

Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*)

Action Plan Annual Report



March 2023

Acknowledgments

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Photo credit

Front cover: Barwon (Parwan) River, Geelong, Wadawurrung Country.

Back inside cover: Barwon (Parwan) River Estuary, Wadawurrung Country.

The new Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) was established on 1 January 2023. This department includes the previous functions of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, excluding the Planning portfolio and those areas supporting it which are now part of the new Department of Transport and Planning.

Acknowledgment

The Victorian Government proudly acknowledges the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and pays respect to their Elders past and present.

We acknowledge their ongoing connection to land, water and natural and built landscapes, and acknowledge the ongoing contribution this makes to the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) region.

We support the need for genuine and lasting partnerships with Traditional Owners to support self-determination and the protection of Country. The Victorian Government is committed to working towards equity of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice for Traditional Owners.

We recognise the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) as a living and integrated natural entity: the rivers, creeks and wetlands and the landscapes through which they flow that form the Barwon (*Parwan*) and Moorabool (*Murrabul*) catchments. Their waters flow together from the uplands to the sea, supporting and bringing life to the region.



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Introduction

This report implements the Victorian Government's commitment to update the community annually on progress towards the delivery of the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) Action Plan (the Action Plan). Released in late 2021, the Action Plan drives enduring protection for waterways and their parklands by addressing waterway quality issues, waterway amenity and managing impacts of development on waterway landscapes. It covers the connected system of rivers, creeks and wetlands between Ballarat, the Otway Ranges and the Bellarine Peninsula, including the Barwon (*Parwan*), Leigh (*Waywatcurtan*), Moorabool (*Murrabul*) and Yarrowee (*Yarowee*) Rivers.

The Action Plan is the Government's response to the Barwon River Ministerial Advisory Committee's recommendations and it outlines steps to protect the catchment and ensure its assets can be enjoyed by future generations. It recognises these waterways and their landscapes as unique, interconnected living entities and their Traditional Owners as 'voice of the living entities.'

The Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung peoples have cared for this Country and its diverse integrated waterways for millennia. That knowledge is represented by the Wadawurrung term *Barre Warre Yulluk*, meaning 'the great river' (*Yulluk*) that runs from the 'mountains' (*Barre*) to the 'ocean' (*Warre*).

The Action Plan is made up of 14 shorter-term actions designed to bring immediate benefits to the region. These actions address waterway health and amenity, stronger land use planning and development controls, to guard against inappropriate development. A further 16 longer-term actions, that will be delivered subject to funding within five years, consider necessary changes to institutional arrangements, further strengthen planning provisions for waterways, and embed the role of Traditional Owners in planning and management.

Community vision for Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*)

The Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) 50-year community vision underpins the Action Plan. The community vision guides policy makers, waterway and land managers and the community as we walk together with the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung over the next 50 years. The vision is a direct reflection of feedback from communities across the catchment area and was strongly supported by a comprehensive public engagement process.

The community vision outlines five objectives:

1. Traditional Owners retain a strong connection to the Barwon (*Parwan*) and Moorabool (*Murrabul*) system.
2. Our catchments' waterways are healthy.
3. Our precious water resources are used wisely.
4. Our community understands, enjoys and cares for waterways.
5. Our management is integrated and focused on the future.

How the 5-Year Action Plan builds on the vision for the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*)

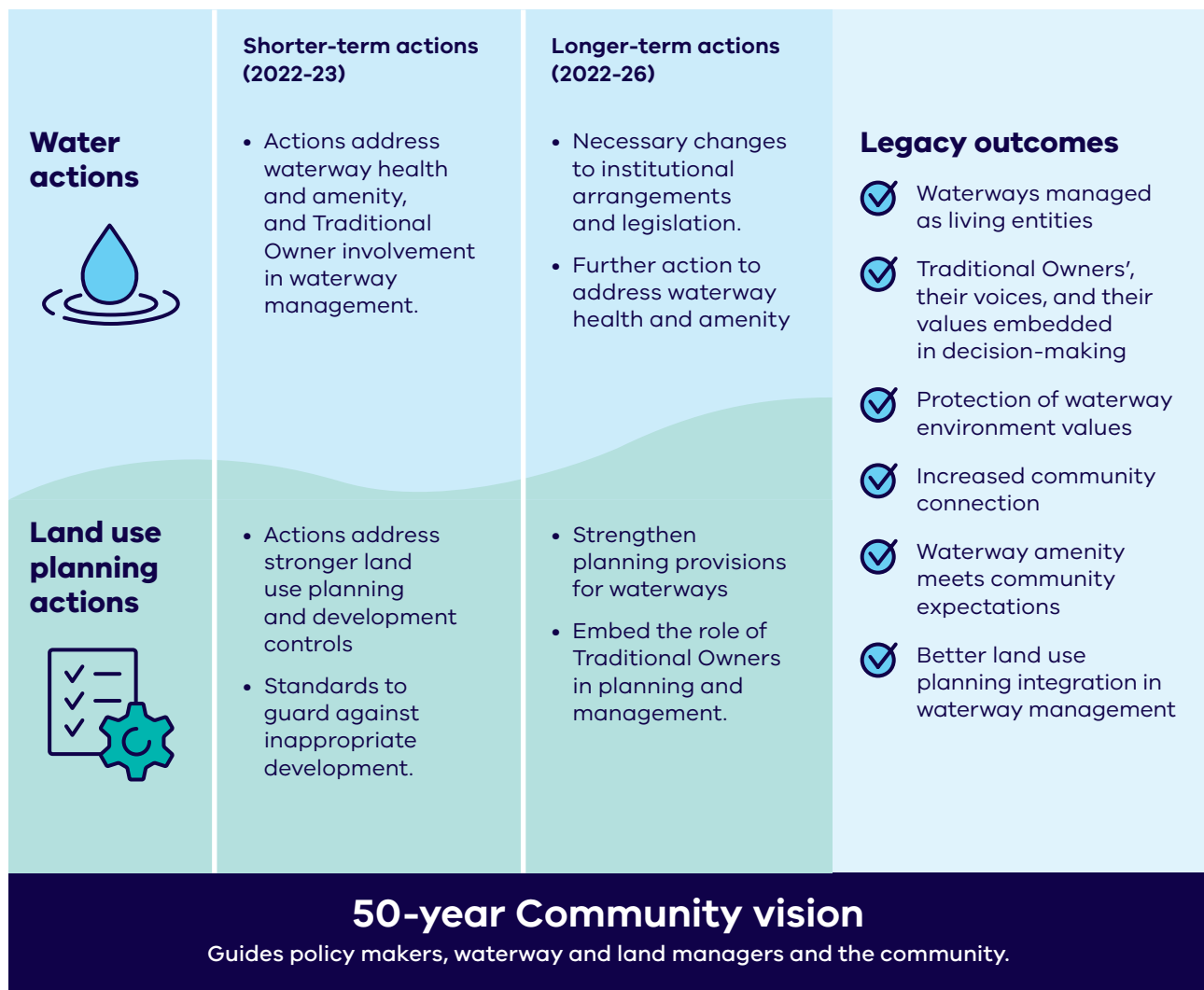


Figure 1: Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) implementation framework



Interdependencies with other strategies

Delivery of the Action Plan has influenced and been influenced by development of broader Government policies and strategies released during the first year of its implementation. The release of [Water is Life – Traditional Owner Access to Water Roadmap](#) (*Water is Life*) and the [Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy](#) (CGRSWS) have been particularly important.

Water is Life, released in September 2022, was developed in partnership with Victorian Traditional Owners. It sets out the actions the Government will take in partnership with Traditional Owners, the water sector and existing water users to increase Traditional Owner access to water. *Water is Life* will guide the process of restorative justice by strengthening the role of Traditional Owners in water planning and management. It will work to return water entitlements to Traditional Owners as water becomes available.

Expanding on the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) Action Plan, *Water is Life* outlines steps to be taken to recognise waterways as living, integrated, natural and cultural entities, with Traditional Owners recognised as their unique ‘voice.’

Also released in September 2022, the CGRSWS identifies clear policies and actions to secure the region’s long-term water supplies. It defines actions for obtaining additional water for environmental and cultural returns for key waterways, including for the Moorabool (*Murrabul*) River. It also sets policy directions and provides tangible actions to achieve outcomes for sustainable water management. Implementation of the CGRSWS will involve working with Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to determine how returned water will be shared between the environment and Traditional Owners.



Moorabool (Murrabul) River, Wadawurrung Country

Action plan implementation for 2022

Progress on Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) shorter-term actions – due to be delivered within the first year of its release – is outlined below in Table 1. An update on the status of longer-term actions is provided at the end of this report. A detailed explanation of all deliverables and actions, including background, can be found in the [Rivers of the Barwon \(Barre Warre Yulluk\) Action Plan](#).

While each action below lists a responsible lead organisation, the delivery of the Action Plan is only achievable through extensive collaboration across agency/organisation boundaries. This is most apparent in working to deliver 'living entity' and 'voice' outcomes, where agencies and community walk together with Traditional Owners towards a shared future.

Table 1: Rivers of the Barwon shorter-term action update

Delivery of actions in 2022	Status
<p>Action 1.1 – 'Living entity' and 'voice' for Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS)</p> <p>The Corangamite RCS reflects Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung knowledge, aspirations and right to self-determination. Approved in late 2022 by the Minister for Water, the Hon. Harriet Shing MP, the Corangamite RCS includes recognition of the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>) and their lands as a living and integrated natural entity. It recognises the aspirations of the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners as set out in their Healthy Country Plans.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 1.2 – Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung aspirations in Corangamite RCS planning</p> <p>The State Government provided funding to the Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to resource their participation in the planning and the ongoing implementation of the Corangamite RCS. This funding has helped to reinstate their role as a unique 'voice' for the waterways.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 1.3 – Support for Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung to express 'voice of living entities'</p> <p>Traditional Owners', their values, and their knowledge are being embedded in funding arrangements to support self-determination of the meaning and value of 'voice of the living entity' and its cultural water assessment priorities.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action</i></p>	In progress
<p>Action 2.1 – Embed connections to Country in Corangamite RCS</p> <p>Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation endorsed the strategy and provided content for their own pages within it. Corangamite CMA will engage with the Traditional Owners throughout the strategy's implementation, such as working with Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation on environmental water delivery in the Upper Barwon.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	Delivered

Delivery of actions in 2022	Status
<p>Action 2.2 – Partnerships to implement ‘voice’ on Country</p> <p>Partnership agreements are in place with Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, guided by the self-determined aspirations of both groups. The advantages of these partnerships can be seen in the work undertaken to date, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Facilitating cultural water opportunities and sharing benefits with environmental water planning and implementation. – Partnering with Wadawurrung as a key partner in <i>Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut</i> (the Barwon River Parklands Masterplan). – Facilitating opportunities through On-Country engagement with landholders. – Providing capacity development opportunities through the Ramsar program implementation and other biodiversity projects. – Partnering to identify relevant regional land partnership projects. <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	<p>Delivered</p>
<p>Action 3.1 – Stronger planning policy and guidance</p> <p>Amendment VC201, gazetted in December 2022, delivers strengthened planning policy in response to this short-term action. Amendment VC201 updates State policy to protect all Victorian waterways and introduces a new regional policy to the planning schemes to enhance the protection of the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>), Leigh (<i>Waywatcurtan</i>), Moorabool (<i>Murrabul</i>) and Yarrowee (<i>Yarrowee</i>) Rivers. This new policy recognises the interconnected nature of the region’s waterways and landscapes, and prioritises their protection from increased development and growth pressures.</p> <p>Amendment VC201 responds to short-term actions of both the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>) and Waterways of the West Action Plans. Information about the amendment can be found here: https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/policy-and-strategy/waterways-planning/amendment-vc201</p> <p>This action supports the 50-year community vision, which states that “<i>planning for the growth of our cities and towns considers the long-term health of our waterways and the liveability of our growing community.</i>”</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Transport and Planning</i></p>	<p>Delivered</p>
<p>Action 3.2 – Interim landscape and environmental controls for key waterways</p> <p>The region’s planning schemes have been amended via VC201 to introduce new Significant Landscape Overlay schedules to protect landscape value and amenity for the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>), Leigh (<i>Waywatcurtan</i>), Moorabool (<i>Murrabul</i>) and Yarrowee (<i>Yarrowee</i>) Rivers. The amendment aims to identify and protect these waterway corridors and better manage increasing development pressure. The schedules outline strategies to enhance the continuous riparian corridor landscape, retain canopy, and ensure building and earth works are not visually dominant or affect landscape character. While landscape controls have been introduced, further investigation is planned to examine the need for additional environmental controls on the waterways, focusing on vegetation and biodiversity, as part of delivery of longer-term actions 3.3 and 3.4.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Transport and Planning</i></p>	<p>In progress</p>

Delivery of actions in 2022	Status
<p>Action 4.1 – Waterway amenity values in RCS</p> <p>Corangamite CMA has analysed and mapped waterway amenity to characterise river reach values. This has been used to inform the development of the Corangamite RCS and <i>Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut</i>. The waterway amenity maps are focused on delivering the following part of the 50-year community vision for the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>): “Planning for water and river management is integrated and considers both whole-of-catchment and local, place-based needs.”</p> <p>To date, amenity mapping has occurred along key reaches of the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>) and Moorabool (<i>Murrabul</i>) Rivers through Geelong and the Yarrowee (<i>Yarowee</i>) River through Ballarat. The exercise highlighted that the region’s waterway facilities, access and use should align with the areas’ naturalness. A technical report describing the method and application for waterway amenity mapping has also been delivered, creating an opportunity for application on other river reaches (especially in urban areas) and encouraging consistency in waterway amenity mapping across the State.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 4.2 – Barwon and Living Moorabool flagship programs</p> <p>The flagship waterway program for the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>) River has progressed substantially. To date works completed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Upper Barwon River and the Lower Barwon Wetlands Seasonal Watering Proposals for 2022-23 submitted to the Victorian Environmental Water Holder for water for the environment. – Community engagement for a Waterway Health Plan for the Upper Barwon – Landholders’ engagement on proposed riparian management arrangements to improve waterway protection. – On-ground works at a trial site have been completed on the West Barwon River for <i>Glyceria maxima</i> (reed sweet grass). <p>The Living Moorabool Flagship Waterway Project is progressing well with key achievements since 2021 including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Two annual seasonal watering proposals (2021-22 and 2022-23) developed in consultation with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and accepted by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder. All proposed environmental watering actions were either released or fulfilled naturally during current wet conditions. – Waterway Health on-ground works assessed 17 sites with 13 approved for funding. Once contracts are signed, 140 hectares will be protected from stock access. – Corangamite CMA has partnered with staff from Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation and the Arthur Rylah Institute to design and deliver a vegetation monitoring program to help assess the benefits of environmental water delivery. The Moorabool Stakeholder Advisory Group will be consulted on this body of work. – The Corangamite CMA have supported the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation to develop their own water quality monitoring program on the Moorabool (<i>Murrabul</i>) River. A report of their findings was launched earlier in 2022. <p>This project is fully funded with planned completion of this phase in 2024.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 4.3 – Develop <i>Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut</i> (Barwon River Parklands) Masterplan</p> <p>Masterplan development is underway, with finalisation due by mid-2023. See Implementation in focus - <i>Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut</i></p> <p>This project is fully funded with planned completion in 2023.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Corangamite Catchment Management Authority</i></p>	In progress

Delivery of actions in 2022	Status
<p>Action 4.4 – Funding for Yarrowee River Masterplan parkland priority projects</p> <p>The design and build of a new bridge over the Yarrowee (<i>Yarrowee</i>) River at the Sunnyside Mill precinct in Ballarat including revegetation and trail enhancement, has been submitted to authorities for approval. Work was impacted by spring 2022 flooding.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action</i></p>	In progress
<p>Action 5.1 – Funding for Traditional Owner cultural water assessment priorities</p> <p>The Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation and Corangamite CMA are collaborating on environmental water delivery in the Upper Barwon which will lead to improvements in the environmental condition of the region's waterways. Funding has been provided to Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation for self-determined cultural water assessment priorities.</p> <p>Funding has been provided to Eastern Maar Aboriginal Corporation to update its water aspirations for Country in its Country Plan through Victoria's Water, Country and Community program.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 6.1 – Framework for stormwater infrastructure collaboration</p> <p>With support from Barwon Water, Corangamite CMA, Southern Rural Water and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation, the City of Greater Geelong prepared a draft framework for stormwater collaboration. Barwon Water's Urban Water Strategy 2022: Water for our Future highlights the risk of climate change further reducing available water from traditional surface water supplies. It forecasts that an extra 50 billion litres of water would be needed each year to meet demand from residential and business customers in the Barwon region by 2070. Barwon Water is committed to investigating large-scale stormwater and recycled water distribution networks and working with local and state government on integrated water management opportunities. This approach is underpinned by strong community support for sustainable water supplies and improved planning and management of stormwater. The framework outlines the Barwon region's roles and responsibilities in stormwater management.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: City of Greater Geelong</i></p>	Delivered
<p>Action 7.1 – Annual implementation report</p> <p>The first annual implementation report for the Action Plan was published on the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action website in March 2023.</p> <p><i>Lead organisation: Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action</i></p>	Delivered

Implementation in focus

Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut

Action 4.3

Corangamite CMA will develop the *Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut* ('places of many stories') – Barwon River Parklands Masterplan to strategically plan for a continuous, connected waterway parkland between the Brisbane Ranges and Barwon Heads

"From Ballarat to Geelong and from the Otways to the estuary at Barwon Heads, our waterways are connected, and in our cities and towns, are providing healthy green corridors for habitat, recreational use and transport."

Rivers of the Barwon (Barre Warre Yulluk) community vision

The *Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut* project will drive increased public access and amenity of the river corridor along the Moorabool (*Murrabul*) and Barwon (*Parwan*) Rivers. Encompassing an extensive corridor of river frontage on Wadawurrung Country, the project area includes the internationally recognised wetlands of Lake Connewarre and the spectacular Barwon (*Parwan*) River Estuary.

Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut was officially launched with a Welcome to Country, smoking ceremony and storytelling by Wadawurrung Elders and Traditional Owners at Fyansford Common in April 2022. *Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut*, the project name for the former Barwon River Parklands Masterplan, was provided by Wadawurrung Traditional Owners and translates as 'place of many stories.' The logo for the project was designed by Wadawurrung artist Chloe Chatterton.

As a key partner, the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation has a formal role in the masterplan project's governance structure, sitting on both the strategic advisory committee and working group. The project also has strong links to the Wadawurrung Country Plan, *Paleert Tjaara Dja – Let's make Country good together 2020-2030*.

The project will identify critical infrastructure needs to support improved amenity, access and tourism along the river corridor. Aiming to balance recreation with conservation and cultural priorities, it sets out a partnership management approach for the river corridor that includes:

- Corangamite CMA
- Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation
- local councils
- Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action
- Parks Victoria
- local tourism bodies
- other land managers
- regional and government partners.

The project will also contribute to the implementation of the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) community vision.

As the project ultimately aims to connect the community to the river corridor, it is fundamental to its development that community is part of the discussion. The development of a draft masterplan for the project has involved one-on-one discussions with a range of local community groups. Wider community consultation was conducted in mid-2022 with 197 submissions made through Engage Victoria, contributing to its development. The finalised masterplan is expected to be delivered in April 2023. The Action Plan commits to supporting priority projects identified by the masterplan (Action 4.5), subject to funding.



Action 4.2

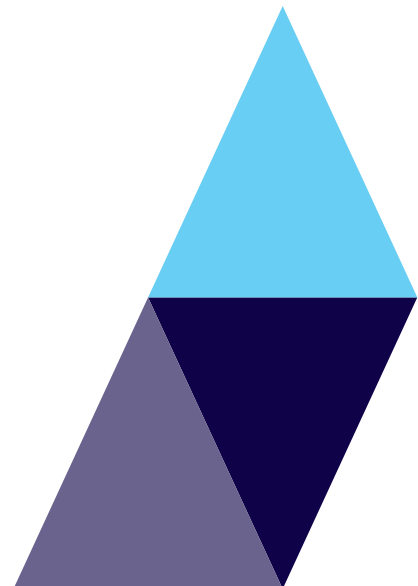
Corangamite CMA will commence a flagship waterway program for the Barwon (*Parwan*) River and continue to deliver a Moorabool (*Murrabul*) flagship waterway project.

Barwon Estuary citizen science

As part of the flagship waterway program, understanding the current state of the Barwon (*Parwan*) River is critical to improving the river's health and associated health outcomes of recreational users and the community. The Corangamite CMA has partnered with members of the Barwon Heads community on a second phase of a citizen science project at the Barwon Heads Estuary. The project was instigated by the community's desire to establish a public health-driven water quality monitoring program. Under different weather and flow conditions, volunteers collected water quality data in the estuary, within proximity of stormwater drainage points and areas of high recreational use, to better understand the threat to waterway health from urban drains and other sources.

A final report will be produced in partnership with Monash University, using data collected by the community to guide future decision-making and recommendations.

This program contributes to Direction 4: Improve waterway amenity to meet community expectations.



Iconic Urban Waterways Grants Program 2022

Projects listed in Table 2 were funded by the Iconic Urban Waterways grant program in 2022. The total funding allocated was \$255,085 with all projects to be delivered by June 2024.

The iconic urban waterways include the *Birrarung* (Yarra River), the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) and the Waterways of the West (Maribyrnong and Werribee catchments).

This initiative is implementing Action 3.1 in Chapter 3 of *Water for Victoria*. It is fulfilling the Government's commitment to improve planning arrangements for urban waterways, and protect and enhance the health of their catchments now and into the future.

Table 2: Iconic Urban Waterways Recipients 2022

Project title	Recipient	Description
Fyans Park Boat Ramp Enhancement	Corangamite CMA	The reinstatement of an unpowered boat ramp at a site popular on the Barwon (Parwan) River for watercraft such as kayaks.
Moorabool River Reserve Masterplan	Golden Plains Shire Council	A masterplan advocated by the community that will guide future development and ongoing management of the reserve.
Yarrowee River Places and Connection Project	City of Ballarat	Project for the engagement and design work required to deliver four priority projects under the Yarrowee River Masterplan.



Looking ahead

The Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) Action Plan will enter the second year of its five-year implementation timeframe in 2023. Some highlights of the year ahead include:

- Progressing recognition of waterways as living entities with Traditional Owners across the State.
- Continuing partnership and engagement with the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners on their self-determination as the '**voice of this living entity**' with consideration to their priorities as identified in their Nation Statements in *Water is Life*, Country Plans and the ongoing development of the Victorian Treaty Process.
- Publishing of *Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut* Masterplan.
- Implementing *Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut* with funding of \$400,000 provided for the early stages of the project.
- Collaborating with the Department of Transport and Planning to continue actioning Direction 3: Strengthen planning policy and controls for waterways.
- Delivering recommendations from the City of Geelong's Stormwater Framework, progressing a draft stormwater offsets scheme and undertaking actions under the banner of the CGRSWS, including Action 3-14: Review stormwater management arrangements in the Lower Barwon.
- Progressing CGRSWS actions to secure additional water for Geelong, the Rivers of the Barwon (*Barre Warre Yulluk*) and Traditional Owners.
- Continuing the implementation of Barwon Flagship Waterways including revegetation along the mid- and upper-Barwon, and the delivery of the Living Moorabool Flagship Waterways.
- Contributing to the development of the Victorian Waterways Management Strategy to ensure it provides stronger guidance around planning for urban waterway values and threats including amenity, naturalness and access.
- Progressing delivery of CGRSWS Action 4-4, determining how 3.4 Gigalitres of water returned to the Moorabool (*Murrabul*) River will be shared between Wadawurrung and the environment, by 2025.
- The Victorian Government will also establish a \$10 million Green Links fund to support projects to revegetate waterways and protect wildlife.



Implementation of longer-term actions – Progress Summary

Longer-term actions are scheduled to be delivered by 2026, subject to funding. These actions focus on bringing about legislative and institutional changes which will result in leaving a legacy that reflects the community vision.

Table 3: Longer-term Action Status Report

Directions and Actions	Lead [#]	Status
Direction 1: Recognise the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>) as a living and integrated natural entity and the Traditional Owners as the ‘voice of this living entity’		
Action 1.4 Engage with Traditional Owners across Victoria on possible legislation to enable all waterways and the landscapes through which they flow to be recognised as living and integrated natural entities and the Traditional Owners to self-determine the application of these concepts on Country.	DEECA	In progress
Action 1.5 Investigate legislation to embed the recognition of the waterways and their lands as living and integrated natural entities and the Traditional Owners as the ‘voice of these living entities’ on Country.	DEECA	Planned
Action 1.6 If legislation is introduced, it will contain a preamble that celebrates and supports Country and the preservation and promotion of Aboriginal cultures and languages and recognises past and ongoing Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners’ stewardship of and connection to Country.	DEECA	Planned
Direction 2: Embed Traditional Owners’ values in planning and decision-making for waterways		
Action 2.3 Investigate potential amendments to the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> and the planning policy framework to embed Traditional Owners and their values in decision making. Develop tools to support agencies, Traditional Owner groups and planning practitioners to implement any amendments to the Act and the planning policy framework.	DEECA and DTP	Planned
Action 2.4 Corangamite CMA will include in its RCS reporting an assessment by the Traditional Owners of RCS activities that give effect to Traditional Owners’ aspirations and Country plans.	CCMA	Planned
Action 2.5 Corangamite CMA will invite the Eastern Maar and Wadawurrung Traditional Owners to partner in the planning and implementation of the next Regional Waterway Strategy, with a focus on their reinstated role as the ‘voice of the living entity’.	CCMA	Planned

[#]CCMA - Corangamite Catchment Management Authority; DEECA - Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action; and DTP - Department of Transport and Planning.

Directions and Actions	Lead#	Status
Direction 3: Strengthen planning policy and controls for waterways		
Action 3.3 Protect the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>), Leigh (<i>Waywatcurtan</i>), Moorabool (<i>Murrabul</i>) and Yarrowee (<i>Yarowee</i>) Rivers from inappropriate development with stronger built-form planning controls.	DTP	Planned
Action 3.4 Prepare an integrated regional strategic land use plan that provides a forward-looking framework and vision to underpin land use and development planning for the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>).	DTP	Planned
Action 3.5 Develop a Barwon Riverfront structure plan which provides a vision and integrated framework to better connect the Barwon (<i>Parwan</i>) River and its parklands with Geelong's city and to guide the longer-term renewal of industrial land uses near the river.	DTP	Planned
Action 3.6 Review interim planning controls to ensure the ongoing protection of waterways.	DTP	Planned
Direction 4: Improve waterway amenity to meet community expectations		
Action 4.5 Support priority projects in the <i>Kitjarra-dja-bul Bullarto langi-ut</i> ('places of many stories') – Barwon River Parklands Masterplan to ensure the parklands can cater to the recreational needs of the growing community while balancing the protection of cultural and environmental values and restoring habitat.	CCMA	In progress
Action 4.6 The Victorian Waterway Management Strategy to provide stronger guidance about planning for urban waterway values and threats including waterway amenity, naturalness, escape and safety.	DEECA	In progress
Direction 5: Identify opportunities to meet environmental and cultural water needs		
<small>#CCMA - Corangamite Catchment Management Authority; DEECA - Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action; and DTP – Department of Transport and Planning.</small>		

Directions and Actions	Lead#	Status
<p>Action 5.2 In the Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy, address environmental water deficits and water for culture by investigating: – options to meet flow related objectives through investment in all sources of water including recycled water and stormwater and irrigation efficiency and modernisation, to reduce extraction from waterways – complementary works to improve waterway health.</p>	DEECA	Planned
Direction 6: Strengthen stormwater management to build resilience		
<p>Action 6.2 Support the City of Greater Geelong to deliver a pilot stormwater offsets program.</p>	DEECA	In progress
<p>Action 6.3 Investigate opportunities to increase adoption of harvesting and reuse of urban stormwater in the Rivers of the Barwon (<i>Barre Warre Yulluk</i>) region through the Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy.</p>	DEECA	In progress
Direction 7: Ensure accountability and transparency for Action Plan delivery		
<p>Action 7.2 Publish a final review of the implementation of the Action Plan.</p>	DEECA	Planned

#CCMA - Corangamite Catchment Management Authority; DEECA - Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action; and DTP – Department of Transport and Planning.



Lal Lal Falls, Moorabool (Murrubul) River, Wadawurrung Country



