# Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy 2023 Progress Report





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## Introduction

This is a progress report on implementation of the Central and Gippsland Region Sustainable Water Strategy (CGRSWS). It has been compiled to reflect progress as of June 2023. Actions have been classified in the following categories, where red requires attention:

* **Behind schedule**: this action requires attention
* **Not yet started – Planned for future delivery**: work on this action is due to be delivered in future years
* **Started**: collaboration or a scope of work has commenced
* **Partially achieved**: the action has been partially achieved and still has remaining tasks to complete
* **Achieved and completed**: the action has been completed in full
* **Achieved and ongoing**: the action has been achieved and the strategy’s requirements have been met, but ongoing effort is needed to ensure the intended outcome of the action continues to be maintained

## Summary of progress

This report includes progress on all actions and on the water recovery policies in Chapter 8 of the CGRSWS.

* The achievement status of these actions and policies are visualised in Figure 1.
* 85 of 111 actions and policies have either been achieved, partially achieved or started.
* Of the 111 actions and policies in this report, 9 actions have been achieved (3 completed and 6 ongoing).
* There are 26 actions and policies that have Not yet started and - Planned for future delivery.

Detailed comments on each action can be found below in Table 1.



Figure 1: CGRSWS actions status, including water recovery target policies.

## Adaptive management

This section of the report can be updated as actions from Implementation Advisory Group discussion(s) are nominated for an adaptive pathway.

## Detailed progress on each action

Further detail on each action can be found in Table 1. Action leads are identified in the SWS implementation plan.

Table 1 CGRSWS action status and comments

| Action number and description | Due date | Achievement status | Comments |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Action 2-1: Changing behaviours at home | By 2024 | Started | DEECA is reviewing water efficiency behaviour change initiatives across the state to identify gaps and opportunities for collaboration. |
| Action 2-2: Water efficient buildings | By 2024 | Started | DEECA is preparing a Regulatory Impact Statement examining stronger state building and plumbing regulations to improve the water efficiency of all buildings |
| Action 2-3: Better information and standards for appliances | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | DEECA continues to advocate for stronger minimum Water Efficiency Labelling and Standards (WELS) scheme ratings for appliances and fixtures. |
| Action 2-4: Showerhead replacement | By 2025 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 2-5: Community rebates and community housing retrofits | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | Delivery agencies continue to support customers who are vulnerable or experiencing hardship to become more water efficient and reduce their water bills through the Community Rebate and Community Housing Retrofit programs. |
| Action 2-6: Waterwise schools | By 2030 (with a mid-term target of 80% by end 2026) | Started | DEECA and delivery agencies continue to ensure that all government schools in the Central and Gippsland region become waterwise - through, for example, promoting improvements to the Schools Water Efficiency Program education material and increased recruitment activity. |
| Action 2-7: Maximising water efficiency in business and industry | By 2025 | Started | A program to maximise water efficiency in business and industry has been scoped and commenced in July 2023.  |
| Action 2-8: Targets for reducing urban water system leaks | By 2025 | Started | Continues to be delivered by Urban Water Corporations. |
| Action 3-1: Investigating options to expand the region’s desalination capacity  | Ongoing | Partially achieved | DEECA and delivery partners are building knowledge of options for expanding the desalination capacity for the region. This will inform the Water Grid Plan (Action 9.2). |
| Action 3-2: Incorporating consideration of water security into Plan Melbourne  | By 2024 | Started | A review of Plan Melbourne is underway. DEECA is providing input and guidance to the review.  |
| Action 3-3: Maturing the IWM investment framework | By 2025 | Started | A shortlist of funding mechanisms identified. These funding mechanisms will be tested with priority IWM actions to evaluate applicability and impact. |
| Action 3-4: Investigating options for large-scale recycled water and treated stormwater networks in Greater Melbourne | By 2025 | Started | Collaborative investigations for large scale recycled water networks and treated stormwater networks are underway across the Greater Melbourne region. |
| Action 3-5: Investigating options for a large-scale recycled water and treated stormwater network in the Barwon Region | By 2025 | Started | Feasibility assessments have commenced in conjunction with Barwon Water and DEECA. |
| Action 3-6: Developing catchment-scale IWM action plans for Greater Melbourne  | By 2023 | Partially achieved | The development of IWM Plans is underway across the region and are expected to be completed by late 2023. |
| Action 3-7: IWM planning for regional Victoria | By 2024 | Started | Early external engagement with key sector stakeholders has taken place including IWM Forums.  |
| Action 3-8: Use of recycled water and stormwater for greener, open spaces  | By 2026 | Started | $5.7 million in grant funding for 15 Integrated Water Management (IWM) projects (which increase the use of recycled water and stormwater for greener open spaces) have been awarded for the project to commence.For more information see: [Delivering Water Security For Our Future | Premier of Victoria](https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/delivering-water-security-our-future), [More Recycled Water Keeping Victoria Green | Premier of Victoria](https://www.premier.vic.gov.au/site-4/more-recycled-water-keeping-victoria-green-0) [IWM forums (water.vic.gov.au)](https://www.water.vic.gov.au/our-programs/integrated-water-management/iwm-forums) |
| Action 3-9: Strengthen IWM in land-use and infrastructure planning  | By 2025 | Started | A state-wide Integrated Water Management (IWM) planning framework and guidance on IWM plan development and implementation at each planning scale are being drafted in consultation with DEECA Planning, Councils, Water Corporations, Catchment Management Authorities and developers. It is expected to be completed by 2024. |
| Action 3-10: Develop template guidance for recycled water use to streamline approvals | By 2023 | Partially achieved | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners. It is likely that the project will be completed by late 2023. |
| Action 3-11: Identify priority projects to contribute to state of knowledge on emerging contaminants  | By 2023 | Achieved and completed | DEECA has finalised and funded the next round of priority projects in this space. The projects are underway. |
| Action 3-12: Improving stormwater regulations to support increased capture and use  | By 2023 | Started | Engagement has commenced with stakeholders and delivery partners. Scoping of preliminary options is underway.  |
| Action 3-13: Implement Melbourne Urban Stormwater Institutional Arrangements (MUSIA) | By 2028 | Started | Melbourne Water (MW) and Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) continue to progress operationalising the preferred institutional arrangement from the MUSIA review (the improved 60-ha option).  |
| Action 3-14: Review stormwater management arrangements in the Lower Barwon  | By 2023 | Started | DEECA, in conjunction with delivery partners, has commenced investigating options to improve stormwater management arrangements. |
| Action 3-15: Develop a stormwater offsets framework  | By 2024 | Partially achieved | The project has commenced, in consultation with Planning, councils and Melbourne Water.  |
| Action 3-16: Embedding stormwater flow requirements | By 2024 | Started | DEECA has commenced investigating the feasibility of expanding the currently mandated urban stormwater management requirements to include stormwater flow reduction objectives.  |
| Action 3-17: Building community confidence in recycled water and stormwater  | By 2026 | Partially achieved | A gap analysis report on recycled water communications was finalised in consultation with water corporations, government agencies including the Environment Protection Authority, the Victorian Department of Health and Vic Water. Further work on options development will now commence |
| Action 3-18: Clearer guidance on recycled water accounting and reporting  | By 2026 | Achieved and completed | DELWP, with EPA support, undertook a review of data reporting categories within the Victorian Water Accounts and Essential Services Commission’s (ESC) water performance reports. Revised data indicators have been developed and will be reflected in the 2021-2022 Victorian Water Accounts (due for publication mid-2023) and the ESC’s water performance reports. This action is completed.  |
| Action 4-1: Investigate options to return water to the environment and Traditional Owners as regional-scale manufactured water sources are planned for Greater Melbourne and Geelong | Ongoing | Started | DEECA has started working with the water sector to ensure that as manufactured water options for Greater Melbourne and Geelong are considered, opportunities to return water to the environment and Traditional Owner are planned and developed.  |
| Action 4-2: Commitment to consider how river entitlements can be reduced via water efficiency, IWM and substitution with manufactured water sources | Ongoing Proposals due by 2023 | Started | DEECA is working with water corporations across the region to develop proposals for how river water entitlements could be reduced. Proposals are expected in late 2023.  |
| Action 4-3: Securing additional water for Geelong and the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River)  | By 2025 | Started | Project planning is underway and policy work has started to implement this project. |
| Action 4-4: Determine how water returned in the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) will be shared between Wadawurrung and the environment | By 2025 | Started | Project planning has commenced, ensuring collaboration with Traditional Owners in the Region delivery partners including the Victorian Environmental Water Holder (VEWH) and the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority |
| Action 4-5: Securing Warragul and Drouin’s urban water supply | By 2023 | Achieved and completed  | A new Bulk Entitlement for Gippsland Water to access water from Tarago Reservoir was gazetted on 1 July 2023. |
| Action 4-6: Streamlining temporary water trades | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 4-7: Guidance for decisions about unallocated water | By 2023 | Started | DEECA are working with licencing authorities on identifying aspects of the licencing decision process that could be supported with clarified guidance. DEECA will incorporate learnings from licencing decisions made with Traditional Owner considerations, to assist in providing transparent and principled decision-making by licencing authorities. |
| Action 4-8: Reallocation of the Latrobe 3 – 4 Bench bulk entitlement  | By 2024 | Started | Discussions with delivery partners (Southern Rural Water, Victorian Environmental Water Holder, West Gippsland CMA and Gunai Kurnai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation) are underway in preparation for discussions on sharing options. |
| Action 4-9: Returning water to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation | By 2022 | Started | Delivery partners, in conjunction with Traditional Owners have scoped the transfer mechanism for the existing water license.  |
| Action 4-10: Reconfiguring the Werribee system | By 2024 | Partially achieved | Water resource modelling has been the focus of work to date to identify possible system configurations, with design and costing work concluding early 2024. Southern Rural Water are expecting to progress works shortly |
| Action 4-11: Investigating optimisation of Yarra system passing flow arrangements | By 2024 | Started | Initial investigations are being led by Melbourne Water. |
| Action 4-12: Reviewing management arrangements for the Wangangarra / WyYung (Mitchell River) for all water users  | By 2024 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners |
| Action 4-13: Review of water resource risks in small, dry, peri-urban catchments | By 2024 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners |
| Action 4-14: Reviewing the Latrobe Reserve  | By 2028 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 4-15: Developing a vision and plan for the water future of the Latrobe Valley | Vision and plan for short-term actions: by 2023Plan for medium to long-term actions: by 2025Implementation: ongoing | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Vision has commenced. Plan planned for future delivery |
| Action 4-16: Improving water management to deliver shared benefits  | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | VEWH and CMAs continue to deliver shared benefits as outlined in the VEWH publication Reflections.  |
| Action 4-17: Tracking and improving our understanding of interception activities, including small catchment dams and plantations | Ongoing | Started | Monitoring and Reporting improvements are underway in conjunction with delivery partners |
| Action 4-18: Updating groundwater management arrangements and implementing priorities for reform | Ongoing | Started | Publication of GM2030 outlining the priorities for groundwater management reform. Work has commenced on policy review with engagement to commence in the near term. [GM2030 is available here.](https://www.water.vic.gov.au/water-sources/groundwater/groundwater-management-2030) |
| Action 6-1: The Victorian Government will ensure that Traditional Owners are resourced in order to partner in the implementation of the Strategy’s actions and policies in a self-determined way | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | Funding has been secured for 2022‑23 and 2023-24 for Traditional Owners in the region to continue to partner with Implementing the Strategy. |
| Action 6-2: The Victorian Government will work with water corporations to amend their Statement of Obligations (General) to include the cultural benefits framework in water planning and management | By 2025 | Partially achieved | The action is underway. Draft policy proposals have been made to the Statement of Obligations (General) to require Water Corporations to negotiate formal partnership agreements with Traditional Owner groups in accordance with written guidelines issued by DEECA. |
| Action 6-3: Implement a Traditional Owner led principle review process | By 2025 | Started | Traditional Owner Water Sharing Principles (see Ch 6 of the CGRSWS) are in the early stages of being tested and applied through case studies. This work will form the evidence base for the review. |
| Action 6-4: The Victorian Government will work to ensure that ownership of land is not a barrier to Traditional Owners applying for, or holding, water entitlements | By 2025By 2022 | Partially achieved | DEECA is working with relevant agencies and Traditional Owner groups to support the identification of suitable public land parcels as points of take for water licence applications. Related to this work, Parks Victoria have authorised Traditional Owner groups to nominate Parks Victoria managed land for s51 licences without works. The process of collaboration with Traditional Owners and regional delivery partners will inform development of internal and agency processes going forward. This work is ongoing. |
| Action 6-5: Support Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation applications for unallocated water, including in the Ber’rawn (Tambo River) and South Gippsland basin (including the Lung Lung (Franklin River) and Albert River) | By 2022 | Started | Three licences for unallocated water have been issued to GLaWAC in the Mitchell River, Tambo River and Buchan Munji (caves). Two applications are under assessment for the Franklin and Albert River. |
| Action 6-6: The Victorian Government will seek to return water in the Carran Carran (Thomson River) and Durt-Yowan (Latrobe River) to Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation | - | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery |  Planned for future delivery |
| Action 6-7: Evaluate opportunities to return water to Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation currently used by the Royal Botanic Gardens | By 2023 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners |
| Action 6-8: Support applications for unallocated water, including in the Powlett and Bass Rivers  | By 2022 | Started | DEECA and licensing authorities are collaborating with Traditional Owner groups to support applications for unallocated water. |
| Action 6-9: The Victorian Government will seek to return water to the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation on Bunurong Country | - | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 6-10: Evaluate opportunities to return water to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation currently used by the Royal Botanic Gardens | By 2023 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners |
| Action 6-11: The Victorian Government will seek to return water in the Birrarung (Yarra River) to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation | - | Started | DEECA are progressing Action 4.9 to support an application to return water through the transfer of a 1.4 GL water licence in the Birrarung. DEECA have provided a signed licence transfer application to the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung. |
| Action 6-12: The Victorian Government will seek to return water to Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation in the Mirrangbamurn (Maribyrnong River) | - | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery  |
| Action 6-13: Explore opportunities to return water to the Wadawurrung in Durdidwarrah wetland | By 2025 | Started | Funding has been provided to WTOAC to investigate opportunities to return water to Wadawurrung in the Durdidwarrah wetland. This action is underway and progressing with delivery partners. |
| Action 6-14: The Victorian Government will seek to return water to the Wadawurrung in the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) and Parwan (Barwon River) | - | Started | DEECA are progressing Action 4.4 to determine how water returned to the Moorabool Yulluk with be shared between the environment and the Wadawurrung. Wadawurrung, Corangamite CMA and DEECA have met on Country and are progressing discussions to understand objectives for the water returns and make an informed recommendation to complete this action in partnership |
| Action 6-15: Support applications for unallocated water in the Otway Basin, including in the Gellibrand River | By 2022 | Started | Traditional Owner group has chosen not to make an application for unallocated water at this stage. |
| Action 6-16: The Victorian Government will seek to return water to the Eastern Maar in the Barwon River | - | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 7-1: Planning for future investment in rural water infrastructure | By 2023 | Started | Delivery agencies are currently undertaking works to modernise irrigation infrastructure in the Macalister Irrigation District, Werribee Irrigation District and Bacchus Marsh Irrigation District.  |
| Action 7-2: Investigating opportunities for new irrigation development  | By 2024 | Started | Delivery agencies have commenced feasibility works and stakeholder consultation in the Macalister Avon Irrigation Development Project. The commencement of the Latrobe Irrigation Development Assessment will be guided by the State's policy development regarding the 3-4 Bench Entitlement. |
| Action 7-3: Improving trade and transparency in Central and Gippsland water markets  | Improving accessibility by 2024Trialling an online water market by 2023Investigating local opportunities by 2024 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners, resulting in a trial exchange being delivered in the near future. |
| Action 8-1: Rehabilitating the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) at Batesford Quarry  | By 2026 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners including Wadawurrung Traditional Owner Corporation and Corangamite Catchment Management Authority. |
| Action 8-2: Increasing understanding of water needs of the Upper Moorabool and Leigh catchments  | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery |  Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-3: Improving flows in Stony Creek  | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery |  Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-4: Improving waterway health in the Barwon River  | By 2027 | Partially achieved | Works to restore channel form and remove willows and reed sweet-grass from the upper Barwon River have commenced. |
| Action 8-5: Updating watering recommendations for Reedy Lake and Hospital Swamp  | By 2025 | Partially achieved | Technical work to understand the water balance has commenced with a FLOWS study to follow |
| Action 8-6: Investigating the use of recycled water and stormwater for environmental flows in the Yarrowee and Leigh rivers | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-7: Complete a feasibility study of the long-term management options to mitigate waterway health issues of the Anglesea River and estuary | By 2023 | Partially achieved | The feasibility study is nearing its completion with a final list of eight potential management options undergoing detailed analysis.  |
| Action 8-8: Improving the health of Painkalac Creek  | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | Delivery agencies continue to undertake investigations and works to improve the health of Painkalac Creek. |
| Action 8-9: Improving summer flows in the Gellibrand River  | Ongoing | Achieved and ongoing | Delivery agencies have developed a Project Plan which currently being implemented.  |
| Action 8-10: Improving fish passage in the Werribee River  | By 2027 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners, including Southern Rural Water and Melbourne Water. |
| Action 8-11: Improving the health of the Mirrangbamurn (Maribyrnong River) | By 2032 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners, including preliminary design options.  |
| Action 8-12: Improving the health of the Kooyongkoot (Gardiners Creek)  | By 2023 | Partially achieved | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners. |
| Action 8-13: Thomson River–Rainbow Creek waterway management plan  | Ongoing | Partially achieved | The actions in the management plan have been partially completed and funding still needs to be obtained to undertake additional actions.  |
| Action 8-14: Improve flows in the Avon River  | Ongoing | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery |  Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-15: Build the Maffra Weir fishway (Wirn Wirndook Yeerung (Macalister River)) | By 2027 | Started | Engagement with delivery partners has commenced to understand design and costings. |
| Action 8-16: Improve the delivery of environmental water to the Durt-Yowan (Latrobe River) downstream of Rosedale  | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-17: Improve flows to the lower Latrobe wetlands  | By 2027 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners. |
| Action 8-18: Improve fish passage in Tyers River  | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-19: Improve flows in South Gippsland’s flow-stressed waterways  | By 2032 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-20: Improve fish passage along Merriman Creek  | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery |
| Action 8-21: Decommission the Nicholson River Dam | By 2030 | Started  | EGCMA has estimated the cost required to undertake the initial phase of this project, but no funding has been secured yet to commence this work.  |
| Action 8-22: Developing guidelines for using recycled water for the environment | By 2023 | Started | The action has commenced with agreed outcomes, development of several case studies and the preliminary identification of a preferred mechanism to protect recycled water in-stream and storage. Regulatory barriers have been addressed to ensure the action can be progressed.  |
| Action 8-23: Stormwater for the environment | By 2025 | Started | The action is underway and progressing with delivery partners to understand policy options. |
| Action 8-24: Marine pollution load objectives for Port Phillip Bay and Western Port  | Ongoing | Partially achieved | Technical work is underway in conjunction with delivery partners to understand sediment loads as part of Implementing the Port Phillip Bay Environmental Management Actions. |
| Action 8-25: Marine pollution load objectives for Lake Wellington  | Ongoing | Partially achieved | On ground works have commenced  |
| Action 8-26: Marine pollution load objectives for Corner Inlet and Nooramunga  | Ongoing | Partially achieved | On ground works has commenced |
| Action 9-1: Ongoing adaptive planning activities for future water supply options | Ongoing | Started | Collaboration with delivery partners is underway to improve planning processes and embed adaptive management. |
| Action 9-2: Publish a Water Grid Plan  | Inaugural Water Grid Plan: by 2023Annual updates: OngoingDecision-making triggers: by end of 2022 | Started | The Water Grid Plan is currently under development and anticipated to be released in late 2023. |
| Action 9-3: Create a south-central pooled resource and associated reforms  | By 2025 | Started | The South-Central Reform program is underway. |
| Action 9-4: Revising Melbourne Water’s diversion limit compliance method  | By 2026 | Started | Collaboration with delivery partners is underway. |
| Action 9-5: Building community knowledge and involvement in water management  | Ongoing | Started | The action is underway in conjunction with delivery partners. |
| Action 9-6: Apply principles for public investment in water infrastructure projects | Ongoing | Started | The 2023 Essential Services Commission review of water corporation prices broadly accepted individual water corporations' proposed balance of continued investment to deliver benefits to the environment and community, and bill affordability. The SWS principles will be applied to any major regional scale public investment. |
| Action 10-1: Strengthening the five yearly assessment | By 2027 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | Planned for future delivery. This action will commence in 2025/6 |
| Policy 8-1: Return water to the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) west branch | By 2032 | Started | Project planning is underway and policy work has started to return water to the environment and Traditional Owners in the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) west branch. This will contribute to achieving this policy. |
| Policy 8-2: Return water to the Moorabool River east branch | By 2032 | Started  | Project planning is underway and policy work has started to return water to the environment and Traditional Owners in the Moorabool Yulluk (Moorabool River) east branch. |
| Policy 8-3: Return water to the Barwon River | By 2032 | Not started | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-4: Return water to the Wirribi Yaluk (Werribee River) in the short term | By 2024 | Started | Water savings to provide environmental water have been realised from the Macalister Irrigation District and Bacchus Marsh Irrigation District projects. |
| Policy 8-5: Return water to the Wirribi Yaluk (Werribee River | By 2032 | Not yet started - Planned for future delivery | The action is linked to the Werribee Reconfiguration project (Action 4-10), which is progressing with expected outcomes to include return of water to the environment |
| Policy 8-6: Return water to the Mirrangbamurn (Maribyrnong River | B y 2032 | Started | Initial investigations are underway regarding use /and or trade of unused water for the environment |
| Policy 8-7: Return water to the Birrarung (Yarra River) | By 2032 | Not started | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-8: Return water to the Bunyip and Tarago rivers | By 2032 | Not started  | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-9: Return water to the Carran Carran (Thomson River | By 2032 | Not started  | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-10: Return water to the Wirn Wirndook Yeerung (Macalister River) in the short term | By 2026 | Started  | Water savings to provide environmental water have been realised from the Macalister Irrigation District Phase 2 project |
| Policy 8-11: Return water to the Wirn Wirndook Yeerung (Macalister River) | By 2032 | Not started | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-12: Return water to the Durt-Yowan (Latrobe River) in the short term | By 2027 | Started | Project planning has commenced with internal DEECA teams |
| Policy 8-13: Return water to the Durt-Yowan (Latrobe River) | By 2029 | Not started  | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-14: Investigate feasibility of delivering additional water to the Durt-Yowan (Latrobe River | By 2027 | Not started  | Planned for future delivery |
| Policy 8-15: Return water to the Tyers River | By 2032 | Not started  | Planned for future delivery |