

Accredited text

The proposed accreditation text will be clearly identified throughout the document. This accreditation text is Victoria's proposed response to each requirement of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan and will be updated by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning following consultation with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and as a result of any feedback received during the public consultation process. The final accredited text components are the formal component of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan and are subject to accreditation by the Commonwealth Minister for Water.

10.49(1) [Sample accredited text](#)

This accreditation text is Victoria's response to each requirement of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. This text and the information contained in the accompanying Wimmera-Mallee Index Table form Victoria's Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. The remaining content of this document is supplementary to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan and is intended to explain and give context to the text that is accredited for Basin Plan purposes. The Wimmera-Mallee Index Table is attached here.

Accredited Text Table

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 1	Preliminary			
10.01	<p>This section sets out a simplified outline of this Chapter.</p> <p>This Chapter sets out requirements in relation to the following matters that a water resource plan must comply with in order for it to be accredited or adopted under Division 2 of Part 2 of the Act (item 11 of the table in subsection 22(1) of the Act):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the identification of the water resource plan area and other matters (Part 2); (b) the incorporation, and application, of the long-term annual diversion limit for each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area (Part 3); (c) the sustainable use and management of water resources of the water resource plan area within the long-term annual diversion limits (Part 4); (d) the regulation, for the purpose of managing Basin water resources, of interception activities with a significant impact (whether on an activity-by-activity basis or cumulatively) on those water resources (Part 5); (e) planning for environmental watering (Part 6); (f) water quality objectives for the water resource plan area (Part 7); (g) the circumstances in which tradeable water rights in relation to the water resource plan area may be traded, and the conditions applicable to such trades (Part 8); (h) the broad approaches to the way risks to the water resources of the water resource plan area should be addressed (Part 9); (i) information about measuring the water taken from the water resources of the water resource plan area and monitoring the water resources of the water resource plan area (Part 10); (j) reviews of the water resource plan and amendments of the plan arising from those reviews (Part 11); (k) the scientific information or models on which the water resource plan is to be based (Part 12); (l) planning for extreme events (Part 13); (m) Indigenous values and uses (Part 14). 	<p>This matter assists in the interpretation of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	<p>Interpretation of text in Column 5:</p> <p>'Commonwealth Water Act' is a reference to the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth) for the purposes of this Wimmera-Mallee Index Table;</p> <p>'Victorian Water Act' is a reference to the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) for the purposes of this Wimmera-Mallee Index Table;</p> <p>'Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan' means the water resource plan prepared for the water resource plan area as defined in this Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to section 10.02(1) of the Basin Plan;</p> <p>'Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area' means the water resource plan area defined in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to section 10.02(1) of the Basin Plan.</p>

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Part 2	Identification of water resource plan area and other matters			
10.02(1)	A water resource plan must identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the water resource plan area; and (b) the water resources; to which it applies.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan applies to the following water resource plan areas and water resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area and all surface water resources in that area as described under section 3.05(n) of the Basin Plan; and (b) Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area and all groundwater resources beneath the area as described by section 3.06(p) of the Basin Plan. <p>Reference to the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan is reference to the plan to be accredited under section 63 of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth).</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera–Mallee Index Table identifies the water resource plan area and the water resources to which the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan applies. The descriptions of the water resources are the same as are prescribed at sections 3.05(n) and 3.06(p) of the Basin Plan. See Part 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report for the discussion of the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan areas.</p> <p>The version of the Basin Plan that is referred to throughout the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan is that registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments on 23 January 2017 with the reference F2017C00078.</p>
10.02(2)	The water resource plan area must be one of the water resource plan areas described in Part 2 of Chapter 3 and must be identified using the same description of that area as is set out in that Part, with any variations permitted by section 3.04	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.02(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	
10.02(3)	The water resources must be those described in Part 2 of Chapter 3 as the water resources of the water resource plan area and must be identified using the same description of those water resources as it is set out in that Part.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.02(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	
10.03(1)	A water resource plan must identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area (b) the water resources within each SDL resource unit. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The following SDL resource units are in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area in accordance with section 6.02 and Schedule 2 of the Basin Plan, all surface water resources within the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) (SS9) SDL resource unit.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera–Mallee Index Table identifies the SDL resource units within the water resource plan area as described in section 6.02 and Schedule 2 (surface water) of the Basin Plan. The relevant SDL resource units and water resources are depicted in Figure 1 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.03(1)	A water resource plan must identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area (b) the water resources within each SDL resource unit. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The following water resources are within each SDL resource unit in the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area in accordance with section 6.03 and Schedule 4 of the Basin Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands (GS9a) all groundwater in the outcropping Palaeozoic rocks (or the in situ weathered horizon where it is within 5 metres of the surface) from the land surface to 200 metres below the surface that lies beneath the area (b) Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain (GS9b): all groundwater resources from the land surface to 200 metres below the surface or 50 metres below the base of the Tertiary sediments, whichever is the deeper (c) Wimmera–Mallee: deep (GS9c): all groundwater, excluding groundwater in Wimmera–Mallee Highlands and Wimmera–Mallee Sedimentary Plain, that lies beneath the area. 	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera–Mallee Index Table identifies the SDL resource units within the water resource plan area as described in section 6.03 and Schedule 4 (groundwater) of the Basin Plan. The relevant SDL resource units and water resources are depicted in Figure 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.03(2)	The SDL resource units must be those described in sections 6.02 and 6.03 and Schedules 2 and 4 as the SDL resource units within the water resource plan area, as applicable.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.03(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	

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10.03(3)	The water resources within each SDL resource unit must be those described in sections 6.02 and 6.03, and Schedules 2 and 4	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.03(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	
10.04(1)	If a water resource plan is constituted by 2 or more instruments or texts, subsections (2) and (3) apply to it.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.04(2) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	
10.04(2)	The water resource plan must identify the instruments or texts that constitute the water resource plan.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan is constituted by Columns 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, Table A and Table B to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, and those parts of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report and its appendices as identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the relevant text and instruments that constitute the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.
10.04(3)	If an instrument or text applies to only some of the water resources of the water resource plan area, the water resource plan must: (a) identify the water resources or the parts of the water resources to which the instrument or text applies; (b) include an indicative map of the water resources identified in paragraph (a).	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter is responded to in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table at each relevant water resource plan requirement.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3, for each water resource plan requirement, identifies if accreditation text only applies to particular water resources rather than all water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan (surface water) and (groundwater) areas. A large portion of the accredited text applies across both of the water resource plan (surface water and groundwater) areas given that Victoria applies rules and policies State wide. If Column 3 does not identify particular resources to which the response applies, the response applies to both surface water and groundwater. The Wimmera–Mallee Index Table is designed to respond to requirements for both the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) and Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan areas unless identified to only apply to one water resource plan area.
10.04(4)(a)	A water resource plan must include a list that specifies: (a) each requirement set out in this Chapter;	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area Columns 1 and 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table constitute a list of each requirement in Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met through the text in Columns 1 and 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.
10.04(4)(b)	A water resource plan must include a list that specifies: (b) the part of the plan that addresses each requirement (or group of requirements);	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table sets out the response that addresses each requirement of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met through the text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.
10.04(4)(c)	A water resource plan must include a list that specifies: (c) the parts of the plan that will cease to have effect or are to be reviewed, and the times at which those parts will cease to have effect or are to be reviewed.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan, as constituted by Columns 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, will cease to have effect at the end of the accreditation period in accordance with section 64 of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth). The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan will be reviewed if, at any time during its accreditation period, changes to the Victorian legislative or water resource management framework which, in DELWP’s view, are relevant to whether the water resource plan is consistent with the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text explains when parts of the plan will cease to have effect and when the water resource plan will need to be reviewed. As no State instruments have been included for accreditation there are no specific parts of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan that will expire during the accreditation period. Where changes occur within the State frameworks, reviews of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan will occur to ensure consistency with the Basin Plan and with State law. The Commonwealth Water Act identifies that in the case of inconsistencies the water resource plan will override any State law. Furthermore, in accordance with sections 10.47 and 10.48 of the Basin Plan the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan contains a process for review.
10.04(5)	If a water resource plan is constituted by an instrument or text which contains additional material that is not part of the water resource plan, the water resource plan must identify that material.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan does not include any instrument or text that is not identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The water resource plan does not include any content of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report that is not identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table as it explains that there is no additional instrument or text, other than what is identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, that forms a part of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.
10.05(a)	A water resource plan must: (a) be prepared having regard to the management and use of any water resources which have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources of the water resource plan area.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text needed for a requirement to ‘have regard to’. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.	n/a	The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the management and use of water resources that have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources in the water resource plan area. This is described in response to section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan.

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10.05(b)	A water resource plan must: (b) describe the way in which paragraph (a) was complied with.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the management and use of water resources that have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources in the water resource plan area.</p> <p>For groundwater to surface water connections:</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource unit does not connect to surface water.</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit connects to surface water resources. These connections and how regard was had to them in the preparation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan are described below:</p> <p>Groundwater connections to the Wimmera and Avoca Rivers contribute saline inflows, and the aquifer may be freshened by flood or river recharge (CSIRO, 2010). The risk assessment considered the risks to the groundwater resources resulting from an increase in farm dams and non-compliance with the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic), and these risks informed the Water Quality Management Plan and the responses to the requirements in Part 4 of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Connections occur to some wetlands in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. The nature of these connections is not well understood, and they are generally not in areas where consumptive take from surface water resources occurs. As such, the management of the surface water resources is unlikely to have a material impact on the groundwater resources, and therefore these connections are not considered significant for the purposes of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands SDL resource unit connects to surface water resources in the upper unregulated tributaries of the Wimmera and Avoca Rivers, and are likely to be contributing base flow (CSIRO, 2010). The risk assessment considered the risks to the groundwater resources resulting from an increase in farm dams and non-compliance with the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic), and these risks informed the Water Quality Management Plan and the responses to the requirements in Part 4 Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. Connectivity between the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit (SS9) and the Wimmera-Mallee Highlands SDL resource unit (GS9a) is not considered significant because there are only limited areas where groundwater contributes to the surface water resource, and there is currently a low level of actual groundwater take in this area. The local scale of groundwater flow paths, the intermittent rainfall and the low yield is insufficient to provide enough baseflow to maintain surface flows over extended dry spells. Even if the level of groundwater take increases to the upper limit of the SDL, it is not expected that there would be any material impacts to surface water resources</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the management and use of water resources that have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources in the water resource plan area. For surface water to surface water connections, no natural connections to other areas have been identified. Some inter-basin transfers occur to support town supply and are managed so that there is no material effect on the water resources and they are accounted for in the method for permitted take under section 10.10 of the Basin Plan. As such, these connections are not considered significant connections for the purposes of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row details how section 10.05(a) of the Basin Plan was complied with. The MDBA’s Position Statement 2B states that a significant connection is where the water of one resource is physically able to move to the other resource and activities in one resource may have a material impact on the state or condition of the other.</p> <p>Part 4.5 in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report discusses inter-Basin transfers into and out of the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area in more detail. Figure 8 in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report provides a graphic representation of water transfers into and out of the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area.</p> <p>Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in respect of Part 4 of the Basin Plan provides discussion on groundwater dependent priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions and significant connections in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. See also Part 12.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further discussion of these matters.</p>

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10.05(b)	A water resource plan must: (b) describe the way in which paragraph (a) was complied with.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the management and use of water resources that have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources in the water resource plan area. For groundwater to groundwater connections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Renmark aquifer within the Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit extends into the Goulburn–Murray water resource plan area, and into New South Wales and South Australia. There is generally very little development of this aquifer in Victoria, and none in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area where it is typically too saline for productive use, or too deep to be economically developed, or both. As such, the use of this resource is unlikely to have a material impact on the connected groundwater resources and is therefore not considered a significant connection for the purposes of the Basin Plan. (b) The Tertiary Limestone aquifer within the Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit also extends into South Australia and is managed through the South Australia-Victoria Border Groundwaters Agreement for equitable sharing. The groundwater is generally deep and more than 10 metres below the surface. The Tertiary Limestone aquifer is excluded from the area managed by the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. (c) The Parilla Sands aquifer within the Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plan SDL resource unit also extends into the Goulburn–Murray water resource plan area. However, where these aquifers adjoin the groundwater is saline. There is no demand for water from the Parilla Sands aquifer due to the high salinity and as it is generally unconfined in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. 	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table details how section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan was complied with. The MDBA's Position Statement 2b states that a significant connection is where the water of one resource is physically able to move to the other resource and activities in one resource may have a material impact on the state or condition of the other.</p> <p>For groundwater to groundwater three connections were identified in Column 3 of this row.</p> <p>Although there were connections identified for the Renmark aquifer and Parilla Sands aquifer, the lack of demand and development in these aquifers, as described in Column 3 of this row and in Part 4.6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, means that they are not considered to have significant connections for the purposes of the Basin Plan and therefore do not need to be managed under the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. This is because they will not have a material impact on the state or condition of the other resources, consistent with MDBA's Position Statement 2b.</p> <p>The Tertiary Limestone aquifer (also referred to as the Murray Group Limestone Aquifer) is found in a confined area in the western part of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. Usable groundwater in this aquifer is further confined to a small section along the Victoria-South Australia border. Most of the area along the Victoria-South Australia borders is part of the West Wimmera Groundwater Management Area which has been excluded from the water resources of the Murray-Darling Basin under the Water Regulations 2008 (Cth).</p> <p>There is, however, usable groundwater in the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer that is in parts of Zone 10B and Zone 11B of the Designated Area of the Groundwater (Border Agreement) Act and is part of the Murrayville Groundwater Management Area (GMA) as explained in Part 4.4.2 of the Comprehensive Report. This small area is the part of the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer that is considered to have significant connection for the purposes of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. Groundwater in this section is not being replenished by modern recharge and has been managed as a non-renewable resource since 2001 (BGARC Annual Report 2017-18).</p> <p>The remaining areas of the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer are either contained in the West Wimmera which is excluded from the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan, for SDL accounting purposes and Basin Plan requirements or are in the remainder of Zone 11B north of the Murrayville GMA or in the north-east of the Murrayville GMA, for which demand for development is limited by the naturally elevated salinity of this aquifer. These areas are not considered to have significant connection for the purposes of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>As required by section 10.05(a) of the Basin Plan, regard has been had to the management and use of groundwater in the portion of the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer that is considered to have significant connection. This is demonstrated through the Border Groundwaters Agreement, and Victoria's groundwater management framework, which includes the management of this area through the Murrayville GMA and the Murrayville Local Management Plan.</p> <p>The Border Groundwaters Agreement between Victoria and South Australia is in effect to cooperatively and equitably manage the groundwater resource along the States' border. The Designated Area covered by the agreement extends 20 kilometres on either side of the border, from the coast to the River Murray. It comprises 22 management zones, with 11 zones in each State. The Border Groundwaters Agreement is an acknowledgment that the water resources are not bound by the limits for the States' border and therefore must be collaboratively managed. See Part 2.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The management of groundwater in the Murrayville GMA is also outlined in Part 12.7.2 of the comprehensive report in relation to groundwater dependent priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions (Part 4 of Chapter 10 of Basin Plan) and in Part 12.7.3 and Part 5 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A in relation to water quality.</p> <p>See Part 4.6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further discussion on groundwater connections.</p>

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10.06(1)	For each matter that this Chapter requires to be dealt with in a water resource plan, the plan must specify the person responsible for the matter.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The person responsible for each matter to be dealt with in a water resource plan is the Deputy Secretary Water and Catchments, of the Department.	n/a	The Deputy Secretary Water and Catchments is identified as the person responsible for developing the content of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan as the document was prepared by the Department. Reference to the Department is reference to the Department established under section 10 of the <i>Public Administration Act 2004</i> (Vic) responsible for the administration of the Victorian Water Act. Reference to Water and Catchments means any group that assists in the administration of the Victorian Water Act and the name may change by Order from time to time.
10.06(2)	Without limiting subsection (1), if a water resource plan requires a measure or action to be undertaken, the plan must specify the person responsible for undertaking that measure or action.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The person responsible for any action or measure to be undertaken under the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is listed in Column 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. If there is no person identified in Column 4, there is no requirement for an action or a measure to be undertaken. If: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan purports to impose an obligation on a Basin State to do a particular thing; and (b) the imposition of that obligation would contravene a constitutional doctrine restricting the obligations that the Commonwealth may impose on a State; the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is taken, instead of imposing the obligation, to confer a discretion on the Basin State to do the thing.	n/a	This requirement is met by the text in Column 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, for each water resource plan requirement, which identifies the person responsible for each measure or action to be undertaken. The text in Column 3 of this row outlines how Column 4 should be applied to the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan. The constitutional limitation provision is adapted from section 1.09 of the Basin Plan.
10.07(1)	A water resource plan prepared by a Basin State must contain a description of the consultation in relation to the plan (including in relation to any part of the plan, if any, that was undertaken before the State gave the plan to the Authority under subsection 63(1) of the Act.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Consultation Report contained at Appendix D to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report describes the consultation in relation to the plan that was undertaken before Victoria gave the plan to the MDBA under section 63(1) of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth).	n/a	This requirement is met by the Consultation Report, contained at Appendix D of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, as identified in Column 3 of this row. The Consultation Report describes the consultation that occurred to develop the material contained in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan prior to giving the plan to the MDBA under section 63 of the Commonwealth Water Act.
10.07(2)	If a water resource plan is amended in accordance with section 65 of the Act, the plan must contain a description of the consultation in relation to the amendment, if any, that was undertaken before the relevant Basin State gave the proposed amendment to the Authority under subsection 65(2) of the Act.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan as this plan does not contain any amendments.	n/a	

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Part 3				
Identification of water resource plan area and other matters				
10.08(1)	<p>A water resource plan must identify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) each form of take from each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area; (b) any classes of water access right that apply to the forms of take identified under paragraph (a); (c) the characteristics of each class of right including, where appropriate, the number of rights and any conditions on the exercise of rights. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Table A, an attachment to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, identifies the forms of take, classes of water access right and characteristics of each class of right for the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. The Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit is the only SDL resource unit in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text contained in Table A attached to this Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The text in Column 3 of this row complies with sections 10.04(2), (3) and (5) of the Basin Plan. The first Column of Table A identifies all forms of take for the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. Floodplain harvesting is not contained in the table as that form of take is not available in the SDL resource unit, or anywhere in Victoria.</p> <p>The water access rights that apply to each form of take are identified in Column 2 of Table A of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. Victoria's entitlement system does not include "classes of rights" and for the purposes of responding to this section, a "class of water access right" is determined to mean the type of right available under the Victorian Water Act. The only water access rights identified are those available under the Victorian Water Act as other State legislation cannot give a person an authorisation to take water.</p> <p>The characteristics are outlined in Column 4 and 5 of Table A to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The characteristics are consistent across the SDL water resource unit. This is because entitlements under the Victorian Water Act hold the same characteristics across Victoria.</p> <p>To support the response to section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan, Table A identifies the types of conditions that may relate to a water access right and identifies that relevant instruments are contained on the Victorian Water Register.</p>
10.08(1)	<p>A water resource plan must identify the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) each form of take from each SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area; (b) any classes of water access right that apply to the forms of take identified under paragraph (a); (c) the characteristics of each class of right including, where appropriate, the number of rights and any conditions on the exercise of rights. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Table B, an attachment to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, identifies the forms of take, classes of water access right and characteristics of each class of right for the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area. These forms of take, classes of water access rights, and characteristics of each class apply in all three of the groundwater SDL resource units in the water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text contained in Table B attached to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table complies with section 10.04(2), (3) and (5) of the Basin Plan. Table B identifies all forms for the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep groundwater SDL resource units in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. The only relevant forms of take are take from groundwater (excluding basic rights) and take from groundwater under basic rights. All other forms of take do not apply.</p> <p>For each form of take the water access rights that apply to the form of take are identified in Column 2 of that Table. Victoria's entitlement system does not include "classes of rights" and for the purposes of responding to this section, a "class of water access right" is determined to mean the type of right available under the Victorian Water Act. The only water access rights identified are those available under the Victorian Water Act as other State legislation cannot give a person an authorisation to take and store water.</p> <p>The characteristics are outlined in Column 4 and 5 of Table B to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The characteristics are consistent across the SDL water resource unit. This is because entitlements under the Victorian Water Act hold the same characteristics across Victoria.</p> <p>To support the response to section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan Table B to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the types of conditions that may relate to a water access right and identifies that relevant instruments are contained on the Victorian Water Register.</p>

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.08(2)	A water resource plan must require a holder of a water access right to comply with the conditions of that right.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The holder of a water access right must comply with the conditions specified in the water access right instrument.</p> <p>Note: The types of conditions that may be imposed on a water access right are identified in Table A and Table B attached to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for surface and groundwater respectively.</p>	Holder of a water access right	<p>This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table requires a holder of a water access right to comply with the conditions of that right. Prescribing this obligation through the water resource plan enables Victoria to address this requirement of the Basin Plan and it becomes an enforceable obligation upon accreditation and commencement of the water resource plan.</p> <p>This requirement is not expressly addressed under Victorian legislation, so the water resource plan is the most appropriate tool under which this obligation on water users can be prescribed.</p> <p>Enforcement of this obligation will be managed concurrently, with the MDBA (responsible for compliance under the water resource plan) and Victoria (responsible for compliance under the Victorian Water Act).</p> <p>To meet its obligations with respect to monitoring compliance with the water resource plan, Victoria is required to report on compliance with the water resource plans under matter 19 of Schedule 12 of the Basin Plan. Additionally, reporting requirements may be included in the <i>Basin Compliance Compact</i> currently under development between the MDBA and the Basin States.</p> <p>How Victoria manages compliance and enforcement is outlined in Part 5.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Reporting is discussed further in Victoria's response to section 10.46 of the Basin Plan and Part 15.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Victorian water corporations will continue to carry out their compliance enforcement function and manage compliance with the terms and conditions of an entitlement (water access rights) - see also the response to section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan. This will allow Victoria to manage compliance with conditions of an entitlement in the first instance, and allow the MDBA to step in only as a last resort as is anticipated under the <i>Murray-Darling Basin Plan 2012 Implementation Agreement</i> (dated 7 August 2013).</p> <p>NB: Further work between the MDBA and Basin States to determine the best arrangements for compliance and enforcement will take place separately from the water resource plan process under a <i>Basin Compliance Compact</i> or arrangements developed under that document.</p>

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.09(1)	A water resource plan must identify the planned environmental water in the water resource plan area and associated rules and arrangements relating to that water.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No planned environmental water exists in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan. As a result, no planned environmental water nor any related rules or arrangements associated with planned environmental water are identified.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text identifies that no planned environmental water exists in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. As there is no planned environmental water, there are no relevant associated rules or arrangements in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area. Therefore, no such rules or arrangements can be identified in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>The Explanatory Memorandum for the Commonwealth Water Act identifies that planned environmental water is water that is delivered through flow rules that specify flows that must be released for environmental purposes or delivered or retained through restrictions on the taking of water.</p> <p>In Victoria policy and strategic documents can articulate how arrangements work to contribute to the meeting of environmental watering objectives and outcomes. However, these documents do not, in themselves, commit water to the environment but merely outline measures to support all users in the system including the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) in meeting environmental outcomes.</p> <p>Victorian water law does not specifically identify above cap or unallocated water as water solely or partially for environmental purposes. In the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan areas, there are no system management based rules that commit or preserve this water specifically for the environment. This means that no relevant document (as identified in section 6 of the Commonwealth Water Act) identifies that water must be delivered or retained for an environment purpose. Rather it is managed to meet multiple purposes.</p> <p>The environmental passing flow identified in the Environmental Entitlement issued to the VEWH is identified as Held Environmental Water. While water identified as planned environmental water does not have to be identified as environmental water to the exclusion of all other uses, the Commonwealth Water Act requires that the water does have a specified environmental purpose or outcome (including where the specified purposes is that the water is generally for the environment).</p> <p>How held environmental water and planned environmental water is identified under Victorian water law is explained at Part 12.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. While there is no water that meets the definition of planned environmental water, this does not mean that there is no water available to the environment. See Part 12 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for more information on environmental watering.</p> <p>See also explanatory material in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to section 10.26(1) of the Basin Plan</p>
10.09(2)	<p>A water resource plan must provide for the establishment and maintenance of a register, to be published on a website specified by the plan, of held environmental water for the water resource plan area which records:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the characteristics of held environmental water in the water resource plan area (for example, quantity, reliability, security, class, licence type, limitations); and (b) who holds that water. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The response provided to section 10.09(3) of the Basin Plan in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table satisfies this requirement.</p>	Department	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.09(3)	Subsection (2) is satisfied if the plan identifies a register of held environmental water which records the matters required by subsection (2) and is published on a website.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The Victorian Water Register contains the details of the characteristics of held environmental water in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area and identifies who holds the entitlements to the water. The relevant page of the Victorian Water Register is published at http://waterregister.vic.gov.au/water-entitlements/bulk-entitlements.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met through the Victorian Water Register published at http://waterregister.vic.gov.au. This register contains the details of the characteristics of held environmental water in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area and identifies who holds entitlements to that water. This information is searchable by filtering entitlements by holder of the environment, being the VEWH in Victoria (http://waterregister.vic.gov.au/water-entitlements/bulk-entitlements). The Victorian Water Register also contains links to specific details about all held environmental water held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) through links to the CEWH records accessed through a link to the CEWH website which is found on the Victorian Water Register at the following web address: https://www.environment.gov.au/water/cewo/about/water-holdings</p> <p>The Victorian Water Register also contains links to specific details about all held environmental water held by the VEWH through a link to the VEWH website which is found at the following web address: http://www.vevh.vic.gov.au/watering-program/how-much-water-is-available</p> <p>See Part 6.10 and Part 15.3.4 and Figure 20 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report for more information on the Victorian Water Register.</p>
10.10(1)	For each SDL resource unit in a water resource plan area, and for each form of take, the water resource plan must set out the method for determining the maximum quantity of water that the plan permits to be taken for consumptive use during a water accounting period.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The methods are set out at Column 1 and 2 of Table 5 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement of section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan for the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area is met as the proposed text identifies the methods to be used for determining permitted take in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area. The methods are described in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Column 1 of Table 5 identifies the forms of take in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan and Column 2 of Table 5 identifies the methods.</p> <p>These methods are based on the best available information at the time of developing the method. The information used to develop the model or method is outlined in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.10(1)	For each SDL resource unit in a water resource plan area, and for each form of take, the water resource plan must set out the method for determining the maximum quantity of water that the plan permits to be taken for consumptive use during a water accounting period.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The methods are set out at Column 1 and 2 of Table 8 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement of section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan for the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area is met as the proposed text identifies the methods to be used for determining permitted take in the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area. The methods are described in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Column 1 of Table 8 identifies the forms of take in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan and Column 2 of Table 8 identifies the methods.</p> <p>These methods are based on the best available information at the time of developing the method. The information used to develop the model or method is outlined in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.10(2)	The method for subsection (1) may include modelling, and must be designed to be applied after the end of the relevant water accounting period, having regard to the water resources available during the period.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The methods for the purposes of section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan are applied at the end of each accounting period having regard to the water resources available during that period, where relevant. For take from a regulated river (excluding basic rights) a method for determining allocations based on water availability is included in the method for determining permitted take.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the methods outlined in response to section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan. In the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area allocations are not determined for take and use licences. Determination of allocation is only done for bulk entitlements and environmental entitlements. However, actual take in response to water availability is managed via other means in respect of take and use licences. Actual take can be adjusted by measures that respond to water shortages as outlined in Part 9 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report and is managed throughout the accounting period. Under the Victorian Water Act a water corporation is required to determine water availability for the accounting period. In practice, rather than making an assessment at the end of the accounting period, the water corporation makes assessments throughout the period. Water allocations cannot be reduced and water users can only use water they are allocated. This mitigates the risk of actual take exceeding permitted take while taking into account water availability for the period. The method for determining permitted take at the end of the accounting period uses the same allocation rule used through the accounting period.</p> <p>Part 3.1.2.1 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report outlines how water availability is considered.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.10(2)	The method for subsection (1) may include modelling, and must be designed to be applied after the end of the relevant water accounting period, having regard to the water resources available during the period.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The method is applied at the end of each accounting period having regard to the water resources available during that period.	n/a	This requirement is met by the methods outlined in response to section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan. Groundwater permitted take is equal to SDL for the relevant SDL resource unit. The estimate for take from groundwater under basic rights takes into account take patterns based on the best available information for that form of take. Use of a long-term average is appropriate as seasonal availability is not relevant to groundwater and changes to availability occur over a longer period.
10.10(3)(a)	The method must: (a) account for the matters in subsection 10.12(1)	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This requirement is responded to in the response for section 10.12(1) of the Basin Plan in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	
10.10(3)(b)	The method must: (b) be consistent with the other provisions of the water resource plan.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The methods are consistent with the other provisions of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as the other provisions of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan, being the accredited text, are consistent with the method for determining permitted take.
10.10(4)	The plan must also set out a demonstration that the method relates to the SDL of each resource unit in such a way that, if applied over a repeat of the historical climate conditions, it would result in meeting the SDL for the resource unit, including as amended under section 23B of the Act.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The methods for determining permitted take for all forms of take are based on identical climate sequences to those used for determining SDL and therefore will result in meeting the SDL for the relevant SDL resource unit. Table 7 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report shows the volumes of SDL and permitted take for each form of take to demonstrate the methods. See Part 3.3 of the Methods Report for surface water at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for an explanation of the demonstration of the methods.	n/a	This requirement is met by the demonstration via volumetric outputs from the methods outlined in Table 7 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report and the text contained in Column 3 of this row. Given that permitted take is an annual volume and SDL is a long-term average, the only means for comparison is to run the method as a repeat of the historical climate conditions and provide a long-term average. As identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table and in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, the SDL method and permitted take method are the same and therefore are based on identical climate sequences. The volume calculated under section 10.15(1) includes water that was held environmental water which was disposed of and then used in the SDL resource unit for consumptive use. For more information see Table 5 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.10(4)	The plan must also set out a demonstration that the method relates to the SDL of each resource unit in such a way that, if applied over a repeat of the historical climate conditions, it would result in meeting the SDL for the resource unit, including as amended under section 23B of the Act.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The methods for determining permitted take for all forms of take are identical to the method for determining SDL and are based on identical climate sequences and therefore always provide the same result. Table 10 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report shows the volumes of SDL and permitted take to demonstrate the methods. See Part 4.3 of the Methods Report for groundwater at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for an explanation of the demonstration of the methods.	n/a	This requirement is met by the demonstration via volumetric outputs from the methods outlined in Table 10 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report and the text contained in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. Given that permitted take is an annual volume and SDL is a long-term average, the only means for comparison is to run the method as a repeat of the historical climate conditions and provide a long-term average. As identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table and in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, the SDL method and permitted take method are the same and therefore are based on identical climate sequences.
10.10(5)	If, as a result of an amendment under section 23B of the Act, the SDL for a surface water SDL resource unit is expressed as a formula that changes with time, the SDL for subsection (4) is taken to be: (a) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2019—the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2019; and (b) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2022—the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2022; and (c) for a water accounting period beginning on or after 1 July 2024—the SDL as it stood on 30 June 2024.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as there are no proposed SDL offset projects or efficiency measures to be implemented within the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area following accreditation of the Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as the matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. While nothing is proposed now, if this changes the process for amending the Plan under section 10.48 of the Basin Plan would apply.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.11(1)	A water resource plan must set out rules (including, if applicable, rules for water allocations) that ensure, as far as practicable, that the quantity of water actually taken from each SDL resource unit for consumptive use in a water accounting period that beginning on or after 1 July 2019 does not (after making any adjustments for the disposal or acquisition of held environmental water) exceed the unit's annual permitted take for the period.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> From 1 July 2019, the Victorian Minister for Water must not: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> amend entitlements; or issue entitlements to take water; or make rules regarding allocations or restrictions to entitlement holders; <p>in respect to entitlements to take water from a water resource in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area or the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area if to do so would cause annual permitted take for that resource unit to be exceeded.</p> <p>Note: The response to section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan, requiring the holder of a water access right to comply with the conditions specified in the water access right instrument supports the above obligation to ensure, as far as practical that actual take does not exceed permitted take.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> From 1 July 2019, if the cumulative volume of annual actual take is identified to equal or exceed the cumulative volume of annual permitted take, in accordance with section 6.11 of the Basin Plan, by the threshold established in section 6.12(1)(a) of the Basin Plan, Victoria will meet the requirements to ensure compliance with sustainable diversion limits established under section 71(1)(h) of the Water Act 2007 (Cth) and Part 4, Chapter 6 of Basin Plan. 	Minister for Water	<p>This requirement is met as the rule provided as accredited text ensures that decisions regarding entitlements do not impact on Victoria's ability to comply with the relevant permitted take or SDL. The obligation states that the Minister (and any delegates) cannot do any of the three things specified if to do so would cause annual permitted take or the SDL to be exceeded.</p> <p>Victoria's water management framework is premised on the allocation of water to a maximum volume that represents a sustainable level of diversion. For surface water, the current level of entitlements for consumptive use aligns with the prescribed SDL. For groundwater, current level of entitlements is below the prescribed SDL. As is identified in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, Victoria's annual permitted take is set as the SDL for the relevant form of take in the relevant SDL Resource Unit. The management of allocation or actual take underneath the primary entitlement only occurs to respond to water availability in accordance with the methods identified in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The Minister for Water authorises the take of water subject to conditions which include how the water may be taken and the ability to adjust the volume of take in a given accounting period to respond to water availability.</p> <p>This rule is to provide assurance that no new entitlements will be issued and no entitlement will be amended in the water resource plan area that would result in authorised take in Victoria exceeding the SDL or permitted take. The obligation also requires that the exercise of powers to adjust authorisations to respond to water availability must consider the impact on permitted take and the SDL. Victoria's framework ensures compliance with the requirement under section 10.11(1) of the Basin Plan through commitments under the Basin Plan and its supporting agreements. For more information on the Minister's responsibilities and commitments under the Basin Plan, see Part 8.5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The limit on what can be authorised to be taken for consumptive purposes is determined under the methods required under section 10.10 of the Basin Plan. These methods are outlined in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This rule is complemented by the requirement in response to section 10.13 of the Basin Plan which limits the volume of water that may be intercepted by the specified forms.</p> <p>See Part 5.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for more details on compliance and enforcement and Part 8.5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further discussion of Victoria's response to section 10.11(1) of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>The requirement to respond to potential increases of annual actual take where the cumulative balance increases above the sustainable diversion limits for the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit or the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) SDL resource unit is provided to support operation of Chapter 6 of the Basin Plan in managing SDL compliance. The response identifies that the Department will act in accordance with Chapter 6 of the Basin Plan to address any growth in use in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area that would cause non-compliance with SDLs in the Wimmera-Mallee. This response is linked to the response to section 10.12(1)(g) where growth in utilisation must be considered. The obligation identified in Column 3 is commensurate to the level of risk of SDL non-compliance in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area given the water resource management arrangements in that plan area. A review of certain aspects of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is scheduled for 2 years from the date of accreditation at which time these provisions will also be reviewed to determine whether a more specific response is required on how Victoria will meet Chapter 6 requirements for complying with SDLs.</p>
10.11(2)	To avoid doubt, the rules may be designed to ensure that the quantity of water that is actually taken for consumptive use from an SDL resource unit in a water accounting period is less than the annual permitted take.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.11(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.12(1)(a)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (a) all forms of take from the SDL resource unit and all classes of water access right;	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area For the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area and the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area, all forms of take from the SDL resource unit and all classes of water access rights are accounted for by the methods specified for the purposes of section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	For more information see the Part 3.2 (surface water) and Part 4.2 (groundwater) of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (a) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (a) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(1)(b)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (b) water allocations that are determined in one water accounting period and used in another, including water allocations that are carried over from one water accounting period to the next;	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Carryover applies to take from regulated rivers (excluding basic rights) and is accounted for in the model. Under Victorian instruments carryover is accounted for and included in the equation used by the storage manager to determine water available for take from regulated rivers (excluding basic rights) for the season and set allocations as detailed in Schedule 1 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Carryover is not relevant to other forms of take in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area.	n/a	For more information see the Part 3.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (b) of Table 6 in Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(1)(b)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (b) water allocations that are determined in one water accounting period and used in another, including water allocations that are carried over from one water accounting period to the next;	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Carryover of groundwater take is permitted in some groundwater management areas and is recorded in the VWR. Carryover is considered to be taken into account in the method for annual permitted take as permitted take reflects the long-term average determined as the SDL for the relevant SDL resource unit. Therefore, while it is accounted for in the method, it will not result in variations to the method to adjust annually for carryover as it occurs.	n/a	For more information see the Part 4.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. Carryover of groundwater take is permitted in some groundwater management areas and is recorded in the VWR. Carryover is considered to be taken into account in the method for annual permitted take as permitted take reflects the long-term average determined as the SDL for the relevant SDL resource unit. Victoria and the MDBA consider that the most appropriate method for determining permitted take for groundwater is to state that permitted take equals SDL. Carryover does not affect the method for permitted take as it reflects the long-term average take represented by SDL. Therefore, while it is “accounted for” in the method, it will not result in variations to the method to adjust annually for carryover as it occurs. This requirement is addressed in item (b) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(1)(c)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (c) for a surface water SDL resource unit—return flows, in a way that is consistent with arrangements under the Agreement immediately before the commencement of the Basin Plan;	This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan as no return flows exist in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area at the time of making the Plan.	n/a	For more information see the Part 3.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (c) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (c) of Table 9 in Appendix C to the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.12(1)(d)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (d) subject to subsection (3)—trade of water access rights;	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Trade of entitlements and allocation is only permitted in the Wimmera–Mallee system for take from a regulated river (excluding basic rights) and take from watercourses that are not regulated (excluding basic rights) within their relevant supply systems. Trade is not relevant for the other forms of take. Therefore, trade from one consumptive user to another has no impact on the volume of permitted take.</p> <p>Any change to entitlement volumes or allocation as a result of trade is recorded in the Victorian Water Register and is taken into account in the method used to determine permitted take for both forms of take, including separate accounting of held environmental water.</p> <p>The trade of water from consumptive use to held environmental water or from held environmental water to consumptive use will not impact on the methods used to determine permitted take under section 10.10 of the Basin Plan since the net balance of any disposals or acquisitions of held environmental water will be used to adjust the cumulative balance.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row as it identifies that the matter in section 10.12(1)(d) of the Basin Plan has been taken into account. Trade of entitlements is permitted in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan areas. Trade of bulk entitlement allocations or take and use licences is only permitted where it will not impact on existing users (including the environment) and will not change the maximum volume of take permitted in the relevant system. Given that entitlements are considered to be fully utilised in the system for the purposes of the method, trade will not have a material impact on permitted take. All trade is recorded on the Victorian Water Register and the data on the Register is the point of truth for entitlement data.</p> <p>The disposal and acquisition of HEW is accounted for separately and in a manner that does not affect the permitted take method. For more information see the Part 3.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (d) of Table 6 in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.12(1)(d)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (d) subject to subsection (3)—trade of water access rights;	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera–Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera–Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Trade of entitlements to take and use groundwater is permitted in the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area and is accounted for in the method. Trade has been taken into account as it is permitted in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area, however does not require an annual adjustment to the method for permitted take. This is because the permitted take reflects the long-term average level of take and trade cannot change the maximum volume of take permitted in the relevant system.</p> <p>There is no groundwater held environmental water in the Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area and therefore section 10.12(3) of the Basin Plan is not relevant to the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table as it identifies that the matter in section 10.12(1)(d) of the Basin Plan has been taken into account. Trade of bulk entitlement allocations or take and use licences is only permitted in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan areas in accordance with the circumstances in Part 8 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. Trade of take and use licences is only permitted where it will not impact on existing users (including the environment) and will not change the maximum volume of take permitted in the relevant system. Trade has been taken into account as it is permitted in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area, however does not require an annual adjustment to the method for permitted take. This is because the permitted take reflects the long-term average level of take and trade cannot change the maximum volume of take permitted in the relevant system. All trade is recorded on the Victorian Water Register and the data on the Register is the point of truth for entitlement data.</p> <p>A permissible consumptive volume (PCV) determined under section 22A of the Victorian Water Act represent Victoria’s determination of the resource condition limit or sustainable limit of diversion for a catchment or resource. These limits are set at a local level and therefore multiple PCVs may be determined for a SDL resource unit. While there is no direct link between PCVs and SDLs in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area the Minister would not determine a PCV if it set a limit above the relevant permitted take or SDL for that area.</p> <p>For more information see the Part 4.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (d) of Table 9 in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.12(1)(e)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (e) water resources which have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources of the SDL resource unit;	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Surface water transfers via infrastructure from the Glenelg system to the Wimmera–Mallee system are included in the SDL and the method for determining permitted take for regulated systems (excluding basic rights). There are no other significant hydrological connections to the water resources of the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area—the Basin Plan considers this area to be disconnected from the River Murray.</p>	n/a	<p>For more information see the Part 3.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (e) of Table 6 in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The response to section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan in Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies that there are no significant surface water to surface water or groundwater to groundwater connections in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. Column 5 of Part 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table outlines the analysis of connectivity in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. The explanation provided in response to Part 4 of the Basin Plan identifies no significant connections.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.12(1)(e)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (e) water resources which have a significant hydrological connection to the water resources of the SDL resource unit;	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the groundwater component of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.	n/a	For more information see the Part 4.2 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (e) of Table 9 in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Column 5 in response to section 10.05(b) and Part 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table outlines the analysis of connectivity in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area as any significant hydrological connections were taken into account when determining the relevant SDL. For groundwater take, permitted take equals SDL for the relevant form of take and relevant SDL resource unit. While there is a significant connection between Victoria and South Australia across the Tertiary Limestone Aquifer (identified in response to section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan), it is not relevant to the determination of permitted take as it as the connectivity informed the determination of the SDL for the Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit.
10.12(1)(f)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (f) circumstances in which there is a change in the way water is taken or held under a water access right;	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The method used to determine permitted take for regulated rivers (excluding basic rights), includes simulation of environmental demand patterns that differ from previous consumptive demand patterns. This will be done by adjusting permitted take for trade of allocation in a single year or in updates to the method and water resource plan as a result of any permanent changes.	n/a	This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table as it identifies that the matter in section 10.12(1)(f) of the Basin Plan has been taken into account. There are no proposed changes to the way surface water or groundwater is taken or held in the Wimmera-Mallee Water resource plan area. For more information see the Part 3.2 (surface water) and Part 4.2 (groundwater) of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (f) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (f) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(1)(f)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (f) circumstances in which there is a change in the way water is taken or held under a water access right;	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the groundwater component of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.	n/a	
10.12(1)(g)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (g) changes over time in the extent to which water allocations in the unit are utilised; Note: Paragraph (g) includes what is commonly known as a growth-in-use strategy.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.	n/a	This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as Victoria allocates water in a system based on an assumption of full use. The model and method for determining permitted take is premised on the assumption that entitlement holders will use all water available under their entitlement. The method for permitted take assumes full use in the <i>regulated rivers and watercourses</i> and total licensed volumes for take and use licences is included in the methods. In groundwater systems the method for permitted take assumes full use, and total licensed volume or permissible consumptive volumes for take and use licences in groundwater is included in the method. Where the level of take for basic rights increases to a level that would compromise compliance with the relevant SDL, section 10.13 of the Basin Plan applies. For more information about water access rights see Part 6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. For more information see the Part 3.2 (surface water) and Part 4.2 (groundwater) of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (g) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (g) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(1)(h)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (h) water sourced from the Great Artesian Basin and released into a Basin water resource, by excluding that water;	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as there is no water sourced from the Great Artesian Basin.	n/a	This requirement is addressed in item (h) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (h) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.12(1)(i)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (i) water resources which are used for the purpose of managed aquifer recharge.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the surface water component of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.	n/a	
10.12(1)(i)	For paragraph 10.10(3)(a), the following matters must be accounted for: (i) water resources which are used for the purpose of managed aquifer recharge.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to methods for permitted take in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as currently there are no managed aquifer recharge schemes operating or proposed in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.	n/a	For more information see the Part 3.2 (surface water) and Part 4.2 (groundwater) of the Methods Report at Appendix C of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is addressed in item (i) of Table 6 (surface water) and item (i) of Table 9 (groundwater) in Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.12(2)	Subject to this section, the method may account for other matters.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.10 of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	
10.12(3)	For paragraph (1)(d), the water resource plan must account for the disposal and acquisition of held environmental water separately and in a way that does not affect the method under section 10.10.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.12(1)(d) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement. See response to section 10.12(1)(d) of the Basin Plan above.	n/a	The disposal and acquisition of HEW is accounted for separately and in a manner that does not affect the permitted take method. In respect of surface water, the trade of water from consumptive use to held environmental water or from held environmental water to consumptive use will not impact on the methods used to determine permitted take under section 10.10 of the Basin Plan. The trade of water from consumptive use to held environment water or from held environmental water to consumptive use will not impact on the methods used to determine permitted take under section 10.10 of the Basin Plan since the net balance of any disposals or acquisitions of held environmental water will be used to adjust the cumulative balance. In respect of groundwater there are no entitlements to groundwater for the environment and therefore this matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.13(1)	<p>Subject to this section, a water resource plan must require that the long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken from a surface water SDL resource unit for consumptive use by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take under basic rights; or (b) take by runoff dams; or (c) net take by commercial plantations; <p>does not exceed the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 for that form of take.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The long term annual average quantity of water in the Wimmera-Mallee surface water SDL resource unit that can be taken for consumptive use for the forms of take listed at section 10.13(1) of the Basin Plan is the level specified in item 24 of Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan. This is the level of take at a specified point in time and is represented by the estimated volume of the baseline diversion limit identified in Column 5 of Table 3 of Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for that form of take from the Wimmera-Mallee surface water SDL resource unit.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Annual actual take under the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is limited by the volume of annual permitted take determined by the method specified in response to section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan for the following forms of take: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take under basic rights; or (b) take by runoff dams; or (c) net take by commercial plantations. 4. The requirement for section 10.13(1) of the Basin Plan is met by the response to sections 10.08(2), 10.10(1) and 10.11(1). 5. The Department will monitor actual take for the above specified forms of take and where the actual take increases above annual permitted take the application of section 10.13(2) of the Basin Plan to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan will be assessed by the Department and an amendment to the Plan will be pursued if necessary. <p>Note 1: Volume for annual permitted take is identified in Table 7 of Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The methods for determining the volume of annual permitted take is identified in Table 5 of Appendix C. The Table further identifies the modelling related to determining permitted and actual take will be reviewed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) take under basic rights every 5 years; (b) take by runoff dams every 10 years; (c) take by commercial plantations every 10 years subject to any significant changes in the industry in which case a review would occur earlier. <p>Note 2: The relevant responses identified in (3) above relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan which requires holders of a water access right to comply with the conditions of that right; (b) section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan which sets out the method for determining permitted take limits for the relevant forms of take in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area; (c) section 10.11(1) of the Basin Plan which ensures that actual take does not exceed permitted take. 	Department	<p>This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. By meeting permitted take, actual take will not exceed the levels prescribed in Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan. Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan provides an estimate made by the MDBA for these forms of take. Victoria have recently provided a re-estimate of these forms of take, based on Schedule 3 for these forms of take. These are outlined in Table 3 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>How annual permitted take and actual take for these forms of take are estimated is outlined in Table 5 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>As identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table, the response to sections 10.11(1) and 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan operate together to ensure actual take does not exceed permitted take. By complying with annual permitted take, the volume of take will not exceed the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan. While basic rights are not subject to conditions, take under basic rights is limited by the scope of that right under sections 8 and 8A of the Victorian Water Act (see Part 6.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report).</p> <p>If take in the forms specified in section 10.13(1) of the Basin Plan exceeds permitted take, section 10.13(2) may be applied. Paragraph in Column 3 identifies the Department will review how section 10.13(2) can be applied and will seek amendment to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan if necessary.</p> <p>For take from runoff dams, it is not clear whether increased numbers and capacity of runoff dams will necessarily lead to increased take, due to the impacts of climate change and associated changes in patterns of on-farm demand. Changes in the extent of runoff dams will be determined using aerial imagery periodically at least every 10 years, and this information may be used to assess whether annual actual take is exceeding the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Little or no growth in commercial plantations is expected to occur over the next decade, due to the lack of sufficient rainfall in the WRP area. Changes in the extent of plantations in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area will be determined using information provided on an annual basis by managers and owners of large plantation estates, and this information may be used to assess whether annual actual take is exceeding the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Under Water for Victoria, the Victorian Government has committed to investigating the introduction of a reasonable use limit for domestic and stock rights to improve monitoring and reporting of the quantity of water used under these rights. This will be implemented over the next 10 years, and the information from this investigation may be used to assess whether annual actual take is exceeding the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan.</p> <p>In addition, the Victorian Government has made the following commitments in Water for Victoria to improve water use information, and these may provide relevant information to assess whether annual actual take is exceeding the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 to the Basin Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> periodically review the long-term risks to Victoria's water resources through mechanisms such as long-term water resource assessments and sustainable water strategies; to better monitoring and reporting on the effects of emerging water uses on other uses in the Victorian Water Accounts. <p>The Department is the entity responsible for undertaking the action in (4) of Column 3 of this row for the purposes of section 10.06(2) of the Basin Plan.</p>

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10.13(2)	<p>The quantity specified in subsection (1) for a form of take may be increased above the level specified in Column 2 of Schedule 3 for that form of take if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken by another form of take from the same SDL resource unit is changed at the same time so that there is no overall change in the total long-term annual average quantity of water that can be taken; and (b) take by the forms of take affected by the changes are capable of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) being accurately measured (for example, through the use of a meter); or (ii) in the case of a form of take that is not capable of being accurately measured at the time the water resource plan is submitted for accreditation or adoption—being reasonably estimated using the best available method immediately before the water resource plan is submitted; and (c) the changes are not expected to result in the take from the SDL resource unit ceasing to be an environmentally sustainable level of take. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.13(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement. See response to section 10.13(1) of the Basin Plan above as to how section 10.13(2) of the Basin Plan will be triggered.</p>	n/a	
10.14(1)	<p>A water resource plan must identify the effect, or potential effect, if any, of the following on the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the taking of groundwater that is not a Basin water resource resulting in water being removed from a groundwater SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area because of a preexisting hydrological connection or a hydrological connection created by the process of taking that groundwater; (b) the taking of groundwater that is not a Basin water resource resulting in water that would otherwise flow directly or indirectly into an SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area no longer flowing into that unit. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is met as there is no groundwater that is not a Basin resource that has a hydrological connection or pre-existing hydrological connection to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area which has an effect or potential effect on the use and management of water resource in the water resource plan area. There is no water that is taken which would otherwise flow into an SDL resource unit in the water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as there is no connected water that is not a Basin resource. The groundwater across the border of Victoria and South Australia is a Basin resource but excluded from the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area on the basis of its management under the Border Groundwaters Agreement (collaboratively with South Australia).</p> <p>Further, in setting the SDL for the Wimmera-Mallee groundwater: While the West Wimmera groundwater is not a Basin resource the Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit the West Wimmera was excluded because it is not connected. Also, the groundwater taken from the West Wimmera is accounted for in setting the relevant SDL and determining permitted take for Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain SDL resource unit.</p> <p>The limit on the taking of groundwater (licensed and domestic and stock) from the area of the Victorian West Wimmera Groundwater Management Area in the Murray Darling Basin (see Figure 1 of Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report) under the Victorian Water Act is 4.4 GL (CSIRO and SKM 2010). The volume may vary due to trade within the West Wimmera Groundwater Management Area but is not expected to increase markedly, due to the poor quality of groundwater in the area (CSIRO and SKM 2010).</p> <p>See Part 4.3 of the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for more detail.</p>
10.14(2)	<p>If a water resource plan identifies an effect, or potential effect, of the kind referred to in subsection (1), the water resource plan must set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a process for monitoring that effect or potential effect; and (b) actions that will be taken to respond to that effect or potential effect. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no effect or potential effect of the kind referred to in section 10.14(1) of the Basin Plan was identified.</p>	n/a	
10.14(3)	<p>Without limiting paragraph (2)(b), the water resource plan may require a person to hold a water access right in the water resource plan area in relation to the effect, or potential effect, identified.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.14(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	
10.15(1)	<p>A water resource plan must set out how the quantity of water actually taken for consumptive use by each form of take from each SDL resource unit will be determined after the end of a water accounting period using the best information available at the time.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>See Columns 1 and 3 of Table 5 in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the methods used for estimating or determining actual take for the forms of take for surface water in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are outlined in Table 5 of the Methods Report at Appendix C of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The text in Column 3 of this row identifies the water resources to which the content in Table 5 of Appendix C of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report applies.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.15(1)	A water resource plan must set out how the quantity of water actually taken for consumptive use by each form of take from each SDL resource unit will be determined after the end of a water accounting period using the best information available at the time.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>See Columns 1 and 3 of Table 8 in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the methods used for estimating or determining actual take for the forms of take for groundwater in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are outlined in Table 8 of the Methods Report at Appendix C of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The text in Column 3 of this row identifies the water resources to which the content in Table 8 of Appendix C of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report applies.</p>
10.15(2)	For a particular form of take, and subject to the requirement that a determination use the best information available at the time, a determination may be made by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) measuring the quantity of water actually taken; or (b) estimating the quantity of water actually taken; or (c) a combination of the above. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.15(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	
10.15(3)	Where a determination for a form of take is made by estimating the quantity of water actually taken, the water resource plan must provide for the estimate to be done consistently with the method under subsection 10.10(1) that relates to that form of take.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>In the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area, where the determination of actual take is estimated, the method is the same as the method used to determine permitted take under section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	This requirement is met in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as the method used for determining actual take is based on the same information source used to determine permitted take where the volumes are estimated.
10.15(4)	The quantity of water actually taken must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) include water that was held environmental water which was disposed of and then used in the SDL resource unit for consumptive use; and (b) exclude water sourced from the Great Artesian Basin and released into and taken from a Basin water resource. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of section 10.15(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	See discussion on section 10.12(1)(d) above.

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Part 4	The sustainable use and management of water resources			
10.16	This Part sets out the requirements in relation to the sustainable use and management of water resources of the water resource plan area within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter assists in the interpretation of Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan and does not require accredited content for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>	n/a	Part 4, Chapter 10 Basin Plan requires the consideration of whether the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan should contain rules to mitigate the impact of the operation of other elements of the Plan on environmental watering in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area. No planned environmental water is identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan, so environmental watering only applies to regulated systems where held environmental water exists.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.17(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>In Victoria, the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) holds a number of environmental entitlements (held environmental water). These support VEWH in meeting its environmental outcomes. In particular, the VEWH meets its environmental watering objectives, including the requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions, through water available under these environmental entitlements.</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee: Highlands SDL resource unit connects to surface water resources in the upper unregulated tributaries of the Wimmera and Avoca Rivers, and are likely to be contributing base flow (CSIRO, 2010). The risk assessment considered the risks to the groundwater resources resulting from an increase in farm dams and non-compliance with the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic), and these risks informed the Water Quality Management Plan and the responses to the requirements in Part 4 Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. Connections between the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands SDL resource unit and surface water is not considered significant as even if the level of take increases to the upper limit of the SDL for the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands SDL resource unit it would not have a material impact on the Wimmera or Avoca River because of the limited local connectivity between groundwater and surface water.</p> <p>The Wimmera-Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan sets out the environmental watering requirements for the priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area. Priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions are discussed in Part 12.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 51 in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report identifies the priority environmental assets in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p> <p>Victoria's water corporations manage water resources and access to water to ensure that all users in the system are supported, including the VEWH. Annual watering priorities and relevant environmental watering requirements are reflected in the VEWH's seasonal watering plan, which is available on the VEWH website. This annual strategy reflects the requirements of meeting long term watering requirements of environmental assets (priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem systems) as outlined in Environmental Water Management Plan (EWMPs). These EWMPs are also incorporated into the Wimmera-Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan to inform how Victoria will meet Basin Plan environmental watering objectives.</p> <p>The storage manager would make the releases of held environmental water on request of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder. The storage manager works with VEWH to maximise the benefits of this water by providing VEWH with information on other releases to be made to meet the needs of other entitlement holders or passing flow requirements so VEWH can make release decisions to achieve maximum benefits.</p> <p>See the following parts of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further details: Part 5: Victoria's water institutions and functions, Part 6: Victoria's water entitlement framework and trade, and Part 12: Environmental water.</p> <p>As the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan only includes rules on rights to take water that ensure that entitlement holders comply with the conditions of their entitlements (in response to section 10.08(2) of Basin Plan), nothing in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan compromises the ability of VEWH to manage its held environmental water to meet environmental watering requirements.</p> <p>Other water that contributes to environmental outcomes is discussed in Part 12.2.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Part 12.2.4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report discusses how this water is protected under Victoria's water resource management framework.</p> <p>Following accreditation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan, the Wimmera-Mallee Long Term Watering Plan will be updated to more clearly outline long term watering requirements in accordance with requirements under Part 4 and Part 5 of Chapter 8 of the Basin Plan. Environmental watering requirements are based on Environmental Water Management Plans. The Wimmera River EWMP is a ten year plan and is located at http://wcma.vic.gov.au/docs/default-source/riversdocs/wwconditionmng/wimmera-river-system-environmental-watering-management-plan.pdf?sfvrsn=4, for example.</p> <p>All of Victoria's Environmental Water Management Plans can be found at - https://www.water.vic.gov.au/waterways-and-catchments/rivers-estuaries-and-waterways/environmental-water/environmental-water-management-plans</p>

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10.17(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.		Section 10.17 of the Basin Plan applies to environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions for surface water systems. In assessing whether rules were required in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to ensure environmental watering is not compromised, other components of the Plan were considered. As the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan only includes rules on rights to take water that ensure that entitlement holders comply with the conditions of their entitlements, nothing in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan compromises the meeting of environmental watering requirements. See the obligation in response to section 10.08(2) of the Basin Plan. Rules to manage environmental watering requirements that are dependent on groundwater or where there are surface water connections is considered in response to sections 10.18 to 10.19 of the Basin Plan in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.
10.17(2)	Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the rules to prescribe: (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a surface water SDL resource unit; and (b) how water resources in the water resource plan area must be managed and used.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	Rules identified in section 10.17(2) of the Basin Plan were considered to inform the analysis for section 10.17(1) of the Basin Plan, as follows. The rules water access right holders in Victoria comply with may relate to the time, place and rates at which water is permitted to be taken and how water in the water resource plan area must be managed and used. A bulk entitlement may be issued subject to conditions and obligations that provide for rate, location and conditions of take, reliability associated with the entitlement, obligations to release environmental passing flows and metering, accounting and reporting obligations. The general structure of a bulk entitlement or environmental entitlement is described at Figure 16 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The Minister may appoint a storage manager for bulk water supply systems that supply multiple bulk and environmental entitlement water holders. The role of the storage manager is outlined in Part 6.3.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Part 6.3.3 outlines specific water entitlements in the Wimmera-Mallee supply system, Figure 17 identifies water entitlement framework for the Wimmera-Glenelg headworks system and Table 6 identifies how the entitlements are adjusted to respond to water availability. In Victoria, all take and use licences are subject to standard terms and conditions. Included in the standard conditions are provisions relating to the time, place and rate of take water is permitted to be taken under that take and use licence. These rules are applied to all individual take and use licences at the time of issuing the licence. They are considered independently of priority environmental watering and are developed to support reliability of all entitlements in the system (including Held Environmental Water). In regulated systems the storage manager is responsible for delivering water for all users in the system including the VEWH and CEWH in accordance with any orders made and in consultation with all entitlement holders. All licences, bulk entitlements and environmental entitlements are available on the Victorian Water Register see response to section 10.09(3) of the Basin Plan for a link.
10.17(3)	If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area It is not considered necessary to include rules in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to ensure that the operation of the Plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.	n/a	See explanation for the response that no rules are necessary is contained in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for response to section 10.17(1) and 10.17(2) of the Basin Plan above. See 10.19(1) column 5 for the discussion regarding connectivity between surface water and groundwater. As there is no significant connection between surface water and groundwater it is not expected that groundwater management rules will have an impact on meeting environmental watering requirements. Therefore, no rules are required.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.18(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that, for priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions that depend on groundwater, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>Section 10.17(1) and (2) of the Basin Plan applies to environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions for surface water systems and as such meets the requirements of section 10.18 of the Basin Plan for the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p> <p>In the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area there are no major rivers or surface water features that receive significant groundwater discharge and hence there is a low risk of impacts on priority ecosystem function due to groundwater extraction. All priority environmental assets in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are supplied with environmental water from the regulated Wimmera River (or from tributaries or pipelines within the regulated system). Also, the current level of take is well below the prescribed SDL for each groundwater SDL resource unit therefore extraction for consumptive use does not impact on environmental watering. There are measures in place to ensure that actual take remains within the relevant resource conditions limits.</p> <p>There are no priority environmental assets or priority ecosystem functions that are dependent on groundwater within the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan area and hence no rules are considered necessary to ensure that the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements.</p> <p>The terminal lakes of the Wimmera River are a series of large lakes and connecting creeks including Lakes Hindmarsh and Albacutya and Outlet Creek which are all priority environmental assets. These sites are primarily filled by flooding flows from the Wimmera River during exceptionally wet conditions. Lake Albacutya is a Ramsar listed wetland that is not groundwater dependent as groundwater inflows into Lake Albacutya are negligible (Cibilic, A. & White, L., 2010). Hattah Lakes (and a number of other sites on the Murray floodplain) is a priority environmental asset connected to the River Murray and hence it is included in the Long-term Watering Plan for the Victorian Murray and will be addressed in Victoria's Northern Victoria Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>The MacKenzie River is not dependent on groundwater, at least at Reach 1, which is where the environmental values are located. This is not captured in a study, but the area was dry during the drought. There may be some groundwater dependence up near Lake Wartook dam but this is not where environmental watering occurs. The river receives flows from release of water from the Lake Wartook not from groundwater connectivity. Therefore, is not relevant to Part 4 considerations.</p> <p>In respect of the productive based of groundwater issue and the links to risk assessment risks. climate change is considered a future risk with a level of uncertainty which elevates the risk. Climate change is identified as resulting in the <i>potential</i> for increase in use in areas <i>where use (or demand) occurs</i>. Where significant use occurs, the potential for increase is managed through declaring management areas and capping entitlements. The existing entitlement was considered by the MDBA in setting the SDL limit in the Basin Plan. The main area in the Wimmera-Mallee WRP area where groundwater extraction occurs is in the Murrayville GMA and includes a section of the Border zone. The likelihood for climate change to increase use in Murrayville is mitigated by the already relatively low rainfall, and limited surface water, so the potential increase in demand is fairly low. Matters relevant to the Border zone were excluded from the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. Climate change is a risk managed through Victoria's existing management framework. The vast majority of the rest of the water resource plan area there is no extraction due to high salinity. Climate change in areas of insignificant rainfall is not likely to cause much change in use.</p> <p>See Part 12.7 - Sustainable use and management for priority environmental watering of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further details.</p>

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10.18(2)	Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater will, for a priority environmental asset that depends on groundwater, compromise an environmental watering requirement; and (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded. 	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	In the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan area the current level of take is well below the prescribed sustainable diversion limit in each groundwater SDL resource unit, as discussed above in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for section 10.18(1) of the Basin Plan there are no priority environmental assets or priority ecosystem functions that depend on groundwater and there are measures in place to ensure that actual take remains within the relevant resource conditions limits. Therefore rules, such as those listed in section 10.18(2) of the Basin Plan, are not considered necessary for take of either surface water or groundwater within the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.
10.18(3)	If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area It is not considered necessary to include rules in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to ensure that the operation of the Plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.	n/a	See explanation for the response that no rules are necessary is contained in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for response to section 10.18(1) and 10.18(2) of the Basin Plan above. See discussion in Column 5 for section 10.19(1) of the Basin Plan for the discussion regarding connectivity between surface water and groundwater. As there is no significant connection between surface water and groundwater it is not expected that groundwater management rules will have an impact on meeting environmental watering requirements. Therefore, no rules are required. Note the risks identified in Table 72 of Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report are future risks. Strategies have been identified to treat or mitigate those risks as identified in column 6 of Table 72 . If those treatments fail, then the risks will be reviewed to consider whether rules are necessary to address risks as they become current.

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10.19(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that, for groundwater that has a significant hydrological connection to surface water, the operation of the plan does not compromise the meeting of environmental watering requirements (for example, base flows).	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>Section 10.17(1) and (2) of the Basin Plan applies to environmental watering requirements of priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions for surface water systems and as such meets the requirements of section 10.19 of the Basin Plan for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>See discussion in Column 5 of this Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for the response to section 10.18(1) Basin Plan regarding groundwater connections to priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions.</p> <p>The groundwater-surface water connectivity for the Wimmera River is classified as very low, manifesting over large time scales (i.e. greater than 50 years) (SKM 2012). The Recharge Risk Assessment Method used to determine the Basin Plan BDLs and SDL for groundwater classified the groundwater SDL units in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as either non-renewable resources, hence completely disconnected from surface water, or systems with low levels of development and hence potential to increase groundwater extraction without compromising characteristics of the environmentally sustainable level of take for the system. Murray-Darling Basin Authority, 2012, <i>The proposed Groundwater Baseline and Sustainable Diversion Limits: methods report</i>.</p> <p>Environmental watering only occurs in the regulated rivers of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area, i.e. downstream of the major water storages of the Wimmera-Mallee supply system. Since there are no significant groundwater connections to the regulated Wimmera River, groundwater contribution (e.g. via base flows) does not have a material impact on environmental watering.</p> <p>The major aquifer for extraction is the Murray Group Limestone aquifer, which underlies and is separated from the shallow Parilla Sands aquifer by the Bookpurnong aquitard layer. The regional groundwater flow in the Murray Group Limestone aquifer is to the west and north-west, away from the Wimmera River. For these reasons the groundwater-surface water connectivity of the Wimmera River is classified as very low, manifesting over large time scales (i.e. greater than 50 years) (SKM 2012).</p> <p>Victoria has applied the criteria in MDBA Position Statement 2B in preparing our response to Basin Plan requirements. There are hydrological connections to the Mackenzie River but these do not meet the definition of significant. There is connection between the river and groundwater where the water table is shallow and where evapo-transpiration processes result in highly saline groundwater so the hydrological connection is more of a threat than a value. That part of the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area does not have hydrological connections created by infrastructure, no water is physically able to move to other resources, nor does it have a material impact on another resource.</p> <p>In the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands there may be connection between groundwater and surface water but given the small volume available for use and the large area it could be taken from, it is not expected to have a significant effect on environmental watering requirements. See the response to section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table above and the discussion in response to section 10.17(1) regarding connectivity. See also Part 12.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further information.</p> <p>Therefore, it is not necessary to includes rules to manage groundwater to ensure the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan does not compromise environmental watering.</p>
10.19(2)	<p>Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater will compromise the discharge of water into any surface water resource; and (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>See response to section 10.17(2) of the Basin Plan regarding conditions on entitlements and response to section 10.18(2) of the Basin Plan for explanation of the regard had for the need for rules to specify the items listed in section 10.19(2) of the Basin Plan.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.19(3)	If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>In the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan Area there are no identified groundwater resources with a significant hydrological connection to surface water resources and therefore, no rules are included.</p>	n/a	<p>See explanation for this conclusion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for response to section 10.19(1) and 10.19(2) of the Basin Plan above.</p> <p>Need to address. Note the risks identified in Table 72 of Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report are future risks. Strategies have been identified to treat or mitigate those risks as identified in column 6 of Table 72. If those treatments fail then the risks will be reviewed to consider whether rules are necessary to address risks as they become current.</p>
10.20(1)	<p>A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules which ensure that:</p> <p>(a) there is no structural damage to an aquifer (whether within or outside the water resource plan area) arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit; and</p> <p>(b) hydraulic relationships and properties between groundwater and surface water systems, between groundwater systems, and within groundwater systems are maintained.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>There are no structural risks to the aquifers because the amount of take under the SDLs will not cause significant aquifer drawdown and cause structural risk to the aquifers. There are no structural risks in the fractured rock aquifers of the Highlands groundwater system.</p> <p>It is expected that where there is extraction of groundwater there is a risk to the structural integrity of an aquifer. Under Victorian law considerations that must be taken into account before providing authorisation to take water limits the potential for drawdown and therefore the risk of structural damage in areas of groundwater use. Given this is fundamental to Victoria's entitlement framework, no additional rules are necessary in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. Risks of structural damage from groundwater level decline cannot be managed in areas where there is no use.</p> <p>In issuing a licence under section 51 of the Victorian Water Act, the Minister (or delegate) is required to have regard to any adverse effects the licence is likely to have on existing users, a waterway or aquifer and the maintenance of the environmental water reserve (Victorian Water Act, section 40(1)(d)). As the risk of structural damage is low it is not considered necessary to include rules in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as existing arrangements are sufficient.</p> <p>See response to section 10.05(b) in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for discussion of groundwater to groundwater connectivity. As identified in response to section 10.05(b) there are no significant connections identified. For further discussion of risks to structural integrity and hydraulic relationships see Part 12.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>See discussion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to sections 10.18 and 10.19 of the Basin Plan regarding surface water and groundwater connections. A long-term threat to the Murrayville area is the naturally occurring lateral movement of more saline water from the east. It is possible that pumping for irrigation may increase the water level gradient and therefore increase the rate of groundwater movement. However, monitoring and the current rates of extraction have not provided any evidence of this to date. This risk is managed by monitoring as described in section 11 of the Murrayville Local Management Plan.</p> <p>It is not considered necessary to include rules in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to ensure that there is no structural damage to an aquifer arising from take within the long-term annual diversion limit for an SDL resource unit and that the hydraulic relationship and properties between groundwater and surface water systems between and within groundwater systems are maintained.</p> <p>See also discussion for section 10.18 of the Basin Plan above.</p>

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.20(2)	<p>Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and (b) any zones in the water resource plan area where continued groundwater extraction will result in a long-term decline in groundwater levels; and (c) measures to prevent any long-term decline in groundwater levels in that zone, except where the groundwater is a non-renewable groundwater resource; and (d) for a non-renewable groundwater resource—the planned rate of decline in groundwater levels and the anticipated groundwater levels after 50 years from the commencement of the water resource plan; and (e) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater from the SDL resource unit will compromise the objectives in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b); and (f) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>See discussion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for response to sections 10.17(2), 10.18(2) and 10.19(2) of the Basin Plan regarding types of rules on existing licences.</p> <p>Note the risks identified in Table 72 of Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report are future risks. Strategies have been identified to treat or mitigate those risks as identified in column 6 of Table 72. If those treatments fail, then the risks will be reviewed to consider whether rules are necessary to address risks as they become current. See also Part 12.7 of Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.20(3)	<p>If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter does not require a response as no rules were identified as necessary under section 10.20(1) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>See discussion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for the response to section 10.20(1) and 10.20(2) of the Basin Plan for groundwater resources.</p>

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.21(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to whether it is necessary for it to include rules to prevent elevated levels of salinity and other types of water quality degradation within a groundwater SDL resource unit.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	No rules are necessary to prevent the matters described in section 10.21(1) of the Basin Plan. Refer to section 10.19 response for the discussion on surface water to groundwater connectivity. A take and use licence for take from an aquifer (groundwater) is issued including conditions on the manner in which water may be used on land to manage a number of impacts to the system. How these matters are taken into account are informed by the relevant Salinity Management Strategy. In the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area the Salinity Management Strategy is informed by the Basin Salinity Management Strategy. Given Victoria is already committed to and is required to align with the Basin Salinity Management Strategy, it is not necessary to include additional rules to prevent elevated levels of salinity. Groundwater in the WM Highlands SDL Resource unit area is contained primarily in fractured rocks associated with the Highlands area, with a very small volume of groundwater contained in small alluvial deposits associated with water ways. There is no permissible consumptive volume associated with this area as there is limited use. Any future allocation would require the impacts on streams to be assessed, including water quality, and consider the Ministerial Guidelines for Groundwater Licensing and the Protection of High Value Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems. Some medium and higher level risks were identified in respect of groundwater water quality in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment. These were identified as possible future risks. Strategies have been identified to treat or mitigate these risks. The Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report also identifies measures for meeting water quality objectives. If those treatments fail then the risks will be reviewed to consider whether rules are necessary to address risks as they become current. Part 5.3 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report outlines the risks to groundwater water quality. State observation bore network is an initiative that continues long-term ongoing monitoring of an extensive network of bores across Victoria to provide core groundwater data for decision making about management of the resource. The information gathered provides water resource managers with key data and knowledge to enable sustainable use, helps to guard against over-extraction and ensures that reserves do not become stressed or drop below sustainable levels. It also supports groundwater planning. Long-term groundwater information is essential for calibration of groundwater models as well as detecting and drawing attention to changes in groundwater response. This is particularly important in a variable climate. The analysis of changes related to floods and droughts requires specific information about extreme events. The State Observation Bore Network is managed on a register. Information about the location of the bores is located at http://data.water.vic.gov.au/static.htm Private bore construction is subject to a range of conditions including the need for a works licence under section 67 of the Victorian Water Act for the construction, alteration or decommissioning of a bore. A person engaged to do work on a bore must hold an appropriate drillers licence. There are different licencing requirements apply depending on the depth of the bore. The matters described in section 10.21(2) of the Basin Plan were considered. As identified for the other matters in Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan, given that rules regarding time, place and rate of take are automatically included on each individual take and use licence it is not considered necessary to include such rules in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. It is not considered necessary to include rules relating to the establishment and maintenance of a register of bores as this is already a part of the Victorian framework. DELWP administers a bore registration network and the Victorian Water Register maintains records of all works licences including those relevant to the construction of a bore. It is therefore, not considered necessary for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to include such a rule.
10.21(2)	Without limiting subsection (1), regard must be had to whether it is necessary for the water resource plan to include rules that specify: (a) the times, places and rates at which water is permitted to be taken from a groundwater SDL resource unit; and (b) resource condition limits, being limits beyond which the taking of groundwater from the groundwater SDL resource unit will result in an elevated level of salinity or another type of water quality degradation; and (c) restrictions on the water permitted to be taken (including the times, places and rates at which water may be taken) in order to prevent a resource condition limit from being exceeded; and (d) a requirement to establish and maintain a register which identifies the sites of bores used to monitor salinity or other water quality characteristics in the groundwater SDL resource unit.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.21(3)	If the outcome of the requirement in subsection (1) is that such rules are necessary, the water resource plan must include those rules.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter does not require a response as no rules were identified in response to section 10.21(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	See discussion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for the response to section 10.21(1) and 10.21(2) of the Basin Plan for groundwater resources. Note the risks identified in Table 72 of Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report are future risks. Strategies have been identified to treat or mitigate those risks as identified in column 6 of Table 72 . If those treatments fail, then the risks will be reviewed to consider whether rules are necessary to address risks as they become current.
10.22(a)	A water resource plan must: (a) describe what was done to comply with the requirements in this Part; and	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area To comply with this Part, each section of Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan was considered in the context of Victorian water resource management arrangements. Consideration was given to the following: (a) environmental watering requirements and objectives in regulated surface water systems (b) the location of connections between surface water and groundwater in relation to priority environmental assets and priority ecosystem functions in regulated surface water systems (c) the impact of groundwater use on priority environment assets and priority ecosystem functions (d) existing water resource management arrangements underpinning Victoria's entitlement regime. Analysis of the above identified that no rules were necessary in response to the matters identified in sections 10.17 to 10.21 of the Basin Plan. There is nothing in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan that will compromise the meeting of environmental watering objectives in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. Note: The above response is informed by the explanatory material outlined in Column 5 for Part 4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. Material in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table does not form part of the accredit text.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table describes what was done to respond to the requirements of Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. The reasons why rules were not considered necessary are outlined in response to each specific subsection. Consideration was given to each matter in Part 4 in the context of Victoria's water resource management framework in accordance with section 55 of the Commonwealth Water Act, which requires regard to be had to the legislative framework within which the water resource plan operates. The explanation to support the response to Part 4 requirements are set out in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for each section of Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan.
10.22(b)	A water resource plan must: (b) if a risk of a kind referred to in subsection 10.41(1) has been identified in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area—explain why rules addressing the risk have or have not been included in the plan.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No rules have been identified to address climate change risks identified in response to section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan. No other medium to high risks were identified relevant to Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. Strategies to address climate change risks have been identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Rules have not been included in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as there are no rules considered relevant to address the risks identified as the strategies identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report are considered most appropriate. All risks identified in the risk assessment are set out in Table 11 for the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area and Table 13 for the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area. No rules were considered necessary to address any low risks identified in the risk assessment.	n/a	This requirement is met as the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report contained at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report identifies all risks relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area and strategies to manage or mitigate the medium and high risks. The appropriate approach to managing climate change risks is through Victoria's water resource management framework that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the periodic review of regional catchment strategies required by Division 1 of Part 4 of the <i>Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994</i> (Vic). regional sustainable water strategies required by Division 1B of Part 3 of the Victorian Water Act. long-term water resource assessments required by Division 1C of Part 3 of the Victorian Water Act. regional waterway strategies required by the Victorian Water Act (section 190) planning duties of the VEWH required by Division 5 of Part 3AA of the Victorian Water Act. See Part 12.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further information.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 5				
Interception activities				
10.23(1)	<p>A water resource plan must, having regard to the risk identification and assessment conducted for section 10.41, specify whether there are any types of interception activity in the water resource plan area which have the potential to have a significant impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the water resources of the water resource plan area; or (b) water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area; <p>whether on an activity-by-activity basis, or cumulatively.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No interception activity has been identified in the risk assessment to have a significant impact, nor to have the potential to have a significant impact, on water resources that are in or are hydrologically connected to the Wimmera Mallee (surface water) or (groundwater) water resource plan areas.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement to specify interception activities with a potential to have significant impact on water resources or connected water resources is met as the accredited text explains that no such interception activity is identified in the risk assessment.</p> <p>Commercial plantations are present in the water resource plan area, but no growth is expected. The area of land under commercial plantations has decreased by 8% since 2009, and little or no growth is expected in the future. As such, it is unlikely that this interception activity will have a significant impact on water resources in the water resource plan area.</p> <p>There are currently no mining activities in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area that intercept significant volumes of water. If this were the case in future it would require an entitlement to the water used for mining activities so this interception activity would be managed under existing Victorian regulatory arrangements. Floodplain harvesting is not permitted in the water resource plan area and is prohibited under the Victorian Water Act.</p> <p>The only interception activity with a potential to have a significant impact on water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area is runoff dams. This conclusion is based on a near certainty that there will be growth in runoff dams in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area in the future.</p> <p>This assessment is based on scenario adopted in the risk assessment that identifies a 4GL increase in the volume of small farm dams in rural-residential developments over a period of 10 years to supply water for domestic and stock consumption within the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area (and n/a for groundwater). This is considered the best information available at the time. See the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B and Part 10.4.1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>More recent studies (undertaken since completing the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report) have shown the scenario and calculation methods used in the risk assessment to be conservatively high. A more likely scenario is an additional 2GL of domestic and stock runoff dams across the water resource plan area, with an increase in long term average annual take of less than 1GL, and possibly as low as 0.25 GL. Based on this information, Victoria cannot conclude that interception activity by runoff dams is likely to have significant impact on water resources.</p> <p>On this basis, Victoria proposes to focus effort on improving understanding of hydrological impacts of runoff dams. Collection of data regarding numbers and volumes of dams will remain a lower priority until hydrological uncertainties are reduced. This work is ongoing across Victoria and the Risk Assessment will be updated once it is finalised.</p> <p>The water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are not hydrologically connected to surface water resources outside the water resource plan area, and therefore there can be no potential impacts on these other water resources resulting from interception activities in the Water Resource Plan area.</p> <p>See Part 10.4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for discussion on potential interception in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p>
10.23(2)	<p>If there are any such types of interception activity, the water resource plan must list those types.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan Area as no types of interception activity are identified under section 10.23 (1) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.23(3)	<p>For the purpose of determining whether a type of interception activity is of the kind referred to in subsection (1), regard must be had to the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the location of particular activities of that type in the water resource plan area; (b) the impact of the type of activity on the availability of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the water resources of the water resource plan area; and (ii) any water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area; (c) the projected growth of the type of activity over the period for which the water resource plan will have effect. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement to have regard to these factors is met as regard was given through the Risk Assessment, which considered the risk associated with scenarios regarding growth in runoff dams, commercial plantations, and mining activities. Floodplain harvesting was not considered as it is currently not permitted in the water resource plan area.</p> <p>This requirement includes factors relating to spatial extent, magnitude, connectivity, and growth for each of the interception activities. In each case, the risk assessment specifically examined the growth of each interception activity, along with the spatial distribution, magnitude, and duration of the impact on the hydrologically connected water resources of the water resource plan area.</p>
10.24	<p>If a water resource plan includes a list of the kind referred to in subsection 10.23(2), the plan must set out, in respect of each type of interception activity listed, a process for monitoring the impact of that type of activity on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the water resources of the water resource plan area; and (b) water resources which are hydrologically connected to the water resources of the water resource plan area. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant as no types of interception activity are listed under section 10.23(2) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement to set out a monitoring process for any interception activities listed in section 10.23(2) of the Basin Plan is met as there are no such activities listed.</p> <p>Victoria will review the impacts of runoff dams and the risks they pose to water resources as part of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the Western Region Sustainable Water Strategy outlined in the Victorian Water Act (b) the Long-Term Water Resource Assessment outlined in the Victorian Water Act (c) Action 8.4 of Water for Victoria (DELWP, 2016) which commits to better monitoring and reporting on the effects of emerging water uses on other uses in the Victorian Water Accounts. <p>These processes will provide opportunities to review and improve hydrological understanding of runoff dams, as well as opportunities to consult stakeholders and communities about risks posed by runoff dams and possible mitigation measures.</p>
10.25(1)	<p>A water resource plan must identify actions that will be taken in the event that monitoring under section 10.24 shows that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) an impact of a type of interception activity compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement; or (b) an impact of several types of activity together compromises the meeting of an environmental watering requirement; or (c) there is an increase in the quantity of water being intercepted by a type of activity; <p>after the commencement of the water resource plan.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as no monitoring was identified in section 10.24 of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>The requirement to identify actions that will be taken in light of section 10.24 of the Basin Plan is met as no such monitoring is relevant under section 10.24. Additionally, relevant outcomes in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) are accounted for by the method described under section 10.10(1) of the Basin Plan.</p>
10.25(2)	<p>Subsection (1) does not apply if the relevant outcome in paragraph (1) (a), (b) or (c) is accounted for by the method under subsection 10.10(1).</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no monitoring was identified in section 10.24 of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 6				
Planning for environmental watering				
10.26(1)	<p>A water resource plan must provide for environmental watering to occur in a way that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is consistent with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the environmental watering plan; and (ii) the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy; and (b) contributes to the achievement of the objectives in Part 2 of Chapter 8. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) must, in the performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers, ensure that environmental watering occurs in a way that is consistent with the environmental watering plan and the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy and contributes to the achievement of the objectives in Part 2 of Chapter 8 of the Basin Plan. This does not prevent the VEWH from causing additional environmental watering to occur to meet local and Basin Plan environmental watering objectives. 	VEWH	<p>This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table creates an obligation to undertake environmental watering in the manner required by section 10.26(1) of the Basin Plan. Environmental watering specifically relates to the use and delivery of held environmental water and planned environmental water as defined under the Commonwealth Water Act. In the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area no planned environmental water has been identified. The only held environmental water available is in the regulated system. Therefore, the requirement to undertake environmental watering under the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan relates only to held environmental water in the regulated system held by the VEWH and the CEWH. The VEWH is the Victorian body responsible for managing environmental watering and causing the delivering of held environmental water in consultation with CEWH and catchment management authorities (CMAs). VEWH works closely with CMAs and storage managers and, where practical, will seek opportunities to adjust the timing and route for delivery of consumptive water to achieve environmental objectives efficiently. This may include ‘piggy-backing’ delivery of environmental water on consumptive water or passing or minimum flow obligations, to maximise ecological outcomes.</p> <p>While VEWH works with CMAs and storage managers, ultimate responsibility for determining how held environmental water is used to meet environmental objectives and outcomes rests with the VEWH in accordance with any rules determined by the Minister.</p> <p>Figure 38 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report sets out how the Victorian environmental water planning and management framework relates to Commonwealth legislation and planning mechanisms.</p> <p>Part 12.4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report provides further explanation of how environmental watering occurs under each of the key Victorian environmental watering plans and strategies in a way that is consistent with the environmental watering plan and the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy and contributes to the objectives in Part 2 of Chapter 8 of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Where any Basin Plan objectives or targets relate to matters in unregulated surface water areas, there is no specific environmental watering to address those requirements. Most rivers in the region are unregulated, so applying precautionary caps on consumptive use is the approach to managing the environment’s needs. It is understood the CEWH is of the view that Lake Bael Bael (as a Ramsar site) should be addressed in the Plan. However, this site is not subject to environmental watering and therefore not relevant to this requirement. This site is part of the Kerang Lakes and is an unregulated wetland. Despite the unregulated systems not being relevant, in accordance with the obligation on the Department, they will be considered when amending the Wimmera–Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan following accreditation of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan. As Lake Bael Bael is an unregulated wetland, very high and high threat risks are associated with altered water regimes, either from climate change or modification to land use and infrastructure. As the Avoca River itself is unregulated, there is no capacity to mitigate impacts from decreased inflows or unseasonal inflows through manipulating river flows. Unlike regulated rivers, where an environmental entitlement could be held and actively managed to reproduce natural flows and protect the health of the river, few options exist for actively managing or increasing flows on unregulated streams.</p> <p>Therefore, precautionary caps, minimum passing flows and other environmental measures, such as complementary river health works, are the main tools for protecting river health in most parts of the region. While these are the main tools for supporting environmental objectives and outcomes, those measures also meet other system management objectives including protecting other users in the system. Therefore, this is not solely environmental water in accordance with the definition of the Commonwealth Water Act.</p> <p>For more information see Part 3.4 of the Western Region Sustainable Water Strategy. Part 6.6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report identifies ‘above cap water’ in the system and Part 12.2.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report discusses other water that contributes to the environment.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
		<p>(b) In performance of its functions and the exercise of its powers, the VEWH must consider the relevant Long-Term Watering Plan for the water resource plan area.</p> <p>(c) The Department must develop the Long-Term Watering Plan for the relevant surface water plan area in accordance with the Basin Plan and consider both regulated and unregulated surface water systems.</p>	<p>VEWH</p> <p>Department</p>	<p>All decisions relating to the issuing of new entitlements or the amendment of existing entitlements (temporary or permanent transfer of entitlements) must include consideration of the impact on existing users in the system. This includes consideration of held environmental water and requires that no adverse impact on the delivery and use of that water occurs because of the decision. In this respect, environmental entitlements (HEW) are treated the same as all other entitlements in the system. Consumptive users are not given preference over the environment in determining how water is managed in the system. Additionally, section 40 of the Victorian Water Act identifies that the Minister must specifically consider the need to protect the environment, including the riverine and riparian environment, when issuing and amending entitlements under the Victorian Water Act.</p> <p>The certainty of entitlements is outlined in Part 6.8 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report which identifies the process for amending bulk and environmental entitlements in Figure 18 and Figure 19 respectively.</p> <p>Equally, as outlined Part 12.4-Part 12.6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, environmental watering objectives achieved using held environmental water must be supported by the system management rules that govern passing flows and releases from storages.</p>
10.26(1)	<p>A water resource plan must provide for environmental watering to occur in a way that:</p> <p>(a) is consistent with:</p> <p>(i) the environmental watering plan; and</p> <p>(ii) the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy; and</p> <p>(b) contributes to the achievement of the objectives in Part 2 of Chapter 8.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The requirements for the groundwater SDL resource units have been met through meeting the requirements in Parts 3 and 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. This is in accordance with MDBA Position Statement 6D.</p>	n/a	
10.26(2)	<p>For the purposes of subsection (1), the water resource plan must be prepared having regard to:</p> <p>(a) the most recent version of the long-term watering plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 3 of Part 4 of Chapter 8; and</p> <p>(b) the views of local communities, including bodies established by a Basin State that express community views in relation to environmental watering.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p>	n/a	<p>The Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan was developed having regard to the current version of the long-term watering plan for the water resource plan area and the views of local communities. The views of local communities identified during consultation on Water Plan: Water for Victoria and the Wimmera-Mallee Long-term Watering Plan, and during the development of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan were taken into account in the preparation of this plan. Consultation undertaken in the preparation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is detailed in the Consultation Report at Appendix D to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Following accreditation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan, the Wimmera-Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan will be reviewed and updated to more specifically address Basin Plan objectives and targets for environmental watering. This is currently done through specific environmental watering management plans; however further work can be done to more clearly specify how the method for selecting priority assets has been applied in developing the Long-Term Watering Plan.</p>
10.26(2)	<p>For the purposes of subsection (1), the water resource plan must be prepared having regard to:</p> <p>(a) the most recent version of the long-term watering plan prepared in accordance with the requirements of Division 3 of Part 4 of Chapter 8; and</p> <p>(b) the views of local communities, including bodies established by a Basin State that express community views in relation to environmental watering.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>This requirement does not apply to groundwater.</p>	n/a	<p>The Long-Term Watering Plan for the water resource plan area applies to Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area. Further, there is no groundwater held environmental water extracted for an environmental purpose in this water resource plan area.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.27(1)	This section applies if (a) there are 2 water resource plan areas that contain surface water; and (b) there is a surface water connection between the 2 areas.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area is adjacent to the following water resource plan areas that contain surface water: (a) South Australian Murray Region water resource plan area; (b) Northern Victoria water resource plan area; and (c) Victorian Murray water resource plan areas. This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area does not connect to any of the above listed water resource plan areas.	n/a	The two terminal lakes at the end of the Wimmera River fill only rarely, and historically do not provide a surface water connection to the Victorian Murray Water Resource Plan area. Basin Plan considers this to be a disconnected system for surface water. See response to section 10.05(b) of the Basin Plan in of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table above.
10.27(1)	This section applies if (a) there are 2 water resource plan areas that contain surface water; and (b) there is a surface water connection between the 2 areas.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement does not apply to groundwater		
10.27(2)	The water resource plan for each of the areas must provide for the coordination of environmental watering between the 2 areas.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This requirement does not apply to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no areas were identified for the purposes of section 10.27(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	
10.27(2)	The water resource plan for each of the areas must provide for the coordination of environmental watering between the 2 areas.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement does not apply to groundwater		
10.28	A water resource plan must ensure that there is no net reduction in the protection of planned environmental water from the protection provided for under State water management law immediately before the commencement of the Basin Plan.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan. No planned environmental water has been identified in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface) or (groundwater) Water resource plan areas under section 10.09(1) of the Basin Plan. Therefore, there is no planned environmental water that the plan must continue to protect.	n/a	No planned environmental water was identified in the water resource plan area and therefore the water resource plan does not identify any rules that protect planned environmental water. On this basis, the requirement under section 10.28 of the Basin Plan does not apply. There are no rules under the transitional Wimmera-Mallee (Surface Water) water resource plan and the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan that protect planned environmental water.

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Part 7	Water quality objectives			
10.29	A water resource plan must include a water quality management plan (WQM Plan) made in accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 10	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Water Quality Management Plan is comprised of the components of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report as specified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table and the relevant responses contained in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to Part 7 of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text references the document containing the Water Quality Management Plan made in accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan.
10.30	The WQM Plan must identify the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation in the water resource plan area having regard to the key causes of water quality degradation identified in Part 2 of Chapter 9 and set out in Schedule 10.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The causes or likely causes of water quality degradation in the water resource plan area are listed and discussed in Table 3 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text identifies Table 3 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, which includes an explanation of how key causes were considered. In accordance with the Basin Plan requirements, Victoria conducted a risk assessment which had regard to the current and future risks to the condition and continued availability of water resources in the development of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan (see Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report). The process provided an overview of the risk factors across the water resource plan areas, and the results from the risk assessment were amalgamated across several levels. The causes of risk to water quality presented in the preliminary risk assessment are not the same as the causes of water quality degradation in the Basin Plan, but were regarded in the identification of the causes, or likely causes of water quality degradation. Due to large natural variation in water temperatures, including during drying periods, there is no evidence that water temperatures are occurring outside of natural ranges. Two potential contributors for such a change - reduced flows, and removal of riparian vegetation - have occurred; however, these are not separately identified as causes as the degradation has not occurred. Part 4.3 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report contains further information.
10.30	The WQM Plan must identify the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation in the water resource plan area having regard to the key causes of water quality degradation identified in Part 2 of Chapter 9 and set out in Schedule 10.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. No causes, or likely causes, of groundwater water quality degradation have been identified as there is no degradation of water quality in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area.	n/a	This requirement is met as no causes or likely causes have been identified. Part 5.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan (at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report) contains further information on causes and likely causes and risks to water quality. Table 10 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report assesses possible causes of water quality degradation. Victoria's approach to identifying causes and likely causes for the purposes of section 10.30 of the Basin Plan was to consider any relevant water quality degradation and identifying what has or is likely to have caused any identified degradation. No degradation has occurred in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area and therefore no causes or likely causes have been identified.
10.31	If a risk of a kind mentioned in paragraph 10.41(2)(d) has been identified in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area, the WQM Plan must explain why measures addressing the risk have or have not been included in the water resource plan.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Part 4.3.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report identifies risks related to the condition (quality) of water resources and explains why measures addressing the risk have or have not been included in the water resource plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as Part 4.3.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report maps the risks to the associated measures and clarifies which measures have or have not been included. The risks are also identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.31	If a risk of a kind mentioned in paragraph 10.41(2)(d) has been identified in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area, the WQM Plan must explain why measures addressing the risk have or have not been included in the water resource plan.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Part 5.3.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report identifies risks related to the condition (quality) of water resources and explains why measures addressing the risk have or have not been included in the water resource plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as Part 5.3.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report maps the risks to the associated measures and clarifies which measures have or have not been included. The risks are also identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>See discussion in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in response to Part 4 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan relating to connected resources.</p>
10.32(1)	The WQM Plan must identify the water quality target values for the water resource plan area.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The water quality target values for the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are set out in Table 7 and Table 8 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>The water quality target values for Ramsar sites in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are the targets set out in the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text identifies the water quality target values.</p> <p>There are currently two Ramsar sites in the Wimmera-Mallee region: the Lowland Wimmera Valley Ramsar wetland Lake Albacutya and the Kerang Wetlands Ramsar Site (including the Avoca Marshes). The Kerang Wetlands Ramsar site has Limits of Acceptable Change provided for salinity concentration (as measured by electrical conductivity) in many wetlands at the site. Salinity concentration is assessed as a critical component, a high priority risk and the greatest threat to fish species in the Kerang region (Kellogg, Brown & Root Pty Ltd 2011). However, the Limits of Acceptable Change are all based on electrical conductivities at or above 4000 µS/cm. Ramsar sites' listing criteria and Limits of Acceptable Change are generally based on presence of biological populations and communities, in particular threatened water-dependent species and communities; water quality is not always an issue compared to water quantity and habitat availability and quality.</p> <p>Therefore, although Limits of Acceptable Change specifying water quality requirements for individual wetlands could be considered as alternative targets within a Ramsar site, they are rarely provided in the Ramsar process, limited in number and are typically applicable to a single water body. This greatly restricts their applicability for regional application.</p> <p>The Basin Plan has separate targets for Ramsar wetlands.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.32(1)	The WQM Plan must identify the water quality target values for the water resource plan area.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>No water quality targets have been identified for groundwater resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as there are no appropriate Basin Plan target values for groundwater. Part 5.5 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report states there were no targets identified for groundwater. The Basin Plan target values under section 10.32 are not relevant to groundwater and Victoria is unable to meet the requirements of section 10.32(4) of the Basin Plan to set different targets. The requirement under section 10.32(4)(b) cannot be met as the guidelines are inappropriate and cannot be applied to groundwater systems.</p> <p>The MDBA released Position Statement 7a to guide the application of section 10.32 of the Basin Plan to Water Quality Management Plans for groundwater resource plan areas. That advice states:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A WQM Plan for a groundwater WRP must identify water quality target values for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> fresh water-dependent ecosystems reliant on groundwater, and irrigation water at sites where water is extracted by an irrigation infrastructure operator (see section 7 of the Commonwealth Water Act) for irrigation. The water quality target for recreational purposes does not apply to a WQM Plan for a groundwater WRP. Where fresh water-dependent ecosystems reliant on groundwater are present in a groundwater WRP area, the WQM Plan must either use the surface water target values set out in Schedule 11 of the Basin Plan or specify an alternative target value (see below). The irrigation water quality target values specified in section 9.17 of the Basin Plan apply at sites where an irrigation infrastructure operator (see section 7 of the Commonwealth Water Act) extracts groundwater for the purposes of irrigation. The WQM Plan must identify these sites (section 10.34). <p>Victoria had regard to Position Statement 7a in determining targets for the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area and Victoria has determined there are no targets for groundwater quality.</p> <p>Fresh water-dependent ecosystems targets - Groundwaters in the Wimmera-Mallee are largely >3000 EC and therefore not classified as freshwater for the purposes of freshwater dependent ecosystems.</p> <p>There is some interaction between groundwater and the regulated areas of the Wimmera River. Groundwater entering the channel in these areas is naturally saline and can contribute to issues of hypersalinity. They are not relevant as fresh water-dependent ecosystems.</p> <p>In the Wimmera-Mallee Highlands, there is evidence that the upper Avoca River and potentially other unregulated tributaries to the Avoca and Wimmera Rivers are gaining streams. Local areas of fresh groundwater occur in these areas and may contribute to base flows of these streams. These are dependent on rainfall for recharge (GWMW, 2017) and no additional water quality rules are considered necessary.</p> <p>Recreation targets - As stated in the advice, these do not apply.</p> <p>Irrigation targets - There is no groundwater distributed by an irrigation infrastructure operator for irrigation in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area. Therefore, this target does not apply.</p>
10.32(2)(a)	The water quality target values are the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> for fresh water-dependent ecosystems—the applicable target values referred to in section 9.16; 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The water quality target values identified are those referred to in Table 7 and Table 8 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	
10.32(2)(b)	The water quality target values are the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> for irrigation water—the target values for water quality characteristics set out in section 9.17; 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This requirement is not relevant for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as there are no applicable sites in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area where irrigation targets would apply.</p>	n/a	Section 9.17(2) of the Basin Plan provides that target values apply at sites in the Basin where water is extracted by an irrigation infrastructure operator for the purpose of irrigation. There is no irrigation infrastructure operator (under the definition of <i>irrigation infrastructure operator</i> in section 7(4) of the Commonwealth Water Act) operating in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area and so irrigation water targets are not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.

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10.32(2)(c)	The water quality target values are the following: (c) for water used for recreational purposes—the values set out in section 9.18.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The water quality target values are those set out in Table 7 and Table 8 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	
10.32(3)	However, if the objectively determined actual value of a water quality characteristic at a site is better than the target value identified in subsection (2), then the target value is that better value.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Part 4.6.1.1 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report outlines why alternative targets have been applied.	n/a	
10.32(3)	However, if the objectively determined actual value of a water quality characteristic at a site is better than the target value identified in subsection (2), then the target value is that better value.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area as there are no water quality target values for groundwater.	n/a	
10.32(4)	The WQM Plan may specify an alternative water quality target value if: (a) it is consistent with the water quality objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9; and (b) it is determined in accordance with the procedures set out in the ANZECC Guidelines; and (c) either: (i) the alternative target value provides a better level of protection than the value that would apply under subsection (2) or (3), as applicable; or (ii) the WQM Plan sets out reasons why the alternative target value will be as effective in achieving the objectives in Part 3 of Chapter 9; or (iii) the WQM Plan sets out reasons why the target value in subsection (2) or (3), as applicable, is inappropriate for the water resource plan area; and (d) for a water resource that is also covered by a water resource plan area of another Basin State—it is developed in consultation with that State.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Part 4.6.1.1 and Schedule 1 to Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report discusses the alternative targets. Alternative targets have not been identified for Ramsar wetlands. Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no alternative water quality targets are specified.	n/a	Alternative targets have been identified for surface water. No targets have been identified for groundwater. Water quality targets for the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area is outlined in Part 4.6 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. A discussion on the alternative targets are outlined in Part 4.6.1.1 of Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Schedule 1 to Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report provides a comparison of Chapter 9 Basin Plan targets for fresh-water dependent ecosystems with alternative targets adopted by Victoria.
10.33(1)	The WQM Plan must specify measures to be undertaken in or in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area that contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in: (a) section 9.04 (Objectives of water-dependent ecosystems); and (b) section 9.05 (Objectives for raw water for treatment for human consumption); and (c) section 9.06 (Objective for irrigation water); and (d) section 9.07 (Objective for recreational water quality); and (e) section 9.08 (Objective to maintain good levels of water quality); unless there are no such measures that can be undertaken cost-effectively.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Measures to be undertaken that contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in sections 9.04 to 9.08 of the Basin Plan are set out in Part 4.4.1 and Part 4.4.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	Minister for Water	This requirement is met as the accredited text identifies the part of the Water Quality Management Plan that specifies measures contributing to water quality objectives, which are listed in Table 6 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. These measures have been prepared having regard to the causes of water quality degradation, listed in Table 3 and the water quality target values listed in Table 8 , Table 9 , Table 10 , and Table 11 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. See Part 4.4 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further explanation of measures.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.33(1)	<p>The WQM Plan must specify measures to be undertaken in or in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area that contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) section 9.04 (Objectives of water-dependent ecosystems); and (b) section 9.05 (Objectives for raw water for treatment for human consumption); and (c) section 9.06 (Objective for irrigation water); and (d) section 9.07 (Objective for recreational water quality); and (e) section 9.08 (Objective to maintain good levels of water quality); <p>unless there are no such measures that can be undertaken cost-effectively.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Measures to be undertaken that contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in sections 9.04 to 9.08 of the Basin Plan are set out in Part 5.4.1 and Part 5.4.2 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	Minister for Water	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text identifies the part of the Water Quality Management Plan that specifies measures contributing to water quality objectives, which are listed in Table 11 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. These measures have been prepared having regard to the causes of water quality degradation, listed in Table 10 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Groundwater management in the Wimmera-Mallee focuses on the risk of elevated levels of salinity in groundwater that affects beneficial uses. In the Murrayville Groundwater Management Area Local Management Plan, the aquifer is confined and the risk of salinisation is from lateral movement of aquifers from the east. The potential for pumping for irrigation to increase the hydraulic gradient and therefore increase the rate of groundwater movement is monitored through the plan. Salinity is also monitored in selected observation bores.</p> <p>Where there is intensive use of the groundwater, primarily in the border zone with South Australia, including part of the Murrayville Groundwater Management Area, salinity is monitored to ensure the quality of the water continues to be protected under the mechanisms of the plan. Salinity monitoring since 2001 under the Murrayville Groundwater Management Area Local Management Plan has shown no degradation of water quality in this timeframe.</p> <p>See Part 5 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further explanation of measures.</p>
10.33(2)	<p>The measures must be prepared having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the causes, or likely causes, of water quality degradation identified in accordance with section 10.30; and (b) target values identified in accordance with section 10.32; and (c) the targets in Division 4 of Part 4 of Chapter 9. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.</p>	n/a	<p>The measures prepared for the purpose of section 10.33(1) of the Basin Plan were prepared having regard to the causes and likely causes of water quality degradation as identified for the purpose of section 10.30 of the Basin Plan and the target values identified for the purpose of section 10.32 of the Basin Plan and the targets in Division 4 of Part 4 of Chapter 9 of the Basin Plan. Consideration of the measures is described in Part 4.4.1-Part 4.4.2 (surface water) and Part 5.4.1-Part 5.4.2 (groundwater) of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.33(3)	The measures may include land management measures.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Land management measures have not been included in the Water Quality Management Plan prepared under Part 7 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This subsection informs section 10.33(1) of the Basin Plan and contains a discretionary requirement. Consideration of the measures, including land management measures, is described in Part 4 of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. However, land management measures are not subject to accreditation under Part 7 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan.</p>
10.34	The WQM Plan must identify the sites in the water resource plan area at which the target values for irrigation water apply.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no irrigation water is supplied in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>Section 9.17(2) of the Basin Plan provides that target values apply at sites in the Basin where water is extracted by an irrigation infrastructure operator for the purpose of irrigation. There is no irrigation infrastructure operator (under the definition of <i>irrigation infrastructure operator</i> in section 7(4) of the Commonwealth Water Act) operating in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area and so irrigation water targets are not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>
10.35	<p>The measures specified in the WQM Plan must be developed having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the impact those measures (including the absence of adequate measures) may have on the ability of another Basin State to meet water quality targets; and (b) any adverse impacts those measures may have on Basin water resources in the other Basin State. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.</p>	n/a	<p>The Water Quality Management Plan included at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report has been developed having regard to the impact of any measures on the ability of another Basin State to meet water quality targets and any adverse impacts the measures may have on the Basin water resources in the other Basin State. Consideration of the impact on another Basin State is outlined in Part 4.6.6 (surface water) Part 5.4.5 (groundwater) of the Water Quality Management Plan at Appendix A to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 8	Trade of water access rights			
10.36	This Part does not apply to water access rights of a kind that are not able to be traded under State water management law.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter informs the interpretation of Part 8 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	Refer to Table A and Table B attached to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for details about tradability of water access rights in Victoria. See Figure 21 in Part 6.14 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report regarding considerations in determining temporary or permanent transfer of entitlement.
10.37(1)	A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 locations within a groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.24 will be met in relation to the proposed trade.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the surface water component of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.	n/a	
10.37(1)	A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 locations within a groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.24 will be met in relation to the proposed trade.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Trade between two locations within a single Wimmera-Mallee groundwater SDL resource unit is permitted in the following circumstances: (a) if the two locations are within the same geology as defined by the SDL groundwater unit which demonstrate sufficient hydraulic connectivity; and (b) if the relevant permissible consumptive volume is not exceeded, because the permissible consumptive volume is the limit set to protect the resource condition; and (c) if the volume to be traded is specified, noting that in Victoria timing is not a condition on groundwater take and the reliability and any other conditions or characteristics of the water access right are not changed due to trade; and (d) where regard has been had to any adverse effect that the trade is likely to have on existing authorised users of water and measures are in place to address any adverse effect. Figure 21 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report depicts the process for determination of a transfer (trade) of a take and use licence under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) and demonstrates how the conditions set out in section 12.24 of the Basin Plan align with the Victorian framework. Reference to the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) in Figure 21 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report does not form part of the response and is included for reference only.	n/a	This requirement is met as the circumstances identified in Column 3 of this row ensure the conditions set out in section 12.24 of the Basin Plan are met. The matter outlined in section 12.24(c) is not relevant in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as trade can only occur in a manner that transfers an existing entitlement to another user. Further, timing for extractions is not a condition on take and use licences for groundwater. While there may be unique conditions on individual licences, the characteristics of each type of entitlement does not change between users. Following the trade of water, the conditions that apply to the take and use of that water after the trade, cannot be changed after the trade is given effect. The reliability cannot be affected by trading the entitlement. Further, the volume of the entitlement is subject to the specific trade. Water users in Victoria can trade the whole or part of their entitlement. This means that a water user will trade a particular volume to another person. The impact on third parties is managed through extensive consultation and rights of appeal to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. Figure 21 in Part 6.14 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report depicts the process for determination of a transfer of a take and use licence under the Victorian Water Act in further detail. Figure 21 shows how the conditions under section 12.24 of the Basin Plan align with the Victorian framework and ensure that trade cannot occur where the circumstances of section 12.24 of the Basin Plan do not exist. See Part 6.14.1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further explanation of trades between two locations within a groundwater SDL resource unit in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area. Reference to sections of the Victorian Water Act in Figure 21 does not have the effect of importing those sections into the accredited response material. Where relevant, condition limits are set through a permissible consumptive volume (PCV) declared under section 22A of the Victorian Water Act. A PCV declaration determines the consumptive cap for the specified resource and operates to limit the issuing of new entitlements. The Minister (or delegate) cannot issue a new take and use licence if it will result in the relevant PCV being exceeded.
10.37(2)	If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.24(d), the water resource plan must either: (a) specify the conversion rate; or (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the surface water component of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.	n/a	
10.37(2)	If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.24(d), the water resource plan must either: (a) specify the conversion rate; or (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as no conversion rate is applied to meet the condition in section 12.24(d) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as no conversion rates are applied in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. A trade cannot be authorised in Victoria in circumstances where the trade will impact water available to a third party. As identified for the purposes of section 10.37(1) of the Basin Plan, trade cannot occur if it results in an adverse impact on third parties.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.38(1)	A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 groundwater SDL resource units is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.25 will be met in relation to proposed trade.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) (SS9) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the surface water component of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>	n/a	
10.38(1)	A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between 2 groundwater SDL resource units is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.25 will be met in relation to proposed trade.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Trade between two groundwater SDL resource units within the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan area is permitted in the following circumstances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the two locations are within the same groundwater catchment, because groundwater catchments are determined based on regional groundwater flow paths which demonstrates sufficient hydraulic connectivity; and (b) if the relevant permissible consumptive volume is not exceeded, because the permissible consumptive volume is the limit set to protect the resource condition; and (c) if the volume to be traded is specified, noting that in Victoria timing is not a condition on groundwater take and the reliability and any other conditions or characteristics of the water access right are not changed due to trade; and (d) where regard has been had to any adverse effect that the trade is likely to have on existing authorised users of water and measures are in place to address any adverse effect. Where trade occurs in the above circumstances it will be recorded on the Victorian Water Register. <p>Figure 21 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report depicts the process for determination of a transfer (trade) of a take and use licence under the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic)</i> and demonstrates how the conditions set out in section 12.25 of the Basin Plan align with the Victorian framework. Reference to the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic)</i> in Figure 21 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report does not form part of the response and is included for reference only.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the circumstances identified in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table ensure the conditions set out in section 12.24 of the Basin Plan are met. Trade is not permitted into or out of the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area.</p> <p>Hydraulic connectivity is identified through Victoria's groundwater catchment areas. How these were defined and the respective hydraulic connectivity within those catchments are outlined in Part 3.3 of the <i>Groundwater SAFE (Secure Allocations, Future Entitlements) Report</i>, May 2012, Department of Sustainability and Environment.</p> <p>http://beta.vvg.org.au/maynard/view_resource.php?resource_id=4336&account=a020b5775c3d4447295a4c758a5394ca</p> <p>In response to the condition in section 12.25(c) of the Basin Plan all trade is accounted for on the Victorian Water Register. The matter outlined in section 12.25(d) of the basin Plan is not relevant in Victoria as trade can only occur in a manner that transfers an existing entitlement to another user. While there may be unique conditions on individual licences, the characteristics of each type of entitlement does not change between users. Following the trade of water, the conditions that apply to the take and use of that water after the trade, cannot be changed after the trade is given effect. The reliability cannot be affected by trading the entitlement. Further, the volume of the entitlement is subject to the specific trade. Water users in Victoria can trade the whole or part of their entitlement. This means that a water user will trade a particular volume to another person.</p> <p>The impact on third parties is managed through extensive consultation and rights of appeal to Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.</p> <p>Figure 21 in Part 6.14 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report depicts the process for determination of a transfer of a take and use licence under the Victorian Water Act in further detail. Figure 21 shows how the circumstances under section 12.25 of the Basin Plan align with the Victorian framework and ensure that trade cannot occur where the circumstances of section 12.25 of the Basin Plan do not exist. Reference to sections of the Victorian Water Act in Figure 21 does not have the effect of importing those sections into the accredited response material.</p> <p>See Part 6.14.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further explanation of trades between two groundwater SDL resource units in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area.</p> <p>The circumstances outlined in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table would need to be established when determining a trading zone. Reference to groundwater catchments results in assessment of hydraulic connectivity and groundwater catchment areas cover groundwater resources with sufficient hydraulic connectivity. For example, in the Murrayville groundwater management area.</p>
10.38(2)	If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.25(e), the water resource plan must either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) specify the conversion rate; or (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the surface water component of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>	n/a	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.38(2)	If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.25(e), the water resource plan must either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) specify the conversion rate; or (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area</p> <p>This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as no conversion rate is applied to meet the condition in paragraph 12.24(e) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	This requirement is met as no conversion rates are applied in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area. A trade cannot be authorised in Victoria in circumstances where the trade will impact water available to a third party. As identified for the purposes of section 10.38(1) of the Basin Plan trade cannot occur if it results in an adverse impact on third parties.
10.39(1)	A water resource plan must set out the circumstances in which trade between a groundwater SDL resource unit and a surface water SDL resource unit is permitted. In setting out the circumstances, a water resource plan must ensure that each condition set out in section 12.26 will be met in relation to proposed trade.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan as no trade is permitted between a groundwater SDL resource unit and a surface water SDL resource unit in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as no trade is permitted between a groundwater SDL resource unit and any adjacent surface water SDL resource unit. The SDL resource units relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are defined for the purposes of section 10.03(1) of the Basin Plan and described in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.</p> <p>See Part 6.12 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further explanation of why there is no trade permitted between a groundwater SDL resource unit and any adjacent surface water SDL resource unit. Should State rules change to allow for trade between groundwater and surface water SDL resource units, the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan will be reviewed to determine what amendments are necessary to respond to such changes.</p>
10.39(2)	If the water resource plan applies a conversion rate to meet the condition in paragraph 12.26(e), the water resource plan must either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) specify the conversion rate; or (b) set out the way in which the conversion rate will be determined from time to time and made generally available. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as no circumstances were identified for the purposes of section 10.39(1) of the Basin Plan.</p>	n/a	

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 9				
Approaches to addressing risks to water resources				
10.40	In this Part: <i>risk</i> means a risk listed in a water resource plan in accordance with subsection 10.41(4). <i>level of risk</i> has the meaning given in AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management—Principles and Guidelines.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This matter informs the interpretation of <i>risk</i> and <i>level of risk</i> and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	
10.41(1)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to current and future risks to the condition and continued availability of the water resources of the water resource plan area.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table.	n/a	The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the current and future risks to the condition and continued availability of the water resource in the water resource plan area as explained in Part 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Current and future risk is defined at Part 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . <i>Current risks</i> represent those threats and causes being experienced now and <i>future risks</i> represent threats and causes proposed by scenarios of a possible future. Importantly the scenarios cover a range of possible future situations and are not 'forecasts' of a most likely future. The scenarios each represent a possible future. The risk assessment has not combined these scenarios to form one overall future scenario. Each scenario has been assessed independently to identify the risk associated with that cause and related scenario. Scenarios have also been identified at the water resource plan area scale to ensure their relevance to the causes and threats that will potentially drive risks in each area. As a result, current risks are dealt with under the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report through the initial identification of possible risks. Future risks are identified through the scenarios.
10.41(2)	Without limiting subsection (1), the risks include (where applicable): (a) risks to the capacity to meet environmental watering requirements; and (b) risks arising from the matters referred to in subsection 10.20(1); and (c) risks arising from potential interception activities; and (d) risks arising from elevated levels of salinity or other types of water quality degradation.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area In preparing the risk assessment for the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan, the matters identified in section 10.41(2) of the Basin Plan were considered.	n/a	Part 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report includes the risks set out in this subsection. Risks to the capacity to meet environmental watering requirements are outlined in Part 4.2.2.1 (surface water availability risks) in Table 23–Table 25 , Part 4.2.2.2 (surface water condition risks) in Table 26–Table 30 and Part 4.2.6 (priority environmental assets and ecosystem functions) in Table 49–Table 51 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . For groundwater see Part 4.3.2.1 (groundwater availability) in Table 60 and Part 4.3.6.1 (Part 4 Basin Plan matters) in Table 72 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . Part 4.3.6.2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B identifies that the productive base of groundwater systems was assessed in terms of the ability of the aquifer to provide water for environmental and consumptive purposes in the context of damage to the structural form of the aquifer arising from take across environmental or consumptive users. No medium or higher-level risks associated with changes to the structural form were identified. Risks arising from potential interception activities are discussed at Part 4.2.7 for surface water in Table 53 (availability) and Table 54 (condition) and Part 4.3.7 for groundwater in Table 74 (availability) and Table 75 (condition) of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . Risks arising from elevated levels of salinity or other types of water quality degradation for surface water are discussed at Part 4.2.1.2 (consumptive use in Table 18–Table 22), Part 4.2.2.2 (environmental uses in Table 26–Table 30), Part 4.2.3.2 (Aboriginal uses in Table 36–Table 40), Part 4.2.4.2 (recreational/social uses in Table 44–Table 46) and Part 4.2.5.2 (critical human water needs in Table 48) of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . For groundwater this is discussed at Part 4.3.1.2 (consumptive uses in Table 58–Table 59), Part 4.3.3.2 (Aboriginal uses in Table 66–Table 70) of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . No groundwater risks were identified for environmental uses, recreation/social uses or critical human water needs

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.41(3)	In identifying risks for the purposes of subsection (1), regard must be had to: (a) risks identified in section 4.02; and (b) any guidelines published by the Authority in relation to risk identification and risk assessment.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.	n/a	How regard has been given, in identifying risks for subsection (1), is explained in section 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(4)	The water resource plan must list the risks identified for the purposes of subsection (1).	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 11 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where a list of risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan can be found in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(4)	The water resource plan must list the risks identified for the purposes of subsection (1).	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 13 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row identifies where a list of risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan can be found in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(5)	The water resource plan must assess each risk.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 11 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.		This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where a list of risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan are assessed in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(5)	The water resource plan must assess each risk.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 13 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where a list of risks identified for the purposes of subsection (1) are assessed in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(6)	The water resource plan must define the level of risk of each risk, using the following categories: (a) low; (b) medium; (c) high; (d) if it is considered appropriate, any additional category.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 11 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where the level of risk is defined for each risk identified for the purposes of subsection (1) in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(6)	The water resource plan must define the level of risk of each risk, using the following categories: (a) low; (b) medium; (c) high; (d) if it is considered appropriate, any additional category.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 13 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.41(1) of the Basin Plan.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where the level of risk is defined for each risk identified for the purposes of subsection (1) in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.41(7)	The water resource plan must describe the data and methods used to identify and assess the risks.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area A description of the data used to identify and assess the risks is at Schedule 1 to the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B . Methods used to identify and assess the risks is contained in Part 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B .	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where the data and methods used to identify and assess the risks are in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.41(8)	The water resource plan must describe any quantified uncertainties in the level of risk attributed to each risk, including the results of any sensitivity analysis.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 12 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report contains any quantified uncertainties and the results of any sensitivity analysis for the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.42 of the Basin Plan. The results of the sensitivity analysis are contained in Column 5 of Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the part of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report where the quantified uncertainties in the level of risk attributed to each risk, including the results of any sensitivity analysis.
10.41(8)	The water resource plan must describe any quantified uncertainties in the level of risk attributed to each risk, including the results of any sensitivity analysis.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 14 of Part 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report contains any quantified uncertainties and the results of any sensitivity analysis for the risks identified for the purposes of section 10.42 of the Basin Plan. The results of the sensitivity analysis are contained in Column 5 of Table 57-Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the part of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report where the quantified uncertainties in the level of risk attributed to each risk, including the results of any sensitivity analysis.
10.42(a)	A water resource plan must describe: (a) each risk which is defined in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is described in Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This water resource plan requirement has been met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The risk rating is identified in Column 1 of Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.42(a)	A water resource plan must describe: (a) each risk which is defined in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is described in Table 57-Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies where each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The risk rating is identified in Column 1 of Table 57-Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.42(b)	A water resource plan must describe: (b) factors that contribute to those risks.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is described in Columns 2, 3 and 4 of Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the part of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report identified in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies factors contributing to each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk are in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The factors contributing to the risk are identified in Columns 2, 3 and 4 of Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.42(b)	A water resource plan must describe: (b) factors that contribute to those risks.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is described in Columns 2, 3 and 4 of Table 57-Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is met as the part of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report identified in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies factors contributing to each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk are in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The factors contributing to the risk are identified in Columns 2, 3 and 4 of Table 57-Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.43(1)	If a water resource plan defines a risk in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk, the water resource plan must either: (a) describe a strategy for the management of the water resources of the water resource plan area to address the risk in a manner commensurate with the level of risk; or (b) explain why the risk cannot be addressed by the water resource plan in a manner commensurate with the level of risk.	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. A strategy is described for each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk in Column 6 of Table 15-Table 56 and the relevant description of each strategy in Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	n/a	This requirement is satisfied as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies a strategy to address each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher risk and where these strategies are set out in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. factors contributing to each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk is in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The strategies identified in Column 6 to respond to the identified risks are outlined in detail in Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 78 must be read in conjunction with Table 15-Table 56 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report to understand the strategies to address the risks identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report.
10.43(1)	If a water resource plan defines a risk in accordance with subsection 10.41(6) as having a medium or higher level of risk, the water resource plan must either: (a) describe a strategy for the management of the water resources of the water resource plan area to address the risk in a manner commensurate with the level of risk; or (b) explain why the risk cannot be addressed by the water resource plan in a manner commensurate with the level of risk.	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. A strategy is described for each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher level of risk in Column 6 of Table 57-Table 77 and the relevant description of each strategy in Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.	Department	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies a strategy to address each risk that is defined as having a medium or higher risk and where these strategies are set out in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Factors contributing to each risk defined as having a medium or higher level of risk are in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. The strategies identified in Column 6 to respond to the identified risks are outlined in detail in Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. Table 78 must be read in conjunction with Table 57-Table 77 to understand the strategies to address the risks identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.43(2)	If the water resource plan identifies a risk which relates to a matter dealt with by a requirement in another Part of this Chapter, the strategy must take account of that requirement.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report details each risk strategy identified in response to the risks. Table 15 to Table 77 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report identify whether the strategy applies to a surface water or groundwater risks. No strategies are required to address matters that have a low risk and therefore it is not relevant to this requirement to consider requirements in Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan relating to matters identified as a low risk in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report.</p>	n/a	<p>See Table 78 in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for details each risk strategy.</p> <p>The risk assessment was undertaken based on the regulatory framework, policies and strategies in place in Victoria in 2016. The assessment has also been based on the assumption that the Basin Plan is in place and that the Basin Plan does not in itself represent or impose a threat to the continued availability and condition of the water resources. In other words, the risk assessment assumed that the Basin Plan and the component strategies identified within it for managing risk are in place including the requirements of Chapter 10. Management strategies have been developed for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan to address the risks assessed as medium and high and to meet the Chapter 10, Basin Plan requirements. Addressing these residual risks will be achieved through a combination of State-based policy and program development, collaboration with regional water managers and engagement with regional stakeholders and interstate water planning agencies. Medium and high-level risks identified through the risk assessment require ongoing adaptive management, further gathering of information to better understand the risk or both the strategies cited in Table 78.</p> <p>See response in the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table above to sections 10.22(b), 10.23, and 10.31 of the Basin Plan above for discussion of relevant risks.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Water Act requires Victoria to act consistently with Basin Plan (see section 35) and water resource plans (see section 59). Therefore, when implementing the strategies identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report, the requirements of Basin Plan and the relevant water resource plan must be taken into account. Nothing identified in the risk assessment is inconsistent with the requirements of Basin Plan or the content of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.43(3)	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to: (a) the strategies listed in subsection 4.03(3); and (b) any guidelines published by the Authority in accordance with section 4.04.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was developed having regard to the strategies listed in section 4.03(3) of the Basin Plan in the following way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when developing Table 15 through Table 56 (surface water) and Table 57 to Table 77 (groundwater) regard was given to the strategies listed in section 4.03(3) of the Basin Plan, which were analysed and matched up with the corresponding relevant Victorian strategies. Regard was also given to the Part 9 guidelines developed by the MDBA. section 4.03(3)(a)(i) of the Basin Plan was considered when developing the Wimmera–Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan which is incorporated as a strategy to address environmental watering risks and also informs the obligation under section 10.26 of the Basin Plan. section 4.03(3)(a)(ii) of the Basin Plan - the Water Quality Management Plan prepared in accordance with Part 7 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan was developed having regard to the water quality and salinity management plan. The Water Quality Management Plan addresses the risks identified relating to water quality matters. section 4.03(a)(iii) of the Basin Plan - water trading rules were considered when responding to Part 8 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan in addition to considering appropriate strategies for managing risks relating to water availability in the risk assessment section 4.03(3)(a)(iv) of the Basin Plan - water resource planning informs the strategies relating to water availability section 4.03(3)(b) of the Basin Plan - the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan was developed using the best available knowledge and information in consultation with relevant stakeholders. Additionally, various strategies to address risk such as the sustainable water strategies require consultation under the Victorian Water Act or Water for Victoria which was developed in consultation with relevant stakeholders. section 4.03(3)(c) of the Basin Plan - the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan promotes risk-based approach to water resource planning and management by including the risk assessment and linking outcomes of the risk assessment to various Victorian policies and strategies section 4.03(3)(d) of the Basin Plan - the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report Water for Victoria outlines the policy for managing Victoria's water to optimise shared benefits. This has informed Victoria's approach to managing consumptive and environmental water and supports the meeting of Aboriginal and Recreational uses in the risk assessment. section 4.03(3)(e) of the Basin Plan - regard was had to monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Basin Plan through the response to Part 10 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan and through strategies identified in Table 78 of the Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report. section 4.03(3)(f) of the Basin Plan - regard was had to risks arising with non-compliance with water law. A low risk was identified. Obligations on water users in the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan reflect obligation in State law for which there is an effective enforcement regime. section 4.03(3)(g) of the Basin Plan - as is outlined in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report, Water for Victoria outlines key Victorian government policy for water management. Included is increased communication with communities in making water resource management decisions. This has informed development of the strategies to address the risk assessment. section 4.03(3)(h) of the Basin Plan - the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan promotes increased knowledge of the impact of interception activities through identification of further work to assess the impact and proposed consideration of impacts of these activities through sustainable water strategies identified in the risk assessment. section 4.03(3)(i) of the Basin Plan - the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan identifies in response to Part 10 of the Basin Plan opportunities to improve measurement of groundwater and surface water and the policies of <i>Water for Victoria</i> for improved monitoring and measurement are also identified. The Water Quality Management Plan improves knowledge of the causes of water quality degradation and the effects of water quality on environmental assets and ecosystem functions.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 10	Measuring and monitoring			
10.44(a)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (a) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is measured;	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. In respect of the relevant class of water access right available in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area, the best estimate long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is measured is (a) a) bulk entitlement for take from regulated rivers and from watercourses 66,874 ML; and (b) b) take and use licences for take from watercourses 4,928 ML.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the total volume of water that is measured and identifies the individual water access rights relevant to this matter. The best estimate of the long-term annual average of water taken from surface water is that measured in the BDL for take from a regulated river or a watercourse (excluding basic rights). The volumes identified in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table are the proportion of BDL attributed to bulk entitlements and the proportion of BDL attributed to take and use licences.
10.44(a)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (a) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is measured;	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This text applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. In respect of take by take and use licence in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area, the best estimate for the long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is measured 68,880ML.	n/a	This requirement is met as the only water access rights in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area are take and use licences and take under a basic right (domestic and stock). The volume measured relates solely to licensed use under take and use licences. The best estimate of the long-term annual average of water taken that is measured in the BDL for take from groundwater excluding basic rights.
10.44(b)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (b) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is not measured;	Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area This text applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) SDL resource unit. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. In respect of the relevant water access rights, the long term annual average quantity of water taken in the Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area that is not measured: (a) take and use licence for take by runoff dams and registration licences for take by runoff dams 13,100 ML (b) basic rights for take by runoff dam 11,000 ML (c) basic rights for take from regulated rivers and from watercourses that are not regulated rivers 1,135 ML.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies the total volume of water that is not measured and identifies the individual water access rights relevant to this area. The water access rights relevant to this matter are basic rights. Basic rights are identified as domestic and stock rights and Traditional Owner rights under Victorian legislation. The best estimate of the long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is not measured is the BDL for those forms of take. The method used to determine the volumes in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table is the method for determining BDL.
10.44(b)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (b) the best estimate of the total long-term annual average quantity of water taken that is not measured;	Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area This response applies to all the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee: Highlands, Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain and Wimmera-Mallee: deep SDL resource units. A map of these water resources is contained at Figure 2 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. In respect of take under basic rights in the Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area, the best estimate of the take that is not measured is 1,280 ML.	n/a	This requirement is met as the only water access rights available for take from groundwater in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area are a take and use licence and take under a basic right (domestic and stock). Therefore, the volume not measured relates solely to take under basic rights. The best estimate of the long-term annual average of water taken that is measured in the BDL for take from an aquifer excluding basic rights. The method used to determine the volumes in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table is the method for determining BDL.
10.44(c)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (c) how the quantities under paragraphs (a) and (b) were calculated;	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The quantities identified under sections 10.44(a) and 10.44(b) of the Basin Plan were calculated in accordance with the methods for determining the baseline diversion limit as prescribed by the Basin Plan.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text refers to the method for determining BDL.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.44(d)	A water resource plan must include the following information in relation to each class of water access right relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area: (d) the proportion of the quantity referred to in paragraph (a) that is measured in accordance with standards for measuring agreed by the Basin States and the Commonwealth.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area The Basin States signed up to the Basin Compliance Compact which identifies a metering standard subject to exceptions that are yet to be determined by Victoria. Until the exemptions to metering all take are determined, a proportion of take that is measured in accordance with the agreed standard cannot be determined. Of all water taken for consumptive use the proportion of take in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area that is measured is outlined in: (a) Column 8 of Table A to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table for surface water take; and (b) Column 8 of Table B to the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table groundwater take.	n/a	The percentage of volumes metered was identified in the Murray-Darling Basin Authority review of 2017. This volume of metered take is in accordance with Victoria's current metering policy. Until the regulatory impact assessment is completed and exemptions are published in accordance with the Actions in Part 3 of the Basin Compliance Compact.
10.45(1)	A water resource plan must specify measures for maintaining and, if practicable, improving: (a) the proportion of take that is measured in the water resource plan area (b) the standard to which take is measured.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area Victoria has committed to the following measures under Water for Victoria for maintaining and, where practicable, improving the proportion of take that is measured in the water resource plan area, and the standard to which take is measured by: (a) Implementation Plan under the Basin Compliance Compact to improve metering against the National Standard for metering in accordance with the approved exemptions published in under Action 3.1 (including Actions 3.2--3.5) and supported by Actions VIC 3.1-3.7. (b) maintenance of stream gauges by water corporations and DELWP according to national standards (c) installation and maintenance of meters by water corporations according to national standards (d) upgrades to non-urban metering according to the <i>National Metering Standards for Non-Urban Water Meters</i> (e) continued investment in ongoing Statewide surface water and groundwater monitoring networks (f) investment in infrastructure upgrades and new technologies to improve the quality, accuracy and timeliness of monitoring data; and (g) investigation into the introduction of a reasonable use limit for domestic and stock rights to improve monitoring and reporting of the quantity of water used under these rights.	Department Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water	This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table outlines Victoria's proposed measures for maintaining and, where practicable, improving the standard to which take is measured. The Victorian Government has made these commitments in Water for Victoria: Water Plan (Actions 8.4 and 8.11) to improve water use information (DELWP 2016). These measures will improve the standard to which take is measured by increasing metering and monitoring efforts, so that more accurate and transparent information regarding take is available. Investment in infrastructure will improve the quality of the data available. Further information on maintaining and improving the proportion of take that is measured and the standard to which take is measured can be found in Part 15.6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.
10.45(2)	The water resource plan must specify the timeframe for implementing the measures.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area These measures will be implemented over the next 10 years.	n/a	This requirement is met as the accredited text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table identifies a timeframe for continued improvement. The timeframe for implementing these measures is set out in Water for Victoria (DELWP 2016) and recognises that for the measures to realise continuous improvement, they must be implemented on an ongoing basis. The time frame for implementation of this policy is 10 years.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.46(1)	A water resource plan must specify the monitoring of the water resources of the water resource plan area that will be done to enable the Basin State to fulfil its reporting obligations under section 13.14.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Table 59 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report and Part 6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Quality Management Plan sets out the monitoring of the water resources of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan area that will be done to fulfil the reporting obligations under section 13.14 of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>The remaining four matters will be informed by the monitoring conducted for the purposes of the matters listed in Table 59. These four matters relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Matter 4 – the effectiveness of the management of risks to Basin water resources (informed by monitoring of Matters 8, 9 and 12) (b) Matter 10 – implementation of the environmental management framework (informed by Matter 8) (c) Matter 14 – the implementation of the water quality and salinity management plan including to the extent to which regard is had to the targets in Chapter 9 of the Basin Plan when making flow management decisions (informed by Matter 12) (d) Matter 18 – the efficiency and the effectiveness of the operation of water resource plans, including in providing a robust framework under a changing climate (informed by Matters 8, 9, 12 and 19). 	Department	<p>This requirement is met as Table 59 in Part 15.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report lists the matters under Schedule 12 to the Basin Plan that Victoria is responsible for reporting against and the monitoring that will be done to fulfil reporting obligations. Table 59 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report only relates to four core matters being Matters 8, 9, 12 and 19. The additional four matters Victoria is required to report on are informed by the monitoring that occurs under the four core matters (being Matters 4, 10, 14 and 18). The text outlines how these matters will be informed by the monitoring outlined in Table 42 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Table 59 includes reference to Part 6 of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Quality Management Plan to respond to reporting against Matter 12 of Schedule 12 to the Basin Plan.</p> <p>The text relating to Matter 8 of Schedule 12 is different from the text contained in the Wimmera-Mallee Long Term Watering Plan to account for updated information. Following accreditation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan the Wimmera-Mallee Long Term Watering Plan will be reviewed and updated where necessary.</p>
10.46(2)	Nothing in this section limits the capacity of the Basin State to conduct other monitoring of the water resources of a water resource plan area.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This subsection informs the response to section 10.46(1) of the Basin Plan and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.</p>	n/a	

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATON
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 11	Reviews of water resource plans			
10.47	A water resource plan must require that if a review of the plan (or a part of the plan) is undertaken, the report of the review must be given to the Authority within 30 days after the report is completed.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>If a review of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is undertaken, the report of that review must be given to the Murray–Darling Basin Authority within 30 days after the report is completed.</p>	Department	The requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row requires that a copy of the review report be provided to the MDBA within 30 days of the relevant report being completed. The circumstances in which a review may occur are outlined in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report at Part 1.5 .
10.48	A water resource plan must require a Basin State that proposes an amendment to the plan arising from a review to give the reasons for the amendment to the Authority.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>If a review of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan results in a proposed amendment to the Plan, the reasons for the amendment must be provided to the Murray–Darling Basin Authority.</p>	Department	This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row requires that where an amendment is proposed following a review, the reasons for that amendment must be provided to the MDBA. Further information on the review process is contained in Part 1.5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.

FOR ACCREDITATION				NOT FOR ACCREDITATION
Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 12				
Information used to prepare water resource plan				
10.49(1)	A water resource plan must be based on the best available information.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared using the best available information for each component of the Plan that was available at the time of submission for accreditation.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the text in Column 3 of this row identifies that the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was based on the best available information. Where relevant a discussion of the best available information is provided in the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Examples of where best available information was used include Part 8.5 and Part 8.6 of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report and in the Methods Report at Appendix C to the Report.</p>
10.49(2)	The water resource plan must identify and describe the significant sources of information on which the water resource plan is based.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Significant sources of information are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) recent resource assessments conducted in Victoria (b) current legislative and non-legislative information (c) a specifically designed risk assessment (d) REALM modelling results of Baseline Diversion Limit (e) Sustainable Diversion Limit assessments (f) information gathered from consultation with the community and industry. <p>The Reference section contained in the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report contains a list of the key sources of information used to develop the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row and the part of the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report specified in Column 3 identifies and describes the significant sources of information on which the water resource plan is based. The reference list in the Wimmera–Mallee Comprehensive Report before the Glossary and in the Appendices where relevant.</p>
10.50	A water resource plan must identify any significant method, model or tool that has been used to develop the water resource plan.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>The significant methods, models and tools that have been used to develop the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Environmental Water—FLOWS2 (b) REALM modelling results of Baseline Diversion Limit (c) Permitted Take — The proposed Groundwater Baseline and Sustainable Diversion Limits: Methods Report (MDBA 2012a) (d) SDL Determination—SDL derived from RRAM and the proposed Basin Plan groundwater SDL (e) Commercial Plantations—SoilFlux (Jacobs (2016b), HARC (2016b)) (f) Runoff Dams—STEDI (Spatial Tool for Estimating the Impact of Dams) version 1.2 (Sinclair Knight Merz 2011, STEDI: Estimating the impact of farm dams on streamflow (User Manual), Prepared for Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment, July 2011) (g) Risk assessment method outlined in Part 2 of the Wimmera–Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B. (h) Take under basic rights – model results for domestic and stock use (RMCG, 2011) (i) Wimmera–Mallee Surface Water BDL Re-estimates document, prepared February 2019 	n/a	<p>This requirement is met by the text in Column 3 of this row that identifies the significant methods, models or tools that have been used to develop the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 13	Extreme events			
10.51(1)(a)	A water resource plan must describe how the water resources of the water resource plan area will be managed during the following types of events: (a) an extreme dry period;	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Water corporations may reduce or restrict the delivery of water to rural customers where there is insufficient capacity in the system (water shortage). Water corporations may reduce, restrict or discontinue the supply of water to urban towns where there is insufficient capacity for authorised use.</p> <p>Permanent water saving rules have been in place since the Millennium Drought. These provide permanent restrictions on the use of drinking water outside the home. Water corporations may also apply staged water restrictions to further restrict the use of drinking water in order to protect the availability of water for critical human need in the long term.</p> <p>The Minister requires water corporations, under a Statement of Obligations, to undertake short term and long-term planning of future water needs to ensure available water is managed in order to meet critical human needs within those events that can be predicted. This planning includes a drought response plan for rural water, drought preparedness plans for urban supply, and emergency management plans.</p> <p>The Minister also causes a water security outlook to be published to inform the management of water resources under a range of water availability conditions.</p> <p>Where the measures employed by water corporations is not sufficient to address the impacts of an extreme dry period, the Minister may declare a water shortage in an area or for a resource and temporarily qualify rights to temporarily change the water sharing arrangements in a system by reducing the water available to holders of a water access right in the area or resource.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the accredited text describes how water resources will be managed in Victoria during an extreme dry period. Further detail regarding how restrictions are applied and the planning undertaken to secure water availability for critical human need is outlined in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report at Part 9.3.2.</p> <p>Drought response and contingency planning for water shortage is undertaken for both rural and urban water needs. More significant planning and oversight is required for ensuring the security of urban town supplies of drinking water. This is on the basis that entitlement holders (rural water users) are required to manage their own water availability risks and are given a range of tools to do this.</p> <p>Private domestic and stock water supply systems are not feasible in much of the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area because of low and unreliable rainfall and lack of suitable groundwater. The Northern and Wimmera Mallee Pipeline systems were built to provide reliable domestic and stock water supplies to farms and towns. See Part 3.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.51(1)(b)	<p>A water resource plan must describe how the water resources of the water resource plan area will be managed during the following types of events:</p> <p>(b) a water quality event of an intensity, magnitude and duration that is sufficient to render water acutely toxic or unusable for established local uses and values;</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Where water is no longer fit for purpose due to a water quality event, water corporations may reduce, restrict or discontinue the supply of water to urban towns where the quality of the water available does not meet the standards for authorised use, and in order to protect the availability of water for critical human needs.</p> <p>Blue-green algae (BGA) is the predominant water quality event that can occur in Victoria. Responses to blue-green algae events relate to recreational use and public health and safety. Emergency response procedures are set out in the Blue-Green Algae Regional Coordination Plan and relate to protecting drinking supply and protecting the public from contact but do not aim to mitigate impacts of water taken from the system. Water corporations coordinate the management of major outbreaks while local water managers monitor and manage local blooms under their own emergency plans.</p> <p>There is insufficient data on the impacts BGA has on domestic and stock use and irrigation and therefore there are no strategies to manage these impacts.</p> <p>In addition, the Environment Protection Authority Victoria has powers to issue remedial notices, pollution abatement notices, clean-up notices and directions for pollution-related events.</p> <p>As identified in the Risk Assessment, there is insufficient information regarding Aboriginal values and uses of water in order to have an adequate strategy for managing the impacts of water quality events in this context. As information about the impacts on these values improves, management strategies to respond to water quality events will be developed.</p> <p>Water corporations develop management plans to manage risks to water resources. Where risks to the water quality are identified the public is immediately notified of the risks and restrictions on access may occur to prevent harm to individuals as a result of contact with contaminated water.</p> <p>Table 22 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report details specific storage and asset actions during an extreme water quality event.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as it describes how water is managed during a water quality event. Water corporations are responsible for managing water quality issues as they relate to protecting the integrity of water resources.</p> <p>Details about how GWMWater manages water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee are discussed further at Part 9.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Details about management of water resources during a water quality event are set out in Part 9.3.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>Where there is a water quality event that relates to pollution, the Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) is responsible for managing the pollution. The powers the EPA has to address pollution events are described further in Part 9.3.4 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.51(1)(c)	<p>A water resource plan must describe how the water resources of the water resource plan area will be managed during the following types of events:</p> <p>(c) any type of event that has resulted in the suspension of a statutory regional water plan in the past 50 years (including a transitional water resource plan or interim water resource plan).</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>This matter is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan because:</p> <p>(a) Victoria does not have statutory regional water plans; and</p> <p>(b) there are no powers to suspend transitional water resource plans or interim water resource plans.</p>	n/a	<p>Given that Victoria does not have statutory regional water plans, this paragraph is not relevant in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p>
10.51(2)	<p>If an event of a type listed in subsection (1) would compromise a Basin State's ability to meet critical human water needs in the water resource plan area, the water resource plan must set out measures to meet critical human water needs during such an event.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Measures to meet critical human water needs during extreme dry periods (section 10.51(1)(a) of the Basin Plan) or water quality events (section 10.51(1)(b) of the Basin Plan) are not required as adequate arrangements are in place to ensure that critical human water needs are not compromised.</p> <p>The situation described in paragraph (c) of section 10.51(1) of the Basin Plan is not relevant to the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as it is not necessary to include measures to meet critical human water needs during an extreme event listed in section 10.51(1) of the Basin Plan as the management of water resources (as described in response to 10.51(1)) is done in such a way as to protect the continued supply of water to cities and towns to meet critical human needs.</p> <p>The powers available under the Victorian Water Act to respond to water shortages include circumstances where water availability is reduced because of drought or water quality events. As a result of the water resource management actions to address extreme dry or water quality events, there is a very low risk of a failure to meet critical human water needs during such an event. In light of this, no measures are being included in the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>This is exemplified by the ability of Victoria to manage its water resources during the Millennium Drought without resorting to Stage 4 water restrictions, which represents Victoria's understanding of managing water resources to meet critical human needs.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.51(3)	The water resource plan must provide that, if new scientific information suggests a change in the likelihood of an event of a type listed in subsection (1) occurring (for example, due to climate change), consideration must be given to whether, as a result of this new information, the water resources should be managed differently.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>If new scientific information suggests a change in the likelihood of an event of a type listed in section 10.51(1) of the Basin Plan occurring, consideration will be given as to whether, as a result of this new information, the water resources should be managed differently.</p>	Department	Water resources are managed through State legislation and policy which was formed using the best available information. All relevant documents are reviewed on a periodic basis to ensure that new information informs water resource management.

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
Part 14				
Indigenous values and uses				
10.52(1)(a)	A water resource plan must identify: (a) the objectives of Indigenous people in relation to managing the water resources of the water resource plan area;	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>For the purposes of section 10.52(1)(a) of the Basin Plan, the following objective of Indigenous people is identified in relation to managing the water resources of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To develop respectful partnerships between Traditional Owners, Aboriginal Victorians and the Victorian Government to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) recognise Aboriginal values and objectives of water in Victorian water management, policy and planning (ii) include Aboriginal values and traditional ecological knowledge in Victorian water management, policy and planning (iii) facilitate Aboriginal access to water for economic development in Victorian water management, policy and planning (iv) build capacity for Aboriginal participation in Victorian water management, policy development and planning (b) The specific objectives for the Barapa Barapa Nation are identified in Table 30 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (c) The specific objectives for Nation groups represented by the Barengi Gadjin Land Council are identified in Table 47 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (d) The specific objectives for the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation are identified in Table 33 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (e) The specific objectives for Nation groups represented by the First Peoples of the Millewa -Mallee are identified in Table 36 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (f) The specific objectives for Tati Tati Wadi Wadi Nations are identified in Table 37 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (g) The specific objectives for Wadi Wadi Nation are identified in Table 43 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. (h) The specific objectives for Wamba Wemba Nation are identified in Table 46 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report. 	n/a	<p>This requirement at section 10.52(1)(a) of the Basin Plan is satisfied as it identifies high-level objectives and outcomes of Aboriginal people in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area (reflected in Victoria's Government Policy, Water for Victoria: Water Plan, released in 2016). The high-level objectives and outcomes do not indicate specific objectives and outcomes of individual Traditional Owner groups, but do reflect the overarching sentiment that has proven, through engagement, to be common to Aboriginal people in the water resource plan area.</p> <p>Objectives for each Traditional Owner Group is identified in their respective contributions in Part 11 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report as outlined in Column 3.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.52(1)(b)	<p>A water resource plan must identify:</p> <p>(a) the outcomes for the management of the water resources of the water resource plan area that are desired by Indigenous people.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>(a) For the purposes of section 10.52(1)(b) of the Basin Plan the following outcomes for the management of water resources of the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area that are desired by Indigenous people are identified to:</p> <p>(i) partner with the water sector to make sure that the legislated objectives of the Victorian Environmental Water Holder consider identified Aboriginal water-related environmental outcomes</p> <p>(ii) incorporate traditional and ecological knowledge into water planning and management using Aboriginal Waterway Assessments and other tools developed by Traditional Owners</p> <p>(iii) achieve shared benefits in water resources</p> <p>(iv) be notified by water corporations when opportunities to access water entitlements arise</p> <p>(v) sustainable water strategies to be prepared considering opportunities for access to water for economic development for Aboriginal Victorians.</p> <p>(b) The specific outcomes for the Barapa Barapa Nation are identified in Table 30 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(c) The specific outcomes for Nation groups represented by the Barengi Gadjin Land Council are identified in Table 48 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(d) The specific outcomes for the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation are identified in Table 34 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(e) The specific outcomes for Nation groups represented by the First Peoples of the Millewa-Mallee are identified in Table 36 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(f) The specific outcomes for Tati Tati Wadi Wadi Nations are identified in Table 37 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(g) The specific outcomes for Wadi Wadi Nation are identified in Table 44 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p> <p>(h) The specific outcomes for Wamba Wamba Nation are identified in Table 46 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>	n/a	<p>See the response in Column 5 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table in relation to section 10.52(1)(a) of the Basin Plan for explanatory text to support the response to section 10.52(1)(b) of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Outcomes for each Traditional Owner Group is identified in their respective contributions in Part 11 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report as outlined in Column 3.</p> <p>First Peoples of the Millewa-Mallee identified their specific objectives for the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan; this list includes several desired outcomes. As First Peoples of the Millewa-Mallee has signed their contribution off as objectives, the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan identifies them as such.</p> <p>First Peoples of the Millewa-Mallee represents several language groups in the Mallee region, including Nations listed in the 2015 MDBA MLDRIN endorsed Nations Guide for Water Resource Plans. At the specific request of the First Peoples of the Millewa-Mallee, the groups represented have not been identified in the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>
10.52(2)	<p>In identifying the matters set out in subsection (1), regard must be had to:</p> <p>(a) the social, spiritual and cultural values of Indigenous people that relate to the water resources of the water resource plan area (Indigenous values); and</p> <p>(b) the social, spiritual and cultural uses of the water resources of the water resource plan area by Indigenous people (Indigenous uses);</p> <p>as determined through consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations, including (where appropriate) the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations and the Northern Murray-Darling Basin Aboriginal Nations.</p>	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is satisfied as, when identifying objectives and outcomes under section 10.52(1) of the Basin Plan, regard was given to the matters described in section 10.52(2) of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Consultation details and a summary of how matters were taken into account are set out in Part 11 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report and in the Consultation Report at Appendix D to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.52(3)	A person or body preparing a water resource plan may identify opportunities to strengthen the protection of Indigenous values and Indigenous uses in accordance with the objectives and outcomes identified under subsection (1), in which case the opportunities must be specified in the water resource plan.	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>Opportunities to strengthen the protection of Aboriginal values and uses of water within the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) legislative changes to improve the ways that Traditional Owners and Aboriginal Victorians are engaged in water management and planning, and to improve incorporation of traditional ecological knowledge and Aboriginal water objectives and outcomes in decision making (b) further engagement on the National Cultural Flows Research Project (released July 2018) to identify opportunities to progress understanding of, and respond to, cultural flows in Victoria (c) engagement on the review of the Wimmera-Mallee Long-Term Watering Plan to occur following accreditation of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan (d) engagement on the implementation of the Water Quality Management Plan developed under Part 7 of Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan (e) engagement on the review of the Northern Sustainable Water Strategy; increased awareness of section 8A rights under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) and to increase the capacity of relevant Traditional Owner groups to access these rights in the future (f) implementation of Aboriginal Participation Guidelines for catchment management authorities, which describe key principles and actions to support Aboriginal participation and inclusion (g) creation of several Aboriginal water officer positions during the development of this water resource plan and seeking funding to ensure these positions continue to progress the identification and implementation of values, uses, objectives and outcomes identified in this plan (h) continued implementation of the Water for Victoria Aboriginal Water Policy, as recommitted via the risk strategies and measures in this plan, to provide opportunities for further identification and protection of Aboriginal water values and uses in the Wimmera–Mallee area and to minimise or mitigate the high risks identified as much as practicable. 	n/a	<p>This requirement is satisfied by the text in Column 3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Index Table. The text outlines the potential opportunities for strengthening the protection of Aboriginal values and uses of water within the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area.</p> <p>The risk strategies in Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report provide further commitment to the continuation of the Water for Victoria: Water Plan policy.</p> <p>There are other opportunities that have not been realised yet, but the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan does not prohibit these from occurring. The Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan is designed to adapt to future policy changes and will need to be regularly revisited, especially the risk strategies, to ensure it is effective or to propose alternative strategies. See Part 11.4.3 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for further discussion.</p>
10.53(1)	<p>A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the matters identified under section 10.52 and the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements provided for by the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> in relation to the water resources of the water resource plan area; (b) registered Aboriginal heritage relating to the water resources of the water resource plan area; (c) inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan; (d) Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives; (e) encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people; (f) risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area. 	<p>Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area</p> <p>No accredited text is needed for a requirement to 'have regard to'. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.</p>	n/a	<p>This requirement is met as the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the matters identified under section 10.52 of the Basin Plan and those listed in section 10.53(1) of the Basin Plan.</p> <p>Part 11 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report describes the consultation process and consideration of the views of Indigenous organisations, specifically with respect to sections 10.52 and 10.53 in the development of the Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan.</p> <p>Part 11.4.1 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report that describes how the risk assessment addresses “Indigenous uses”</p> <p>Regard was given to the social, spiritual and cultural values of Indigenous people and the social, spiritual and cultural uses of the water resources in the Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area as required under section 10.52(2) of the Basin Plan. Further detail regarding the consultation with the Aboriginal people in the water resource plan area is detailed in Part 2 of the Consultation Report at Appendix D to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report.</p>

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Column 1 Basin Plan Section	Column 2 Basin Plan Requirement (Section 10.04(4)(a))	Column 3 Accredited response Sect 10.04(2) & (3)	Column 4 Person responsible Sect 10.06(2)	Column 5 Explanatory material
10.53(2)	In this section, registered Aboriginal heritage means Aboriginal heritage registered or listed under a law of a Basin State or the Commonwealth that deals with the registration or listing of Aboriginal heritage (regardless of whether the law deals with the listing of other heritage).	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This subsection informs the interpretation of “registered Aboriginal heritage” and does not contain a water resource plan requirement.	n/a	
10.54	A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to the views of Indigenous people with respect to cultural flows.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area No accredited text is needed for a requirement to ‘have regard to’. Explanation of how regard was had is in Column 5.	n/a	This requirement is met as the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan was prepared having regard to the views of Indigenous people with respect to cultural flows. The Consultation Report at Appendix D to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report outlines the extensive consultation undertaken with Aboriginal communities in development of the Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan. The plan supports progressing the discussion of cultural flows through engagement on the National Cultural Flows Research Project. See also Part 11.7 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report for discussion of cultural flows. Victoria supportive of progressing the discussion of cultural flows through engagement on the National Cultural Flows Research Project.
10.55	A water resource plan must provide at least the same level of protection of Indigenous values and Indigenous uses as provided in: (a) a transitional water resource plan for the water resource plan area; or (b) an interim water resource plan for the water resource plan area.	Wimmera-Mallee water resource plan area This Wimmera-Mallee Water Resource Plan provides the same level of protection as provided in transitional water resource plans for the Wimmera–Mallee (surface water) and Wimmera–Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan areas as it does not operate to limit any right to take water under section 8A of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic).	n/a	This requirement is met by the text contained in Column 3 of this row of the Wimmera–Mallee Index Table. As identified in Part 11 of the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report a significant program has been developed to encourage and empower Indigenous involvement in water resource management in addition to moving towards increased access to water. The Wimmera–Mallee Water Resource Plan recognises the objectives and outcomes for water desired by Aboriginal communities in addition to identifying strategies to address the risks relating to Aboriginal water (see Wimmera-Mallee Risk Assessment Report at Appendix B to the Wimmera-Mallee Comprehensive Report). The strategies, supported by the Victorian Government Aboriginal water policy outlined in the Water for Victoria: Water Plan, will identify opportunities to further strengthen the protection of Aboriginal values and uses of water.

Table A: Water Access Rights Wimmera-Mallee (surface water) water resource plan area—s.10.08(1) Basin Plan

This table applies to the following SDL Resource unit:

Wimmera-Mallee Surface Water SDL Resource Unit (code: SS9)

Item	Form of Take	Classes of Water Access Right (Entitlement)	Victorian Water Act section ¹	Conditions and Characteristics (10.08(1)(c) BP)		No. of Water Access Rights (Entitlements) (10.08(1)(c) BP)	Proportion of take measured (10.44(d) BP)
				Management	Trade		
1	Take from a watercourse (excluding take under basic rights)	Bulk Entitlement	34A	<p>No specified period of authorisation.</p> <p>May be held by a water corporation, a (power) generation company, the Minister administering the <i>Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987</i>, or the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.</p> <p>Entitlement is for one or more of volume, share of flow, or share of storage.</p> <p>Obligations to release flows for environmental and primary entitlement holders, contribute funds to operation and maintenance and around metering, accounting and reporting.</p> <p>Section 43 of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) lists the matters that may be specified in the entitlement. Once specified these are conditions on the bulk entitlement (water access right). Once issued bulk entitlements are recorded on the Victorian Water Register.</p>	<p>Depending on the bulk entitlement Order, can be transferred in whole or part</p> <p>May be sold in whole or part in specified circumstances</p> <p>Can assign (trade) whole or part of allocation under a bulk entitlement</p>	6	100%
		Environmental Entitlement	48A	<p>No specified period of authorisation.</p> <p>May be held by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.</p> <p>May be allocated to maintain the environmental water reserve in accordance with the environmental water reserve objective, or to improve environmental values and health of water ecosystems.</p> <p>Can be one or more of maximum volume, share of flow or share of storage and is subject to seasonal determinations.</p> <p>May specify water accounting procedures, conditions and class of reliability (high or low reliability).</p> <p>Section 48J of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) lists the matters that may be specified in the entitlement. Once specified these are conditions on the environmental entitlement (water access right). Once issued environmental entitlements are recorded on the Victorian Water Register.</p>	<p>Can be transferred in whole or part.</p> <p>May be sold in whole or part in subject to specified process</p> <p>Can assign (trade) whole or part of allocation to specified persons</p>	0	
		Take and use licence	51	<p>Issued for a maximum of 15 years.</p> <p>Can be renewed for a maximum of 15 years at the end of the term.</p> <p>Authorises an express annual maximum volume that may be taken under the licence.</p> <p>Is subject to standard conditions** including time, place and rate of take.</p> <p>Time, volume and rate can be limited through restrictions, rosters and bans.</p> <p>Section 56 of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) identifies the matters for which the Minister may specify conditions on a take and use licence. Once specified, these conditions are contained in the relevant take and use licence (water access right).</p>	<p>Can be traded on temporary or permanent basis</p>	240 [^] (Wimmera Avon) 75 (Avoca)* [^] Note: number combined with regulated river take	84%*

1. This column identifying the relevant section in the Victorian Water Act does not form part of the accredited text

* Avoca – since 2006, surface water extraction has only occurred in 2010 (volume of 100ML). The low reliability means that many licence holders do not have functioning infrastructure to extract water and therefore the proportion of measured take from Avoca is low.

Item	Form of Take	Classes of Water Access Right (Entitlement)	Victorian Water Act section1	Conditions and Characteristics (10.08(1)(c) BP)		No. of Water Access Rights (Entitlements) (10.08(1)(c) BP)	Proportion of take measured (10.44(d) BP)
				Management	Trade		
2	Take from a watercourse under basic rights	Domestic and stock	8	No specified period of authorisation. The right to access depends on meeting the access specifications and the definition of domestic and stock use but otherwise does not have conditions.	Not applicable	565 ²	0%
		Traditional Owner statutory right	8A	No specified period of authorisation. Take and use for traditional purposes as provided in a land use activity agreement made under the <i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i> . A person who is a member of a traditional owner group bound by the agreement has the right to take and use water on the land that is subject to the agreement, in accordance with terms and conditions of the agreement. Applies only where the member has access to a waterway or bore in the circumstances under section 8(1) of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic). There are no requirements under the Victorian Water Act on the exercise of this right.	Not applicable		
3	Take from a regulated river (excluding take under basic rights)	Bulk Entitlement	34A	No specified period of authorisation. May be held by a water corporation, a (power) generation company, the Minister administering the <i>Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987</i> , or the Victorian Environmental Water Holder. Entitlement is for one or more of volume, share of flow, or share of storage. Obligations to release flows for environmental and primary entitlement holders, contribute funds to operation and maintenance and around metering, accounting and reporting. Section 43 of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) lists the matters that may be specified in the entitlement. Once specified these are conditions on the bulk entitlement (water access right). Once issued bulk entitlements are recorded on the Victorian Water Register.	Depending on the bulk entitlement Order, can be transferred in whole or part May be sold in whole or part in specified circumstances Can assign (trade) whole or part of allocation under a bulk entitlement	3	100%
		Environmental Entitlement	48A	No specified period of authorisation. May be held by the Victorian Environmental Water Holder. May be allocated to maintain the environmental water reserve in accordance with the environmental water reserve objective, or to improve environmental values and health of water ecosystems. Can be one or more of maximum volume, share of flow or share of storage and is subject to seasonal determinations. May specify water accounting procedures, conditions and class of reliability (high or low reliability) Section 48J of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) lists the matters that may be specified in the entitlement. Once specified these are conditions on the environmental entitlement (water access right).	Can be transferred in whole or part. May be sold in whole or part in subject to specified process Can assign (trade) whole or part of allocation to specified persons	1	100%
		Take and use licence	51	Issued for a maximum of 15 years. Can be renewed for a maximum of 15 years at the end of the term. Authorises an express annual maximum volume that may be taken under the licence. Is subject to standard conditions ³ including time, place and rate of take. Time, volume and rate can be limited through restrictions, rosters and bans. Section 56 of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) identifies the matters for which the Minister may specify conditions on a take and use licence. Once specified, these conditions are contained in the relevant take and use licence (water access right).	Can be traded on temporary or permanent basis	240 [^] (Wimmera Avon) [^] Note: number combined with watercourse take	84%

2. This is indicative as no licence is issued for this form of take so the number of rights being used is estimated. The estimate includes take from a regulated river under basic rights.

3. Copy of standard section 51 licence conditions are available on the Victorian Water Register Website

Item	Form of Take	Classes of Water Access Right (Entitlement)	Victorian Water Act section1	Conditions and Characteristics (10.08(1)(c) BP)		No. of Water Access Rights (Entitlements) (10.08(1)(c) BP)	Proportion of take measured (10.44(d) BP)
				Management	Trade		
4	Take from a regulated river under basic rights	Domestic and stock	8	No specified period of authorisation. The right to access depends on meeting the access specifications and the definition of domestic and stock use but otherwise does not have conditions.	Not applicable	565 ⁴	0%
		Traditional Owner statutory right	8A	No specified period of authorisation. Take and use for traditional purposes as provided in a land use activity agreement made under the <i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i> . A person who is a member of a traditional owner group bound by the agreement has the right to take and use water on the land that is subject to the agreement, in accordance with terms and conditions of the agreement. Applies only where the member has access to a waterway or bore in the circumstances under section 8(1) of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic). There are no requirements under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) on the exercise of this right.	Not applicable		
5	Take by runoff dams (excluding under basic rights)	Take and use licence	51	Issued for a maximum of 15 years. Can be renewed for a maximum of 15 years at the end of the term. Authorises an express annual maximum volume that may be taken under the licence. Is subject to standard conditions ⁵ including time, place and rate of take. Time, volume and rate can be limited through restrictions, rosters and bans. Section 56 of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) identifies the matters for which the Minister may specify conditions on a take and use licence. Once specified, these conditions are contained in the relevant take and use licence (water access right).	Can be traded on temporary or permanent basis	4	0%
		Registration licence	51(1A)	No specified period of authorisation. Applications for registration licences could be made between 1 July 2002 and 30 June 2003. Introduced requirement for authorisation for use of water from private dams for irrigation and commercial purposes based on history of take over previous 10 years. A registration licence is enduring and is for an express annual maximum volume that may be taken under the licence. Not subject to conditions. Once issued the registration licence is recorded on the Victorian Water Register. Can be converted to a section51 take and use licence.	Stays with the land and cannot be traded other than on sale of land		
6	Take by runoff dams under basic rights	Domestic and stock	8	No specified period of authorisation. The right to access depends on meeting the access specifications and the definition of domestic and stock use but otherwise does not have conditions.	Not applicable	33,576 ⁶	0%
		Traditional Owner statutory right	8A	No specified period of authorisation. Take and use for traditional purposes as provided in a land use activity agreement made under the <i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i> . A person who is a member of a traditional owner group bound by the agreement has the right to take and use water on the land that is subject to the agreement, in accordance with terms and conditions of the agreement. Applies only where the member has access to a waterway or bore in the circumstances under section8(1) of the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic). There are no requirements under the <i>Water Act 1989</i> (Vic) on the exercise of this right.	Not applicable		
7	Take by commercial plantation	No entitlement requirement	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

Notes:

- i. An "Authority" referred to in this Table is a water corporation
- ii. Water shares, another type of entitlement under the Victorian Water Act, have not been issued in the Wimmera–Mallee water resource plan area
- iii. Bulk entitlements and environmental entitlements can also be for the take of:
 - a. water (other than recycled water) in the works of an Authority; or
 - b. any other water, other than recycled water, to which an Authority has access.

4. This is indicative as no licence is issued for this form of take so the number of rights being used is estimated. The estimate includes take from a watercourse under basic rights.

5. Copy of standard section 51 licence conditions are available on the Victorian Water Register Website

6. This is indicative as no licence is issued for this form of take so the number of rights being used is estimated.

Table B: Water Access Rights Wimmera-Mallee (groundwater) water resource plan area—s.10.08(1) Basin Plan

This table applies to the following SDL Resource unit:

- Wimmera-Mallee Highlands Groundwater SDL Resource Unit (GS9a)
- Wimmera-Mallee: Sedimentary Plain Groundwater SDL Resource Unit (code GS9b)
- Wimmera-Mallee: deep Groundwater SDL Resource Unit (GS9c)

Item	Form of Take	Classes of Water Access Right (Entitlement)	Victorian Water Act ref7	Conditions and Characteristics (10.08(1)(c) BP)		No. of Water Access Rights (Entitlements) (10.08(1)(c) BP)	Proportion of take measured (10.44(d) BP)
				Management	Trade		
1	Take from groundwater (excluding under basic rights)	Bulk Entitlement	34A	<p>No specified period of authorisation.</p> <p>May be held by a water corporation, a (power) generation company, the Minister administering the <i>Conservation, Forests and Lands Act 1987</i>, or the Victorian Environmental Water Holder.</p> <p>Entitlement is for a volume.</p> <p>Obligations around metering, accounting and reporting.</p> <p>Section 43 of the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic)</i> lists the matters that may be specified in the entitlement. Once specified these are conditions on the bulk entitlement (water access right). Once issued the instrument is recorded on the Victorian Water Register.</p>	<p>Depending on the bulk entitlement Order, can be transferred in whole or part</p> <p>May be sold in whole or part in specified circumstances</p> <p>Can assign (trade) whole or part of allocation under a bulk entitlement</p>	0	Not applicable
		Take and use licence	51	<p>Issued for a maximum of 15 years.</p> <p>Can be renewed for a maximum of 15 years at the end of the term.</p> <p>Authorises an express annual maximum volume that may be taken under the licence.</p> <p>Is subject to conditions⁹ including time, place and rate of take.</p> <p>Time, volume and rate can be limited through restrictions, rosters and bans.</p>	<p>Can be traded on temporary or permanent basis</p>		
2	Take from groundwater under basic rights	Domestic and stock	8	<p>No specified period of authorisation.</p> <p>The right to access depends on meeting the access specifications and the definition of domestic and stock use but otherwise does not have conditions.</p>	Not applicable	640 ⁹	0%
		Traditional Owner statutory right	8A	<p>No specified period of authorisation.</p> <p>Take and use for traditional purposes as provided in a land use activity agreement made under the <i>Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010</i>.</p> <p>A person who is a member of a traditional owner group bound by the agreement has the right to take and use water on the land that is subject to the agreement, in accordance with terms and conditions of the agreement.</p> <p>Applies only where the member has access to a waterway or bore in the circumstances under section 8(1) of the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic)</i>.</p> <p>There are no requirements under the <i>Water Act 1989 (Vic)</i> on the exercise of this right.</p>	Not applicable		0%

Notes:

- i. (i) An "Authority" referred to in this Table is a water corporation
- ii. (ii) Water shares, another type of entitlement under the Victorian Water Act, have not been issued in the Wimmera-Mallee-water resource plan area
- iii. (iii) Bulk entitlements and environmental entitlements can also be for the take of:
 - a. a. water (other than recycled water) in the works of an Authority; or
 - b. b. any other water, other than recycled water, to which an Authority has access.

7. This column, identifying the relevant section in the *Water Act 1989 (Vic)*, does not form part of the accredited text

8. Copy of standard section 51 licence conditions can be found on the Victorian Water Register

9. This is indicative as no licence is issued for this form of take so the number of rights being used is estimated

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