**Regional Catchment Strategies Outcomes Framework**

The Victorian and State Governments have defined the following high level outcomes relevant to Regional Catchment Strategies

(Statement that crosses all themes)

Government's commitment to self-determination: We're committed to self-determination and working closely with the Aboriginal community to drive action and improve outcomes.

Healthy, sustainable and productive land, water and biodiversity maintained by ICM that is strongly community based, regionally focused and collaborative.

(Context for Regional Outcomes)

Through the development of the Regional Catchment Strategy, each Catchment community will identify and agree outcomes they seek to achieve. We will monitor and report annually the following set of state-wide outcome and condition indicators as well as regionally specific outcome and condition measures that reflect regionally specific outcomes and Traditional Owner consultation.

WATER THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

Safe, sustainable and productive water resources.

The environmental condition of waterways supports environmental, social, cultural and economic values.

* Increase in Victoria’s water security
* Protect the condition of Victoria’s groundwater resources
* Increase in the number of river reaches/wetlands with maintained or improved environmental condition

Regional Outcomes

* Extent of protected or improved riparian land (ha)
* River flows
* Extent of wetlands (ha)
* Groundwater levels

LAND THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

Land use and management is sustainable with the condition of soil, biodiversity and vegetation improved.

Victoria’s agriculture systems have adapted to significant changes in climate and markets.

* An increased number of farmers have adopted practices needed to reduce the risk of soil and nutrient loss and acidification, improve carbon retention and biodiversity protection on‐farm
* Increase in area of agricultural land mapped that has improved biodiversity protection in place
* A demonstrable increase in the number of farmers using new technologies to support their climate related farm decisions

Regional Outcomes

* Percentage of exposed soils
* Agriculture (type, number of enterprises, area, value)
* Amount of change over time of land use

BIODIVERSITY THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

 Victoria’s biodiversity is healthy, valued and actively cared for.

* Net gain of the overall extent and condition of habitats across terrestrial, waterway and marine environments
* (On average) % Change in Suitable Habitat expected over 50 years from sustained improved management for threatened species
* (On average) % Change in Suitable Habitat expected over 50 years from sustained improved management for culturally significant species
* Percentage of all species with positive % Change in Suitable Habitat expected over 50 years from sustained improved management

Regional Outcomes

* Extent of native vegetation (ha)
* Area (ha) of pest herbivore control
* Area (ha) of pest predator control Area (ha) of weed control
* Area (ha) of permanent protection

COASTS & MARINE THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

A healthy, dynamic and biodiverse marine and coastal environment that is valued in its own right benefits the Victorian community now and in the future.

* Net gain in extent and condition of coastal habitats
* Improved catchment impact on marine environments through water quality of coastal rivers and estuaries
* Improved catchment impact on marine environments through improved water quality of coastal rivers and estuaries

Regional Outcomes

* Extent of coastal vegetation (mangrove, saltmarsh and other regionally relevant species)
* Water quality

COMMUNITIES THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

Effective community engagement and citizen participation in catchment management.

* Victorians are contributing to the health of Victoria’s environment (biodiversity/catchments/ waterways)
* RCS include Traditional Owner cultural values in specific section/s, or weaved throughout
* Traditional Owners endorse how their values and priorities are incorporated in the RCS, or letters of support.
* Partnership and participation of Traditional Owners

Regional Outcomes

* Community volunteering (Landcare / community NRM Groups – Group Health Score)
* Number of formal partnership agreements for planning and management between Traditional Owners and key NRM agencies

INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT THEME

State Outcomes and Measures

Healthy, sustainable and productive land, water and biodiversity maintained by ICM that is strongly community based, regionally focused and collaborative

* Area under active stewardship to improve catchment health and resilience
* ICM Stewardship Partnerships

Regional Outcomes

* Number of partnerships