

Combeinbar River

Victorian Waterway Management Strategy Released

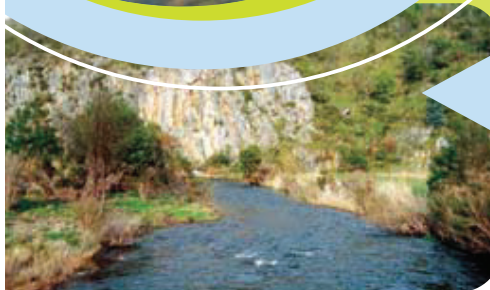
The Victorian Government recently released the Victorian Waterway Management Strategy, or VWMS. It updates the Victorian River Health Strategy (2002). Over the past decade new policy and legislation regarding waterways has been developed and this new strategy provides policy direction for managing Victoria's waterways for the next eight years.

The Authority is now in the process of developing our own Regional Waterway Management Strategy for East Gippsland which will establish our regional priorities for the same period of time.



A draft strategy will be available for public comment in the next few months. We invite any interested people to contact our office and register their interest in being involved.

Graeme Dear,
CEO.



Buchan River

Victorian Waterway Management Strategy (VWMS)

The VWMS was released last week, the revised strategy aims to maintain or improve the health of Victoria's rivers, estuaries and wetlands, and provide direction on their management over the next eight years.

It will assist regional decision-making, investment and management of waterways, and set out the roles and responsibilities of management agencies.

Further information about the VWMS is available at www.depi.vic.gov.au or people can contact the Authority via phone, in person or via email.



Lower Genoa River

East Gippsland Regional Waterway Strategy (EGRWS)

The EGRWS is currently under development. The purpose of the strategy is to provide a single regional planning document for river, estuary and wetland management.

It will include priorities to guide waterway management in East Gippsland for the next 8 years. It is expected that the first draft of the EGRWS will be available to the public in the next few months.

The EGRWS will align with the Victorian Waterway Management Strategy mentioned above. It will also incorporate relevant objectives and directions from other current strategies such as the East Gippsland Regional Catchment Strategy, Gippsland Sustainable Water Strategy and the East Gippsland Invasive Plants and Animals Plan.

Copies of these documents are available at www.egcma.com.au

Have Your Say on the EGRWS

The draft strategy will be available for consultation in coming months.

At that time, members of the community will be invited to comment, including priority management proposals for waterways in the region.

Further information about how you can comment will be available at www.egcma.com.au



McKenzie River

Get Involved – Love Our Waterways

Department of Environment and Primary Industries are running a campaign over spring and summer to encourage community interest and involvement in river management. Whether it's fishing, canoeing or just going for a walk, we use our waterways for many different purposes. There are lots of ways you can get involved and support your favourite waterway (and have fun while doing it!). You can get involved in the love our waterways by taking a photo of your local waterway for the chance to win a \$1000 houseboat experience on the Murray River! For further details visit www.depi.vic.gov.au

We are also interested in showcasing your photographs of rivers, estuaries and wetlands in East Gippsland. To upload images, please use the link <http://www.egcma.com.au/contact-us/291/> and briefly describe the location (information about how to prepare your images is also available on this site).

Join Waterwatch

Waterwatch is a community water quality monitoring network set up by the Australian government in 1993. In the East Gippsland region, 20 monitors sample water quality at 70 sites. The data collected by monitors assists in natural resource management including the maintenance and rehabilitation of waterways and catchments.

To find out about becoming a monitor, contact Tom Crook, Waterwatch Facilitator. His contact details are available at www.egcma.com.au

