

# Floodplain draft release

**East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority will release its East Gippsland Draft Floodplain Management Strategy for public consultation on Monday.**

The CMA is working with the SES and East Gippsland and Wellington shires to produce the draft.

Chief executive officer, Graeme Dear, said the CMA was now asking community members to provide input, before the CMA board considers the final document.

In 2016 the State Government released the Victorian Floodplain Strategy (VFS).

"The EGCMA is now charged with completing a regional strategy, working closely with local government, Victorian SES and other organisations and community," Mr Dear said.

Floods are commonplace in East Gippsland and our communities are very aware of their impacts, such as potential to disrupt essential services like transport, water supply, sewerage, electricity and communications.

Without effective management of land use on floodplains and emergency response during

flood events, damage costs and the community's exposure to flood risk can increase.

"The strategy considers areas in East Gippsland that are subject to flooding from time to time and prioritises actions that are designed to reduce flooding impacts, either by better forward planning or improved local response planning," Mr Dear said.

"We are very keen to gain community input to these draft proposals and also hear any new ideas we may not have considered yet."

The CMA will be holding community briefings in Bairnsdale and Orbost toward the end of May where the strategy will be explained and the community will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns.

\* Orbost – Wednesday, May 24, 5pm to 7pm, at the Orbost Snowy Rovers Football Club rooms.

\* Bairnsdale – Thursday, May 25, 9.30am to 11am, at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Main Street offices.

The draft will be released on May 15 via the EGCMA website.