognised as revenue in determining the net result.

Revaluation decrements are recognised immediately as expenses in the net result, except that, to the extent that a credit balance exists in the revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of assets, they are debited to the revaluation reserve.

Revaluation increases and revaluation decreases relating to individual assets within a class of property, plant and equipment are offset against one another within that class but are not offset in respect of assets in different classes.

Revaluation reserves are not transferred to accumulated funds on derecognition of the relevant asset.

Impairment of Assets

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are tested annually as to whether their carrying value exceeds their recoverable amount. All of the Authority's other assets, except for other financial assets, are assessed annually for indications of impairment.

If there is an indication of impairment, the assets concerned are tested as to whether their carrying value exceeds their recoverable amount. Where an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount, the difference is written off by a charge to the Comprehensive Operating Statement except to the extent that the write down can be debited to an asset revaluation reserve amount applicable to that class of asset.

The recoverable amount for most assets is measured at the higher of depreciated replacement cost and fair value less costs to sell. Recoverable amount for assets held primarily to generate net cash inflows is measured at the higher of the present value of future cash flows expected to be obtained from the asset and fair value less costs to sell. It is deemed that, in the event of the loss of an asset, the future economic benefits arising from the use of the asset will be replaced unless a specific decision to the contrary has been made.

A reversal of an impairment loss on a revalued asset is credited directly to equity under the heading revaluation reserve. However, to the extent that an impairment loss on the same class of asset was previously recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement, a reversal of that impairment loss is also recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**(e) Cash and Cash Equivalent**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within interest bearing liabilities on the balance sheet but are included within cash and cash equivalents for cash flow statement purposes.

(f) Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost, less an allowance for impaired receivables.

Receivables are due for settlement in no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. An allowance for impaired receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Authority will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the allowance is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. The amounts credited to the allowance are recognised as an expense in the comprehensive operating statement.

(g) Financial Instruments**Recognition**

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value, plus in the case of a financial asset or financial liability not at fair value through profit and loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or the issue of the financial asset or liability. Subsequent to initial recognition, the

financial instruments are measured as set out below. The Authority's financial instruments are limited to cash and cash equivalents, term deposits, accounts receivable and payable.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held to maturity investments are non derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturities that the Authority's management has the positive intention and ability to hold to maturity. If the Authority were to sell other than an insignificant amount of held to maturity financial assets, the whole category would be tainted and reclassified as available for sale. Held to maturity financial assets are included in non current assets, except for those with maturities less than 12 months from the reporting date, which are classified as current assets. Any held-to-maturity investments held by the Authority are stated at amortised cost.

Fair value

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

Impairment of Financial Assets

At each reporting date, the Authority assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment losses are recognised in the Comprehensive Operating Statement.

(h) Prepayments

Prepayments 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.

(i) Contingent Assets & Contingent Liabilities

Contingent assets and contingent

liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet, but are disclosed by way of a note (refer to Note 14) and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented exclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

(j) Payables

Payables consist predominantly of trade and sundry creditors. These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Authority prior to the end of the financial year, which are unpaid at financial year end. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Payables are initially recognised at fair value, being the cost of the goods and services, and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

(k) Employee Benefits**Wages and salaries, annual leave**

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in employee benefit liabilities in respect of employee's services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled, at their nominal values inclusive of on-costs. Employee benefits which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the Authority, in respect of services rendered by employees up to the reporting date. Regardless of the expected timing of settlements, liabilities made in respect of employee benefits are classified as a current liability, unless there is an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date, in which case it would be classified as a non-current liability.

Long Service Leave (LSL)

Current Liability - unconditional LSL
(representing 7 or more years of

**EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

continuous service) is disclosed as a current liability even where the Authority does not expect to settle the liability within 12 months because it does not have the unconditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement should an employee take leave within 12 months.

The components of this current LSL liability are measured at:

- Present value - component that the Authority does not expect to settle within 12 months; and
- Nominal value - component that the Authority expects to settle within 12 months.

Non-Current Liability - conditional LSL (representing less than 7 years of continuous service) is disclosed as a non-current liability. There is an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the entitlement until the employees have completed the requisite years of service. Conditional LSL is required to be measured at present value.

In calculating present value, consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Superannuation

The amount charged to the Comprehensive Operating Statement in respect of superannuation represents the contributions made by the Authority

to the superannuation plan in respect to the current services of current staff. Superannuation contributions are made to the plans based on the relevant rules of each plan.

Employee Benefit On-Costs

Employee benefit on-costs, including payroll tax, are recognised and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which they relate are recognised as liabilities.

(I) Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the balance sheet.

Cash flows arising from operating activities are disclosed in the cash flow statement on a gross basis (i.e. inclusive of GST). The GST component of cashflows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable or payable to the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

(m) Leases**Operating Leases**

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under

operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the Comprehensive Operating Statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease, in the periods in which they are incurred, as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

(n) Contributions by Owners

Additions to net assets which have been designated as contributions by owners are recognised as contributed capital. Other transfers that are in the nature of contributions or distributions have also been designated as contributions by owners. Transfers of net assets arising from administrative restructurings are treated as distributions to or contributions by owners.

Grants and contributions received from the Victorian State Government, which were originally appropriated by the Parliament as additions to net assets or where the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Water have indicated are in the nature of owners' contributions, are accounted for as Equity – Contributions by Owners.

(o) New Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued that are not yet effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2013 reporting period. As at 30 June 2013, the following standards and interpretations had been issued but were not mandatory for the financial year ended 30 June 2013. The Authority has not and does not intend to adopt these standards early.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

Standard / Interpretation	Summary	Applicable for annual reporting periods	Impact on the Authority's financial statements
AASB 119 Employee Benefits, AASB 2011-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 119 and AASB 2011-11 Amendments to AASB 119 (September 2011) arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements	These standards require the recognition of all remeasurements of defined benefit liabilities/assets immediately in other comprehensive income (removed of the so-called 'corridor' method) and the calculation of a net interest expense or income by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability or asset.	1 January 2013	The entity is yet to assess its full impact. The Authority will apply amended standard from 1 July 2013.
AASB 2011-4 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards to remove Individual Key Management Personnel Disclosure Requirements	Removes the individual key management personnel disclosure requirements from AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures, to achieve consistency with the international equivalent standard and remove a duplication of the requirements with the Corporation Act 2001. The amendments cannot be adopted early.	1 July 2013	This amendment is expected to have a limited impact.
AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement and AASB 2011-8 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from AASB 13	This Standard outlines the requirement for measuring the fair value of assets and liabilities and replaces the existing fair value definition and guidance in other Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 includes a 'fair value hierarchy' which ranks the valuation technique inputs into 3 levels using unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities; other observable inputs; and unobservable inputs.	1 January 2013	The Authority is yet to determine which, if any, of its current measurement techniques will have to change as a result of the new guidance. It is therefore not possible to state the impact, if any, of the new rules on any of the amounts recognised in the financial statements. However, application of the new standard will impact the type of information disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The group will adopt the new standard from its operative date, which means that it will be applied in the annual reporting period ending 30 June 2014.
AASB 2012-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standard - Disclosures - Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities	This Standard amends the required disclosures in AASB 7 to include information that will enable users of an entity's financial statements to evaluate the effect or potential effect of netting arrangements, including rights of set-off associated with the entity's recognised financial assets and recognised financial liabilities, on the entity's financial position.	1 January 2013	The impact of the standard is expected to be minimal.
AASB 1055 Budgetary Reporting	AASB 1055 extends the scope of budgetary reporting that is currently applicable for the whole of Government and General Government Sector (GGS) to NFP entities within the GGS, provided that these entities present separate budgets to the parliament.	1 January 2014	This Standard is not applicable as no budget disclosure is required.

(p) Comparative Amounts

Where necessary, figures for the previous year have been reclassified to facilitate comparison.

(q) Commitments

Commitments for future expenditure include operating and capital

commitments arising from contracts. These commitments are disclosed by way of a note (refer to Note 12 and 13) at their nominal value and inclusive of the goods and services tax (GST) payable. In addition, where it is considered appropriate and provides additional relevant information to users,

the net present values of significant individual projects are stated. These future expenditures cease to be disclosed as commitments once the related liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet.

**EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

**NOTE 2: FINANCIAL RISK
MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND
POLICIES**

The Authority's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. This note presents information about the Authority's exposure to each of these risks, and the objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk.

The Authority's Board has the overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Authority's risk management framework. The Authority's overall risk management program focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Authority. The Authority uses different methods to measure different types of risk to which it is exposed. These methods include sensitivity analysis in the case of interest rate and other price risks and ageing analysis for credit risk.

Risk management is carried out by the Audit and Finance Committee under policies approved by the Board. The finance department identifies and evaluates financial risks. The Board provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as policies covering specific areas such as interest rate risk, credit risk and investment of excess liquidity.

2.1 Risk Exposures

The main risks the Authority is exposed to through its financial instruments is as follows:

(a) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices will affect the fair value or future cash flows of the Authority's financial instruments. Market risk comprises of foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The Authority's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk and it is not exposed to foreign exchange risk and other price risks.

Objectives, policies and processes used to manage these risks are disclosed in the paragraphs below:

- (i) The Authority's exposure to market interest rates relates to the investment of funds on the money market. The Authority has minimal exposure to interest rate risk through its holding of cash assets. The Authority manages its interest rate risk by restricting the investment of cash to deposits with major banks and financial institutions with the required level of credit rating. It also has a mix of term deposits with fixed and variable interest rates with varying maturity profiles.
- (ii) The Authority has insignificant exposure to other price risk.

Market Risk Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity analysis below has taken into consideration past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets. The Authority believes that a movement of 1% in interest rates is reasonable over the next 12 months.

(b) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Authority as a result of a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument failing to meet its contractual obligations. Credit risk arises principally from the Authority's receivables.

The Authority's exposure to credit risk is influenced by the individual characteristics of each customer. Receivable balances are monitored on an on-going basis to ensure that exposure to bad debts is not significant. The Authority has in place procedures to monitor the collection of overdue receivables in order to minimise the risk of non-collection.

The Authority receives the majority of its income from government sources. This income is arranged under a service level agreement defining the manner and timing of payment which reduces credit risk exposure.

30 June 2013	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest Rate Risk			
		-1%		+1%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash At Bank	3	-	-	-	-
Deposits At Call	512	(5)	(5)	5	5
Term Deposits	5,000	(50)	(50)	50	50
Total increase/(decrease)	5,515	(55)	(55)	55	55

30 June 2012	Carrying Amount \$'000	Interest Rate Risk			
		-1%		+1%	
		Result \$'000	Equity \$'000	Result \$'000	Equity \$'000
Financial Assets					
Cash At Bank	5	-	-	-	-
Deposits At Call	1,884	(18)	(18)	18	18
Term Deposits	6,241	(62)	(62)	62	62
Total increase/(decrease)	8,130	(80)	(80)	80	80

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

Risk is also minimised by investing surplus funds with financial institutions that maintain a high credit rating. The maximum exposure to credit risk by class of recognised financial assets is equivalent to the carrying value and classification of these financial assets (net of provisions) as presented in the balance sheet.

(c) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity Risk is the risk that the Authority will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Authority's procedure is to settle financial obligations within 30 days and in the event of dispute make payment within 30 days from resolution.

The Authority manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves and by continuously monitoring cash flows and matching the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities. The Authority's liquidity risk is assessed as low given its large holdings of liquid assets.

The Authority's financial liability maturity profile is disclosed in Note 19.

2.2 Fair Value Measurements

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes. As at 1 July 2009, the Authority has adopted the amendments to AASB7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures* which requires disclosure of fair value measurements by level at the following fair value measurement hierarchy:

- (a) quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1)
- (b) inputs other than quoted prices included within level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices) (level 2), and
- (c) inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs) (level 3).

The carrying value less impairment provision of trade receivables and payables, cash and term deposits are a reasonable approximation of their fair values due to their short-term nature.

The carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities at balance date approximate their net fair values as disclosed in the balance sheet.

None of the Authority's financial assets and liabilities were recorded using any of the hierarchy valuation methods.

NOTE 3: CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Authority and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Authority makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. There are no estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Impairment

The Authority assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluating conditions and events specific to the Authority that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are determined as outlined in note 1(d), which incorporate various key assumptions.

No impairment has been recognised in respect of the Authority's suite of assets as at year end.

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE: 4 REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Revenue from Operating Activities		
Grants and Government Contributions		
State Government	10,396,510	7,437,331
Commonwealth Government	2,336,000	2,335,000
	12,732,510	9,772,331
	12,732,510	9,772,331

NOTE 5: EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES

(a) Employee Entitlements include:

Salaries and Wages	1,917,643	1,897,164
Superannuation	263,870	318,255
Workcover	11,164	11,256
	2,192,677	2,226,675
	2,192,677	2,226,675

(b) Operational Costs include:

Contractors	3,488,499	3,043,608
Grants Paid to Partners	5,321,918	4,239,058
Materials	868,909	367,422
Return of Funds to the Australian Government	145,000	-
Return of Funds to the Victorian Government	941,036	-
Other	559,103	281,635
	11,324,465	7,931,723
	11,324,465	7,931,723

(c) Other Expenses include:

Insurance	41,439	38,170
Motor Vehicles	85,081	97,857
Payroll & Fringe Benefits Tax	116,475	89,338
Telephones, Utilities, Printing	44,940	43,452
Rent	264,542	250,894
Information Technology Support & Licenses	163,694	168,167
Other	214,175	145,616
<i>Auditor - General Fees</i>		
Financial Statements Audit	9,800	9,500
	940,146	842,994
	940,146	842,994

NOTE 6: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash on Hand	800	800
Cash at Bank	2,210	3,649
Deposits at Call	512,122	1,884,611
The deposits are bearing floating interest rates between 2.7% and 3.5% (2012, 3.45% and 4.75%)		
Term Deposits	5,000,000	6,241,036
	5,515,132	8,130,096
	5,515,132	8,130,096

\$3,567,157 (2012, \$6,668,297) of cash and cash equivalents and other financial assets held at balance date are committed to specific programs for which funding has been provided to the Authority. Refer Note 20 for details of programs with funds committed at balance date.

EGCMA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
NOTE 7: RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Rates Debtors	65,791	65,791
Less Provision for Impaired Debtors	(65,791)	(65,791)
	-	-
Receivables	1,300,324	80,321
Less Provision for Impaired Debtors	-	-
	1,300,324	80,321

Due to the short term nature of the current receivables, their carrying value is considered to approximate their fair value. \$1,050,522 (2012: Nil) of receivables held at balance date are committed to specific programs for which funding has been provided to the Authority. Refer Note 20 for details of programs with funds committed at balance date.

(a) Provision for doubtful debts

As at 30 June 2013, current receivables of the Authority with a nominal value of \$65,791 (2012: \$65,791) were impaired. The amount of the provision was \$65,791 (2012: \$65,791). The individually impaired receivables relate to unpaid rates. It was assessed that no part of these rates are expected to be recovered.

The ageing of these receivables is as follows:

Over 6 months	65,791	65,791
Movements in the provision for impaired receivables are as follows:		
At 1 July	65,791	65,791
Provision for impairment recognised during the year	-	-
Receivables written off during the year as uncollectible	-	-
Unused amount reversed	-	-
	65,791	65,791

The creation and release of the provision for doubtful debts has been included as an expense in the Comprehensive Operating Statement. Amounts charged to the provision account are generally written off when there is no expectation of recovering additional cash.

None of the receivables were past due at balance date with the exception of the rates debtors.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the higher of the carrying value and fair value of each class of receivables mentioned above. The Authority does not hold any collateral as security. Refer to Note 2 for more information of the risk management policy of the Authority.

NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Land at Fair Value	358,000	358,000
	358,000	358,000
Buildings at Fair Value	176,093	195,653
Buildings at Cost	-	-
Accumulated Depreciation	(17,628)	(19,560)
	158,465	176,093

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
NOTE 8: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT (Continued)		
Plant & Equipment at Fair Value	87,648	106,003
Plant & Equipment at Cost	3,354	4,653
Accumulated Depreciation	(13,087)	(20,004)
	<u>77,915</u>	<u>90,652</u>
Motor Vehicles at Fair Value	371,564	483,133
Motor Vehicles at Cost	199,985	-
Accumulated Depreciation	(80,460)	(91,089)
	<u>491,089</u>	<u>392,044</u>
Furniture & Equipment at Fair Value	13,054	11,298
Furniture & Equipment at Cost	-	3,546
Accumulated Depreciation	(1,908)	(1,790)
	<u>11,146</u>	<u>13,054</u>
Information Technology Equipment at Fair Value	49,935	60,725
Information Technology Equipment at Cost	143,740	37,023
Accumulated Depreciation	(44,783)	(47,813)
	<u>148,892</u>	<u>49,935</u>
Total Property, Plant & Equipment	<u>1,245,507</u>	<u>1,079,778</u>
Depreciation charge for the year		
Buildings	17,628	19,560
Plant, Equipment, Furniture and Motor Vehicles	140,238	160,696
	<u>157,866</u>	<u>180,256</u>
Profit/(Loss) on Disposal of Assets		
Proceeds on sale of assets	47,469	256,291
Written down value of assets sold	(45,582)	(250,097)
	<u>1,887</u>	<u>6,194</u>

Land and buildings were independently valued at the 30th June 2011 by the Victorian Valuer General's agent. The basis of valuation is fair value as defined under the Australian Accounting Standard AASB116 and FRD 103D with emphasis on the depreciated replacement cost approach and direct comparison.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

Movements during the reporting period

	Opening		Transfer				Closing
	WDV at 1		Between				WDV at 30
2012-2013	July 2012	Additions	Classes	Disposals	Revaluations	Depreciation	June 2013
Land	358,000	-	-	-	-	-	358,000
Buildings	176,093	-	-	-	-	(17,628)	158,465
Plant & Equipment	90,652	3,354	-	(3,004)	-	(13,087)	77,915
Motor Vehicles	392,044	199,985	-	(42,578)	22,098	(80,460)	491,089
Furniture & Equipment	13,054	-	-	-	-	(1,908)	11,146
Information Technology Equipment	49,935	143,740	-	-	-	(44,783)	148,892
Totals	1,079,778	347,079	-	(45,582)	22,098	(157,866)	1,245,507

	Opening		Transfer				Closing
	WDV at 1		Between				WDV at 30
2011-2012	July 2011	Additions	Classes	Disposals	Revaluations	Depreciation	June 2012
Land	358,000	-	-	-	-	-	358,000
Buildings	195,653	-	-	-	-	(19,560)	176,093
Plant & Equipment	138,183	4,653	-	(32,180)	-	(20,004)	90,652
Motor Vehicles	466,376	241,982	-	(217,917)	(7,308)	(91,089)	392,044
Furniture & Equipment	11,298	3,546	-	-	-	(1,790)	13,054
Information Technology Equipment	60,725	37,023	-	-	-	(47,813)	49,935
Totals	1,230,235	287,204	-	(250,097)	(7,308)	(180,256)	1,079,778

**EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
NOTE 9: LIABILITIES		
(a) Payables		
Unsecured		
Current Payables	111,287	60,856
Accrued Payables	560,037	411,244
	671,324	472,100
None of the Authority's payables are subject to foreign currency or interest rate risk		
(b) Current Employee Benefits		
Provision for employee benefits		
Long Service Leave	179,120	132,319
Annual Leave	121,507	127,744
Time in Lieu	6,567	9,528
	307,194	269,591
Annual leave and unconditional long service leave entitlements, representing 7 years of continuous service:		
- Short term employee benefits that fall due within 12 months after the end of the period, measured at nominal value	121,507	127,744
- Other long-term employee benefits that do not fall due within 12 months after the end of the period, measured at present value	185,687	141,847
	307,194	269,591
(c) Non-Current Employee Benefits		
Provision for employee benefits		
Conditional Long Service Leave measured at present value	112,586	96,745
	112,586	96,745
Total Current		
	307,194	269,591
(c) Non-Current Employee Benefits		
Provision for employee benefits		
Conditional Long Service Leave measured at present value	112,586	96,745
	112,586	96,745
Total Non-Current		
	112,586	96,745
Aggregate employee entitlement liability		
	419,780	366,336
The number of employees at year end		
	22	23
The following assumptions were adopted in measuring the present value of long service leave entitlements:		
Weighted average discount rates	3.790%	3.058%
Weighted average increase in employee costs	4.500%	4.313%
Weighted average settlement period	10 Years	10 Years
NOTE 10: EQUITY AND RESERVES		
(a) Contributed Capital		
Opening balance at 1 July	6,987,366	6,987,366
Capital transactions with the State in its capacity as owner arising from:		
- Capital contributions	-	-
Closing balance at 30 June	6,987,366	6,987,366
(b) Accumulated Funds/(Deficiency)		
Opening balance at 1 July	980,267	1,883,372
Net result for the period	(1,515,011)	(903,105)
Closing balance at 30 June	(534,744)	980,267
(c) Reserves		
<i>Composition of Reserves</i>		
Land Revaluation Reserve surplus	321,800	321,800
Buildings Revaluation Reserve surplus	149,656	149,656
Plant, Equipment & Motor Vehicles Revaluation Reserve surplus	104,821	82,723
Total Reserves	576,277	554,179

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record asset revaluation increments and decrements in the value of non-current physical assets.

EGCMA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
NOTE 10: EQUITY AND RESERVES (cont.)		
(d) Equity		
Balance 1 July	8,521,812	9,432,225
Total changes in reserves	22,098	(7,308)
Total changes in equity recognised in the statement of comprehensive income	(1,515,011)	(903,105)
Closing balance at 30 June	7,028,899	8,521,812

NOTE 11: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash and Cash Equivalents	5,515,132	8,130,096
	5,515,132	8,130,096

(b) Reconciliation of net result for the period to net cash flows from operating activities

Net result for the period	(1,515,011)	(903,105)
Add/(less):		
Non-cash flows in Net Result:		
Depreciation & Amortisation	157,866	180,256
(Profit)/loss on sale of fixed assets	(1,887)	(6,194)
Add/(less):		
Changes in Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivables	(1,220,003)	344,118
(Increase) / Decrease in Prepayments	11,013	(33,961)
(Increase) / Decrease in Inventories	-	11,580
Increase / (Decrease) in Payables	199,224	275,266
Increase / (Decrease) in Employee Benefits	53,444	51,827
Net Cash Inflows/(Outflows) from Operating Activities	(2,315,354)	(80,213)

NOTE 12: LEASING COMMITMENTS

(a) Operating Lease Commitments

At 30 June 2013, the Authority had no operating lease commitments.

NOTE 13: CAPITAL & OPERATING EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS

At 30 June 2013, the Authority had the following operating expenditure commitments, inclusive of GST:

Payments due:		
Not later than one year	38,351	38,363
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	-	-
	38,351	38,363
GST recoverable from ATO	3,486	3,488

The Authority has outsourced its requirement for Information Technology support for a 3 year period commencing April 1, 2009. The Authority exercised a contractual right to take up the second of two 1 year term extensions committing until March 31, 2014. The Board is unaware of any other capital or leasing commitments not already disclosed elsewhere in this report as at 30 June 2013.

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 14: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

At 30 June 2013 the Authority had issued through its bankers, the National Australia Bank, a guarantee to the Department of Environment & Primary Industries, for a total of \$29,500 (2012 \$29,500). This guarantee is in place to cover possible rehabilitation obligations in relation to a quarry controlled by the Authority. The Authority intends to meet its obligations in relation to this facility. As at 30th June, the cost of remediation works have not been quantified.

The Board is unaware of any other contingent liabilities or contingent assets not already disclosed elsewhere in this report as at 30 June 2013 and 2012.

NOTE 15: EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER BALANCE DATE

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Authority, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Authority in future financial years.

NOTE 16: RESPONSIBLE PERSONS RELATED DISCLOSURES

(a) Responsible Persons

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

Persons Name	Position	Period
The Hon. Ryan Smith MP	Minister for Environment & Climate Change	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
The Hon. Peter Walsh MLA	Minister for Water	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Peter Veenker	Chairperson	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Graeme James Dear	Chief Executive Officer	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013

Board Members

John Colin Groom	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Ross Anthony Ingram	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Helen Bull	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Nicola Jaine Watts	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
William Ernest Bulmer	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Kate Louise Young	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Kenneth Charles Norris	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013
Neville Arthur Penrose	01 Jul 2012 – 30 Jun 2013

Remuneration paid to Ministers is reported in the Annual Report of the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Other relevant interests are declared in the Register of Member's Interests which each member of the Parliament completes.

(b) Remuneration of Responsible Persons

Remuneration received or due and receivable from the Authority in connection with the management of the Authority (includes termination payments and bonuses paid) was:

2013	2012
\$	\$
327,908	334,140
327,908	334,140

The number of responsible persons of the Authority whose remuneration from the Authority was within the following bands are as follows:

Remuneration Bands	No.	No.
\$0 - \$9,999	-	4
\$10,000 - \$19,999	8	7
\$20,000 - \$29,999	1	2
\$170,000 - \$179,999	-	1
\$180,000 - \$189,999	1	-
	10	14

The total remuneration of responsible persons referred to in the above bands was \$327,908 (2012 \$334,140) which includes \$36,647 (2012 \$27,724) paid in superannuation contributions.

EGCMA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 16: RESPONSIBLE PERSONS RELATED DISCLOSURES (Continued)

(c) Executive Officers Remuneration

The number of executive officers, other than responsible persons, whose total remuneration falls within the specified bands above \$100,000 are as follows:

Income Band (\$)	Total Remuneration		Base Remuneration	
	2013	2012	2013	2012
120,000 - 129,999	1	1	1	1
140,000 - 149,999	1	1	1	1
Total Numbers	2	2	2	2
Annualised Employee Equivalent	2	2	2	2
Total Amount (\$'000)	272	265	272	265

(d) Other Transactions

Loans: There were no loans in existence between the Authority and responsible persons or related parties at the date of this report.

Retirement Benefits: There were no amounts paid by the Authority in connection with the retirement of responsible persons of the Authority during the financial year.

There were no other transactions between the Authority and responsible persons and their related parties during the financial year.

NOTE 17: SUPERANNUATION

The Authority contributes in respect of its employees, to the following superannuation schemes:

Superannuation Name	Type of Scheme	Rate	2013 \$	2012 \$
Vic Super Scheme	Accumulation	9%	81,684	33,301
Vision Superannuation Scheme	Defined Benefits	9.25%	9,444	9,206
Vision Superannuation Scheme	Defined Benefits Unfunded Liability Call		-	115,343
Vision Super Saver Scheme	Accumulation	9%	112,677	88,265
Other Superannuation Funds	Accumulation	9%	60,065	72,140
Total contributions to all funds			263,870	318,255

The accumulation schemes receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (9% required under Superannuation Guarantee Legislation). No further liability accrues to the Authority as the superannuation benefits accruing to the employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

The Defined Benefit Scheme with Vision Super is a multi-employer sponsored plan. As Vision's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by employer, the Actuary is unable to reliably allocate defined liabilities, assets and costs between employers.

As provided under AASB 119, the Authority does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions. The Authority makes employer contributions to the defined benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund's Actuary. On the basis of the results of the most recent full actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund's actuary as at 31st December 2011, the Authority makes the following contributions:

- 9.25% of members' salaries (same as previous year);
- the difference between resignation and retrenchment benefits paid to any retrenched employees, plus contribution tax (same as previous year).

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 17: SUPERANNUATION (Continued)

The Fund surplus or deficit (i.e. the difference between fund assets and liabilities) is calculated differently for funding purposes (i.e. calculating required contributions) and for the calculation of accrued benefits as required in AAS 25 to provide the values needed for the AASB 119 disclosure in the Authority's financial statements. AAS 25 requires that the present value of the defined benefit liability be calculated based on benefits that have accrued in respect of membership of the plan up to the measurement date, with no allowance for future benefits that may accrue.

The Fund's 31 December 2011 actuarial investigation identified an unfunded liability of \$326.8 million, excluding the contributions tax, in the defined benefit fund of which the Authority is a member. The Authority was made aware of the expected short fall in July 2012 and was informed formally of their share of the short fall on 31st July 2012 which amounted to \$115,343. The Authority has elected to pay this short fall by lump sum within 12 months of the due date. The Authority has accounted for this short fall in the Comprehensive Operating Statement in Employee Benefits (see Note 5a).

The Fund's liability for accrued benefits was determined by the Actuary at 31 December 2011 pursuant to the requirements of Australian Accounting Standard AAS25 is as follows:

	31 Dec 2011 \$'000
Net Market Value of Assets	4,315,324
Accrued Benefits	4,642,133
Difference between Assets and Accrued Benefits	(326,809)
Vested Benefits (Minimum sum which must be paid to members when they leave the Fund)	4,838,503

The financial assumptions used to calculate the Accrued Benefits for the define benefit category of the Fund were:

Net Investment Return	7.50% p.a.
Salary Inflation	4.25% p.a.
Price Inflation	2.75% p.a.

There is no loan to any fund and no outstanding contribution to any fund at 30 June 2013.

NOTE 18: ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

To deliver the goals as detailed in the Regional Catchment Strategy, the Authority continues to be dependent upon future funding commitments from both State and Federal Governments.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 19: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Interest Rate Risk Exposure

The following table sets out the Authority's exposure to interest rate risk, including the contractual repricing dates and the effective weighted average interest rate by maturity periods. Exposures arise predominantly from liquid assets bearing variable interest rates.

	Non Interest Bearing \$	Floating Interest Rate \$	Fixed Interest Rate \$	Maturity Periods	
				1 year or less \$	Total \$
2013					
<i>Financial Assets</i>					
Cash at bank and at call	800	514,332	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,515,132
Receivables	1,108,497			-	1,108,497
Total Financial Assets	1,109,297	514,332	5,000,000	5,000,000	6,623,629
<i>Financial Liabilities</i>					
Payables	671,324	-	-	-	671,324
Total Financial Liabilities	671,324	-	-	-	671,324
<i>Net Financial Assets</i>	437,973	514,332	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,952,305
Weighted average interest rate	0.00%	2.88%	3.54%		

	Non Interest Bearing \$	Floating Interest Rate \$	Fixed Interest Rate \$	Maturity Periods	
				1 year or less \$	Total \$
2012					
<i>Financial Assets</i>					
Cash at bank and at call	800	1,888,260	6,241,036	6,241,036	8,130,096
Receivables	44,223				44,223
Total Financial Assets	45,023	1,888,260	6,241,036	6,241,036	8,174,319
<i>Financial Liabilities</i>					
Payables	472,100	-	-	-	472,100
Total Financial Liabilities	472,100	-	-	-	472,100
<i>Net Financial Assets</i>	(427,077)	1,888,260	6,241,036	6,241,036	7,702,219
Weighted average interest rate	0.00%	4.21%	4.76%		

EGCMA FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2012 - 2013

EAST GIPPSLAND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

NOTE 20: COMMITTED PROJECT FUNDS

The Authority receives funding relating to specific projects. Such funding is allocated to, and must be expended on those projects. The following table displays monies held and committed at the end of the year in respect to projects currently in progress.

<i>Funded Programs 2012/13</i>	<i>Opening Balance \$</i>	<i>Amount Received \$</i>	<i>Amount Expensed \$</i>	<i>Closing Balance \$</i>	<i>Committed Funds \$</i>	<i>Uncommitted Funds \$</i>
Australian Government Funded Projects	567,408	2,336,000	2,626,131	277,277	277,277	-
Victorian Government Funded Projects	2,501,133	10,396,510	11,114,442	1,783,201	1,783,201	
Other Projects	3,699,756	367,633	874,581	3,192,808	2,557,201	635,607
Total of Funds	6,768,297	13,100,143	14,615,154	5,253,286	4,617,679	635,607

<i>Funded Programs 2011/12</i>	<i>Opening Balance \$</i>	<i>Amount Received \$</i>	<i>Amount Expensed \$</i>	<i>Closing Balance \$</i>	<i>Committed Funds \$</i>	<i>Uncommitted Funds \$</i>
Australian Government Funded Projects	282,244	2,335,000	2,049,836	567,408	567,408	-
Victorian Government Funded Projects	2,294,262	7,437,331	7,230,460	2,501,133	2,501,133	-
Other Projects	5,094,896	506,202	1,901,342	3,699,756	3,599,756	100,000
Total of Funds	7,671,402	10,278,533	11,181,638	6,768,297	6,668,297	100,000

Project Management	2013	2012
Projects delivered by partners	1,107,324	1,238,751
Authority projects	3,510,355	5,429,546
Total Committed Funds	4,617,679	6,668,297

Funds committed as at 30 June 2013 and 2012 are anticipated to be expended as follows:

Within one year	3,470,554	6,668,297
Later than one year but within five years	1,147,125	-
Later than five years	-	-
Total Committed Funds	4,617,679	6,668,297

VAGO

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members, East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority

The Financial Report

The accompanying financial report for the year ended 30 June 2013 of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority which comprises the comprehensive operating statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, cash flow statement, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statutory certification has been audited.

The Board Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board Members of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994*, and for such internal control as the Board Members determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit, which has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require compliance with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and that the audit be planned and performed to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The audit procedures selected depend on judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, consideration is given to the internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board Members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Independent Auditor's Report (continued)

Independence

The Auditor-General's independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. The Auditor-General is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which his powers and responsibilities are to be exercised. In conducting the audit, the Auditor-General, his staff and delegates complied with all applicable independence requirements of the Australian accounting profession.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority as at 30 June 2013 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards, and the financial reporting requirements of the *Financial Management Act 1994*.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Publication of the Audited Financial Report

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority for the year ended 30 June 2013 included both in the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority's annual report and on the website. The Board Members of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority are responsible for the integrity of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority's website. I have not been engaged to report on the integrity of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority's website. The auditor's report refers only to the subject matter described above. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from this report. If users of the financial report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from publication on a website, they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information contained in the website version of the financial report.

MELBOURNE
9 September 2013

T.D.H.
for John Doyle
Auditor-General

APPENDIX 1

DISCLOSURE INDEX

The Annual Report of the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority is prepared in accordance with all relevant Victorian legislation. This index has been prepared to facilitate identification of the Authority's compliance with statutory disclosure

LEGISLATION	REQUIREMENT	PAGE REFERENCE
Ministerial Directions		
Report of Operations – FRD Guidance		
FRD 22D	Manner of establishment and the relevant Ministers	Page 5
FRD 22D	Objectives, functions, powers and duties	5-6
FRD 22D	Nature and ranges of services provided	2-6
Management and Structure		
FRD22D	Organisational structure and corporate governance arrangements	10
Financial and other information		
FRD 8	Budget portfolio outcomes	N/A
FRD 10	Disclosure Index	66
FRD 12A	Disclosure of major contracts	39
FRD 15B	Executive Officer disclosures	59
FRD 22D	Operational and budgetary objectives and performance against objectives	37
FRD 22D	Employment and conduct principles	10
FRD22D	Occupational health and safety policy	37
FRD 22D	Summary of the financial results for the year	38
FRD 22D	Significant changes in financial position during the year	37
FRD 22D	Major changes or factors affecting performance	39
FRD 22D	Subsequent events	37
FRD 22D	Application and operation of Freedom of Information Act 1982	34
FRD 22D	Compliance with building and maintenance provisions of Building Act 1993	35
FRD 22D	Statement on National Competition Policy	35
FRD 22D	Application and operation of the Protected Disclosures Act	34
FRD 22D	Details of consultancies over \$10,000	38
FRD 22D	Details of consultancies under \$10,000	39
FRD 22D	Statement of availability of other information	35
FRD 24C	Reporting of office based environmental impacts	36
FRD 25A	Victorian Industry Participation Policy disclosures	35
FRD 29	Workforce Data disclosures	10
SD 4.5.5	Risk management compliance attestation	37
SD 4.5.5.1	Ministerial Standing Direction 4.5.5.1 compliance attestation	37
SD 4.2(g)	Specific information requirements	42
SD 4.2(j)	Sign-off requirements – Accountable Officers declaration	42

EGCMA ANNUAL REPORT 2012 - 2013

LEGISLATION	REQUIREMENT	PAGE REFERENCE
Financial Report		
SD 4.2(a)	Statement of changes in equity	45
SD 4.2(b)	Operating statement	43
SD 4.2(b)	Balance sheet	44
SD 4.2(b)	Cash flow statement	45
Other requirements under Standing Directions 4.2		
SD 4.2(c)	Compliance with Australian accounting standards and other authoritative pronouncements	46-50
SD 4.2(c)	Compliance with Ministerial Directions	46
SD 4.2(d)	Rounding of amounts	N/A
SD 4.2(c)	Accountable officer's declaration	42
SD 4.2(f)	Compliance with Model Financial Report	46
Other disclosures as required by FRD's in notes to the financial statements		
FRD 9A	Departmental Disclosure of Administered Assets and Liabilities by Activity	N/A
FRD 11A	Disclosure of Ex Gratia Payments	N/A
FRD 13	Disclosure of Parliamentary Appropriations	46
FRD 21B	Disclosures of Responsible Persons, Executive Officers and other Personnel (Contractors with Significant Management Responsibilities) in the Financial Report	59
FRD 102	Inventories	N/A
FRD 103D	Noncurrent Physical Assets	54
FRD 104	Foreign Currency	N/A
FRD 106	Impairment of Assets	47
FRD 109	Intangible Assets	46
FRD 107	Investment Properties	N/A
FRD 110	Cash Flow Statements	45
FRD 112C	Defined Benefit Superannuation Obligations	60
FRD 113	Investments in Subsidiaries, Jointly Controlled Entities and Associates	N/A
FRD 114A	Financial Instruments – General Government Entities and Public Non Financial Corporations	62
FRD 119	Contributions by Owners	N/A
Legislation		
	<i>Freedom of Information Act 1982</i>	34
	<i>Building Act 1983</i>	35
	<i>Victorian Industry Participation Policy Act 2003</i>	35
	<i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>	42
	<i>Multicultural Victoria Act 2004</i>	35
	<i>Protected Disclosures Act 2012</i>	34

LIST OF USED ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	Actions for Biodiversity Conservation
ADA	Australian Deer Association
CALP	Catchment and Land Protection
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CMA	Catchment Management Authority
DEPI	Department of Environment & Primary Industries
EGCMA	East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
EGRCMN	East Gippsland Rainforest Conservation Network
EGSC	East Gippsland Shire Council
EVC	Ecological Vegetation Class's
FOI	Freedom of Information
GL	Gippsland Lakes
GLaWAC	Gunaikurnai Land & Waters Aboriginal Corporation
GLMAC	Gippsland Lakes Ministerial Advisory Committee
GPCMN	Gippsland Plains Conservation Network
Ha or ha	Hectare
Km	Kilometre
LWMP	Land and Water Management Plan
N/A	Not Applicable
No.	Number
NRIP	Natural Resources Investment Program
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSW	New South Wales
OH&S	Occupational Health & Safety
PV	Parks Victoria
PWG	Program Working Groups
RCS	Regional Catchment Strategy
RIP	Regional Investment Proposal
RLC	Regional Landcare Coordinator
RNVP	Regional Native Vegetation Plan
RSMP	Regional Salinity Management Plans
SEMP	Soil Erosion Management Plans
The Authority	East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
TFN	Trust for Nature
TOR	Terms of Reference
VIF	Victorian Investment Framework
VIPP	Victorian Industry Participation Policy
VLG	Victorian Landcare Grant
VRI	Volunteer Recruitment Initiative
Water Act	Water Act 1989
WGCMA	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
WMM	Works Monitoring Method



EAST GIPPSLAND
CATCHMENT
MANAGEMENT
AUTHORITY



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