

Flood forums seek feedback

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) has been holding public forums to gain input on the draft East Gippsland Floodplain Management Strategy (EGFMS).

The strategy is a 10-year plan for the management of floods and floodplains across the region.

The meetings, held in Orbost and Bairnsdale last week, discussed planning schemes, minimising damage to valuable agricultural land and the need to raise community awareness of floods.

Large-scale actions across the region, such as improving telecommunications and road linkages to facilitate movement of locals and tourists out of flood affected areas were also areas of focus.

CMA chief executive officer, Graeme Dear, said the key to the success of the strategy is working with communities and agency partners, such as the East Gippsland Shire Council and VICSES to implement actions that help minimise the impacts from flooding.

The draft East Gippsland Floodplain Management Strategy is available for feedback until June 15. Community members are encouraged to read the draft and have their say at the CMA website.