

RENEWAL of the RCS

12 RENEWAL of the RCS

12.1 Review of the 1997 RCS

An initial RCS for the Port Phillip and Western Port Region was developed and adopted in 1997 by the CMA's predecessor - the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Board.

The 1997 Strategy provided a platform for important policies, partnerships and actions to improve the condition and management of natural resources in this region.

As required in the process of writing this new RCS, the CMA reviewed the 1997 RCS and submitted its findings to the Minister.

The 1997 Strategy identified 39 actions. The review found that 12 actions had been completed, eight had been completed to a substantial degree, 15 completed to a medium level and four were in their initial stages.

The completed projects included:

- Establishment of five catchment committees
- Preparation of annual reports on the condition of the region and the progress of initiatives
- The development of a stormwater quality management initiative with the Environment Protection Authority, Melbourne Water and local government
- Review of the State environment protection policies (SEPPs) for the catchments in the region
- Development of a Regional Weed Plan, including the incorporation of a statewide system for weed evaluation.
- Production of a draft Regional Native Vegetation Plan
- The incorporation of habitat values in the review of Crown frontages.

The review identified some major issues for the region that are being addressed in the development of the new RCS including the need for:

- more thorough and extensive stakeholder and community consultation
- recognition of the special circumstances that exist in the Port Phillip and Westernport region – its community's needs and values and the environmental impacts of its lifestyles
- use of a triple-bottom-line approach, balancing the social, economic and environmental priorities of the region
- incorporation of sustainability principles with specific and measurable objectives, and the need to complement the '2030 Metropolitan Strategy' as a partner document
- a strong science-base balanced strategy with a writing style that makes it reader-friendly for its diverse target audiences which include governments at all levels, agencies, environmental organisations and community members
- recognition that the region's 38 local government councils will continue to play a major role in catchment management as the planning authorities in the region, and it is important to develop links between the RCS and their planning schemes and strategies

12.2 Process for renewal

The broad process to manage the renewal of the Regional Catchment Strategy is set out in Figure 38 and comprises five main steps followed by the implementation stage, which includes the funding process as well as the monitoring and evaluation of actions and targets. The process is shown as 'circular' because the implementation stage and the associated monitoring and evaluation will be a key input into the next RCS.

This draft strategy is the output of step 4 of the process.

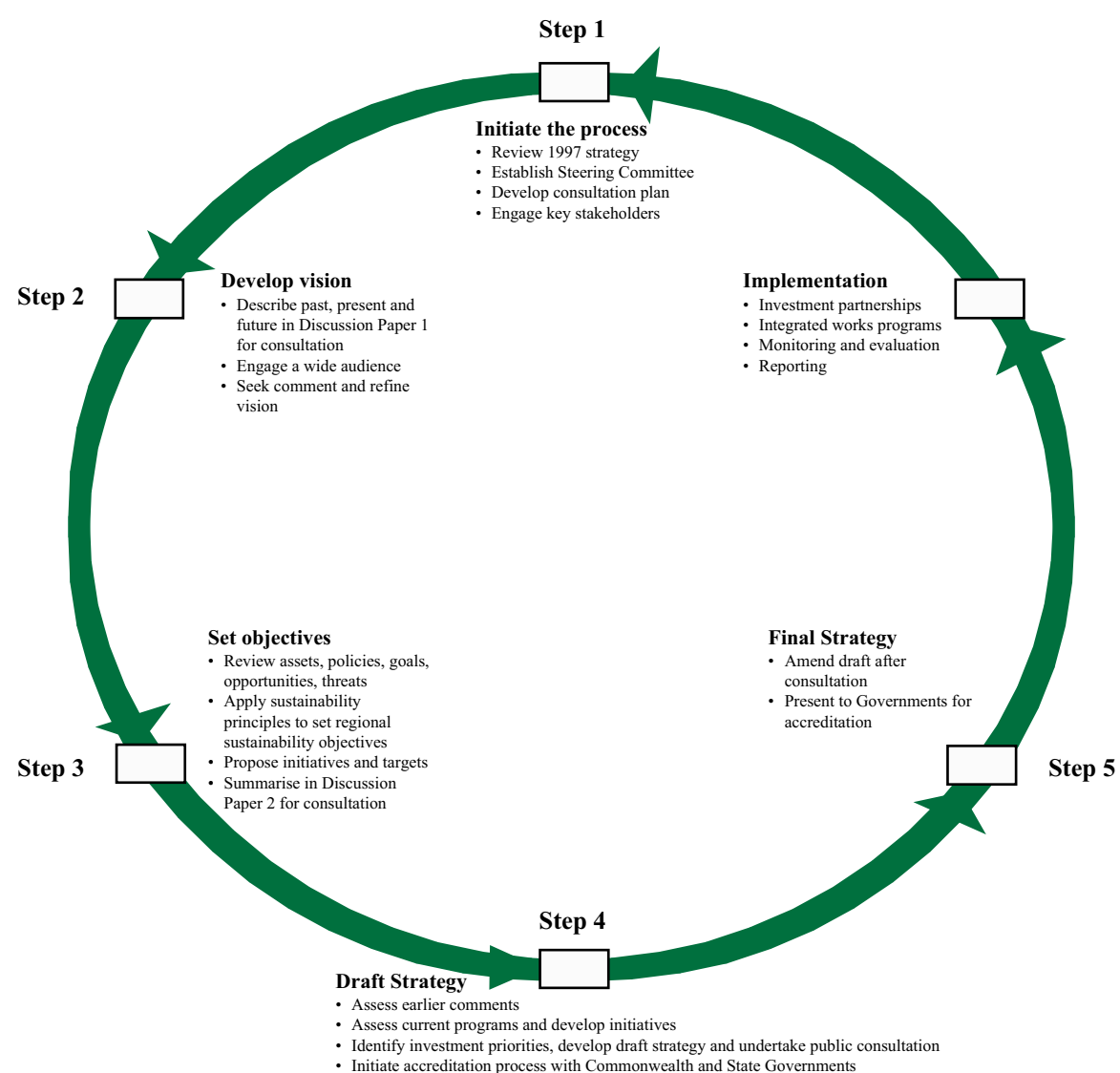


Figure 38: A diagrammatical representation of the process used to develop the Port Phillip and Western Port Regional Catchment Strategy

12.3 Stakeholder engagement and public consultation

This region includes a large population and many organisations and community groups with a role or interest in catchment management.

In terms of the number and diversity of the region's professional, social, economic and scientific interests in natural resources, the Port Phillip and Western Port region is the most complex in Victoria.

For this RCS it is not possible to engage the entire population directly. However, there are key stakeholders who have significant responsibilities in catchment management or who provide a focus for community activity, or both. The consultation process and the actions within the RCS aim to improve catchment assets by working with key stakeholders including:

- Water authorities
- Local government authorities
- Major land holders
- Business groups
- Environmental organisations
- Government departments and instrumentalities
- Community groups
- Cultural and heritage groups.

In order to engage the community, to encourage participation and to maximise the potential for successful outcomes, there have been a number of approaches used including:

- Preliminary contact with major stakeholders
- Establishment of a multi-organisation RCS Steering Committee
- Introductory information sessions
- Development of background papers
- An initial public discussion paper titled 'Managing natural resources in the Port Phillip and Western Port Region - Past, Present and Future'
- A second public discussion paper, this time titled 'Sustainability objectives for natural resource management in the Port Phillip and Western Port Region'
- Convening of thematic focus groups
- Development of an internal draft RCS for consultation and negotiation with key stakeholders and Catchment Committees
- Development and release of a public draft RCS with an extensive program of community consultation.

Preliminary contact with major stakeholders

The first steps involved

- The development of a project plan, which was formally agreed to by three of the major catchment management organisations in the region (the Port Phillip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority, Melbourne Water and the Port Phillip regional office of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment)
- The direct involvement of the community-based CMA Board in the development and agreement of the project plan, followed up with regular updates on progress and directions at Board meetings
- The invitation of key stakeholders to participate on a steering committee
- Communication with each of the 38 councils in the region and the Department of Infrastructure regions to invite their nomination of specific contact officers as a main conduit for RCS information
- The distribution of a newsletter to the staff of agencies, water authorities, local government agencies and community groups advising of the RCS and the proposed process.

Establishment of a multi-organisation RCS Steering Committee

An RCS Steering Committee, chaired by the Port Phillip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority, was convened to oversee and contribute to the development of the RCS. It comprises representatives of key stakeholder organisations with knowledge of and involvement in the water, land, biodiversity and community engagement matters in this region.

The organisations represented on the RCS Steering Committee include:

- Port Phillip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority
- Central Coastal Board
- Department of Sustainability and Environment
- Department of Primary Industries
- Environment Protection Authority
- Environment Victoria
- Municipal Association of Victoria
- Melbourne Water
- Parks Victoria
- Southern Rural Water
- Victorian Farmers Federation.

The membership of the RCS Steering Committee is designed to recognise both the number and diversity of stakeholders (both government and non-government) and the range of catchment assets in this region. For instance, the involvement of Parks Victoria and the Central Coastal Board recognises the importance of our parks, coasts and bays. The involvement of the Department of Sustainability and Environment recognises the development and implementation of the Melbourne 2030 strategy and its links with natural resource management in the region.

The RCS Steering Committee members have played a key role in:

- designing, advising and agreeing on matters of process
- providing technical input from key organisations
- providing a focal point for communication with the key organisations
- editing the public discussion papers and draft RCS to ensure technical accuracy and an appropriate writing style for the region's communities of interest
- gaining agreement from their organisations to print and distribute the public documents.

Introductory information sessions

Traditional stakeholders

A number of group and one-on-one sessions were organised to brief stakeholder representatives. The sessions addressed the aims and scope of the RCS, how the RCS related to them and their catchment management role, the process for development and how the group could effectively participate in the development of the RCS.

The following group sessions were held either specifically or partially to acquaint stakeholders with the RCS process:

- Two regional local government workshops (attended by representatives of 23 of the region's 38 councils)
- An urban local government workshop hosted by Bayside City Council (attended by representatives of 6 councils)
- A workshop for water authorities hosted by VicWater (attended by representatives of 8 water authorities)
- A workshop on agricultural environmental management systems and the key agricultural issues for this region – hosted by Victorian Farmers Federation, Department of Primary Industries and Port Phillip and Western Port CMA
- Involvement in a Victorian Catchment Management Council-sponsored process to engage the Indigenous community in the RCS
- A meeting with the board of the Kulin Nation Cultural Heritage Program
- A number of meetings with staff of the Port Phillip region of the then Department of Natural Resources and Environment
- Presentations to the CMA's five geographic catchment committees (which include representatives from community groups, local government, water authorities and government agencies) with membership totalling around 130 people
- Presentation to a number of east-of-Melbourne councils at West Gippsland CMA-hosted meeting
- Presentation to recreational fishing organisation VRFish
- Presentation to a coastal planners meeting
- Presentation to a DSE-hosted workshop to discuss the input of coastal and marine issues in the RCS.

The membership of the RCS Steering Committee is designed to recognise both the number and diversity of stakeholders (both government and non-government) and the range of catchment assets in this region

Extending the coverage of the RCS

The premise in developing this RCS has been that the outcomes in managing our catchment affect many facets of life. This is the nature of the 'triple bottom line'. Therefore besides the 'traditional' participants in catchment management, contact was also made with those stakeholders where the linkage between catchment management and their activities is not as well established, or where they have not been previously engaged at a regional level.

Contact was therefore made with:

- Health and social issues were discussed with the Department of Human Services, Australian Medical Association, Australian Institute of Family Studies, Victorian Council of Social Service, Deakin University Health Sciences and Sport and Recreation Victoria
- Heritage Victoria was contacted in respect to non-Indigenous cultural heritage
- Discussions with staff at Melbourne and Monash University were held regarding social and economic activity in the region
- Employer groups Australian Industry Group, Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Business Council of Australia were contacted to gauge interest and their advice on the best approach into business and industry
- Triple bottom line issues were discussed with the Victorian Department of Premier and Cabinet.

In some cases these relationships have not developed past the first contact at this stage, but in others those approached have shown further interest by, for example, responding to the public discussion papers.

These information sessions were useful in:

- Establishing initial contacts
- Establishing processes for future contact
- Extending knowledge of the RCS and associated processes
- Developing sources of information
- Identifying gaps in knowledge.

Development of background papers

Following the information sessions, a number of agencies agreed to author or contribute to background papers on topics relevant to the RCS, as outlined in the following table.

Organisation	Topics
Central Coastal Board	coasts and bays
Department of Sustainability and Environment	native biodiversity, wetlands
Department of Primary Industries	agriculture, aquaculture, commercial fishing, extractive industries, forestry
Environment Protection Authority	stormwater, litter, wastewater-sewage management
Heritage Victoria	non-indigenous heritage
Melbourne Water	environmental flows and surface water allocation, river health, water for potable use
Parks Victoria	parks and reserves
Southern Rural Water	groundwater
Tourism Victoria	tourism

These background papers formed the basis of the descriptions of the catchment and the catchment management issues raised in the first and second public discussion papers

The first public discussion paper

The first public discussion paper, titled 'Managing natural resources in the Port Phillip and Western Port Region – Past, Present and Future', was distributed in September 2002.

It was deliberately designed as an easy-to-read, entertaining and informative introduction to the RCS process. Using a story-telling style, it gave an overview of the history of the region, the issues, present and proposed, and described a more sustainable future. It was also designed to raise awareness of catchment management issues and the RCS, and to check with the target audiences right from the start that the probable scope of the RCS was in line with their views and expectations. The format of the paper was also designed to encourage people to comment by including space on every page for notes to be written.

It was distributed to around 1000 organisations, community groups and individuals throughout the region. The 40 responses to the paper showed wide-ranging views on the issues facing natural resource management, the multiple demands on the resources and the differing priorities and values of the respondents. Most of the 40 responses received supported the regional planning process and showed willingness for further participation.

In most cases the paper generated the type of response anticipated, that is some debate about the important issues facing catchment management in the region. Some organisations commented that the paper was too broad for detailed comment but they wished to remain involved as the process continued. A number of complimentary comments were received on the writing style of the document and the presentation used. The feedback from the first discussion paper was incorporated into the development of the second discussion paper.

The second public discussion paper

The second public discussion paper, titled 'Sustainability objectives for natural resource management in the Port Phillip and Western Port Region', was distributed in September 2003. It suggested sustainability principles as a basis for the RCS, a vision for the future, a description of the region's natural assets, goals, objectives and examples of targets and actions that might be used in the draft RCS.

As well as reflecting the feedback from the first discussion paper and other workshops on what might be considered within the normal scope of catchment management issues, the paper addressed others that reflect the urban component of the region. These include issues such as its consumption patterns (ecological footprint), urban ecosystems and their values, stormwater and treated effluent as resources and the effects of urbanisation on other natural resource values.

Over 1300 copies were distributed to the region's politicians, government departments and agencies, community groups, local government authorities, Indigenous organisations, natural resource industry organisations, universities and research groups, other CMAs, consultants and major land developer organisations.

To support the launch of the discussion paper, to community groups in particular, three presentations were made in different parts of the region; Pakenham in the east, Doncaster in the north and Melton in the west. These were attended by 64 representatives of community groups, local government and agencies.

There were 69 responses to the second public discussion paper. Respondents included representatives of most of the groups mentioned above. Some of the changes or additions that were suggested to be incorporated in the draft RCS were:

- Explanation is required of the role of a catchment strategy
- Actions need to have timelines and responsibilities allocated
- A better explanation of the roles of the stakeholders is needed, in particular the CMA
- A recognition of the work already undertaken by current community groups should be included
- Greater prominence is required for community involvement and engagement
- The importance of introduced species, as well as native species, needs to be included
- An increased focus on economic outcomes is required.

The feedback on the second public discussion paper was captured in its entirety in a database and a report provided to the RCS Steering Committee as to how the feedback has been incorporated into the draft RCS. Letters were also sent to those who provided comment explaining how their key comments have been incorporated into the draft RCS.

Thematic focus groups

Further workshops were then held to focus on issues that have been identified as requiring further work to ensure appropriate coverage in the draft RCS. Some workshops covered issues that were of concern to stakeholders with similar responsibilities while others concentrated on specific topics such as wetlands and indigenous cultural heritage. The latter type of workshop brought together representatives from a cross-section of organisations with an interest in the topic.

The workshops held were:

- Rural production – hosted by Department of Primary Industries.
- The role of parks in the RCS – hosted by Parks Victoria
- Small group workshops hosted by the CMA and addressing the following topics:
 - Coastal and marine issues
 - Ecological footprint
 - Groundwater
 - Indigenous cultural heritage
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Threatened species
 - Water supply catchments
 - Water quality
 - Wetlands.

The outcomes from these workshops have included:

- Identification, and quantification where possible, of the threats and risks to our catchment assets
- Input to the identification of priority targets and actions
- Identification of gaps in our knowledge
- Provision of additional technical detail
- Agreement on ways to proceed.

Internal draft RCS for consultation with key stakeholders and Catchment Committees

In 2004, an internal draft of the RCS was developed and provided for comment and discussion to:

- RCS Steering Committee
The Steering Committee provided detailed comment on the text and presentation of the draft. Further detailed sessions were then held with the following organisations to improve the technical accuracy of the draft and to gain agreement with the organisations' representatives that the draft could be released publicly for consultation:
 - Department of Primary Industries
 - Melbourne Water
 - Parks Victoria
 - Central Coastal Board
 - Environment Protection Authority
 - Department of Sustainability and Environment.
- The community-based Board of the Port Phillip and Western Port Catchment Management Authority also had a workshop on the draft and provided detailed comment on the text and presentation. The Board approved the public release of the document publicly once the agreed amendments had been included.
- Focussed sessions were also held with each of the five Catchment Committees in the region to elicit comments on the internal draft. These comments were recorded in the minutes of the committee meetings and will be incorporated in the finalisation of the RCS.

Community consultation on the public draft of the RCS

Almost 1,500 copies of the public draft of the RCS were distributed to stakeholders with invitations to comment.

To generate a sound understanding of the document by stakeholders and to generate feedback, a number of consultation sessions were held including:

- Four forums designed specifically for local government held across the region, hosted by the City of Melbourne, Melton Shire, Nillumbik Shire and the City of Casey. Summaries were provided to participants beforehand of the RCS actions in which local government was listed as having a lead role of as a key partner. Feedback on this approach was very positive and assisted councils in the preparation of their submissions. The four sessions were attended by representatives from 30 of the region's 38 councils.
- Nine community forums were held across the region, all in evenings. An innovative approach was used for these sessions whereby CMA representatives were on hand to discuss any elements of the draft that participants wished to cover. People were invited to attend at any time during the advertised meeting time and to leave at any time they felt they had accomplished the level of discussion they

believed was sufficient. One-to-one and small group discussion was a feature of this approach, enabling people to have brief discussions if they wished or to engage in lengthy and detailed debate about targets and actions. Both scenarios were evident, with some people very pleased to be able to make their point in 10 minutes and be on their way, while a number of others took the opportunity for a 2 hour in-depth exploration of catchment management issues enabling the crux of issues to be identified and specific actions put forward for consideration to be included in the RCS. Many important improvements to the RCS were identified during these sessions. Feedback from the participants in these sessions was that it was a much more productive process than the traditional "information session" involving a presentation and a question and answer approach.

- Many targeted workshops, discussions and meetings with specific organisations were held including with Melbourne Water, Southern Rural Water, Department of Primary Industries, Environment Protection Authority, Department of Sustainability and Environment, Indigenous groups, Central Coastal Board and Parks Victoria. These sessions identified many improvements to the RCS and maintained the ownership of these organisations in the document.
- Over 70 written submissions were received on the draft RCS from agencies, councils, community groups, non-government organisations and individuals. Individual responses were prepared to all submitters explaining how their comments influenced and were incorporated into the RCS.

Consultation Case Studies

While consultation on the development of the RCS has taken many forms, the following two case studies are provided as examples of the effort put into engaging particular target audiences.

Local Government

The Port Phillip and Western Port region contains 38 local government areas (eight also being involved with adjacent CMAs). This is half of Victoria's councils, with the other half being spread across the other nine CMA regions. Given the significance of the consultation task, efforts to engage local government have been diverse and have included:

- The close involvement of the CMA Board (three current Board members are also councillors in the Port Phillip, Yarra Ranges and Melton areas of the region)
- Input from a CMA Local Government Committee which is developing processes for ongoing consultation with local government
- The close involvement of two local government representatives on the RCS Steering Committee (the then-Mayor of Port Phillip Council and a Municipal Association of Victoria representative who is also the CEO of Macedon Ranges Shire Council)
- Involvement of the geographically based catchment committees in the process (of which the membership includes representatives of 28 councils)
- Two workshops in late 2003 to cover the relationship between the RCS and the local government planning process, as well as feedback on issues to go into the RCS (23 councils attended).
- A further workshop arose from this (hosted by Bayside City Council) to take a particularly urban perspective (6 councils involved).
- Copies of two discussion papers sent to each of 38 councils (five responded to the first and thirteen to the second)
- The appointment by the CMA of a local government engagement officer to facilitate input of local government to the RCS and to initiate preparation of individual RCS schedules for each of the 38 councils, detailing the specific implications, issues, etc. from the RCS
- The draft RCS has drawn on input from a number of focus groups which included local government representatives where appropriate
- Formal nomination by all 38 councils of specific a 'RCS contact person' from their council who would act as the "funnel" for information regarding the RCS development
- Involvement of the CMA CEO in a MAV-convened steering committee for a project aimed at better aligning local government planning with catchment regional planning including pilot studies with some councils in the region on possible amendments to planning schemes, MSSs, Corporate Plans etc.
- Submissions by the CMA into 23 council reviews of MSSs

- Presentation to some individual councils
- Distribution of copies of the draft RCS to Mayors, CEOs, Environmental Officers and various other contacts in each council
- Four tailored consultation sessions on the draft RCS with councils across the region, attended by representatives of 30 of the region's 38 councils.
- Consideration of the written comments received from councils and preparation of a tailored response explaining how the comments have been incorporated.

Indigenous Community

The region is home to around 50% of the State's Indigenous population. The diversity of the region's Indigenous organisations and the breadth of coverage of the RCS mean that effective consultation is challenging. The following steps have been undertaken:

- Discussions with Mirimbiak as regards them running a consultation process
- Six meetings with staff of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria to discuss the most appropriate mechanisms for engagement of Indigenous people in this region
- Involvement of a VCMC sponsored process to engage the Indigenous community in the RCS
- Involvement of Indigenous facilitators from DSE in the process
- Discussion with the Kulin Nation Cultural Heritage Program staff and a presentation to their Board. They asked for and were offered a place on the steering committee, and a representative attended for one meeting
- Participation in a workshop for Aboriginal managed lands in the region
- Participation in Koori cross-cultural induction day with Melbourne Water
- A focus meeting with three Indigenous facilitators/rangers/cultural heritage officers to explore Indigenous cultural heritage issues in the region. The group's members came from the Wathaurong, Wurundjeri and Taungurung tribes. This resulted in a discussion paper that was also distributed to Boonerwong for additional comment, and was also the basis for further consultation around the draft RCS.
- Participation in the workshop 'Enhancing Indigenous Engagement in Natural Resource Management' at Echuca in May 2004. This workshop provided an opportunity for CMAs in general to discuss with their regional Indigenous counterparts ways to improve consultation processes.
- Distribution of the public draft RCS to various representatives of Indigenous groups
- An extended discussion with representatives of the Kulin people regarding the draft RCS and identifying various amendments and improvements to be incorporated to better reflect the value, beliefs, traditions and protocols of Indigenous residents of this region

Marine interests

- An extensive process of consultation with various organisations involved in marine management has taken place regarding the public draft RCS.
- Representatives of organisations including the EPA, DSE and CCB worked with the CMA to substantially amend and improve the "Estuaries, Bays and Seas" chapter. This included additions of substantial text in the introductory sections of the chapter, cross-referencing to existing strategies and policies, and substantial revision of targets and actions.

- The result is that these agencies have now reached agreement of the content of the RCS in regard to marine management, and have a very strong ownership of these elements.
- All maps in the RCS were also re-developed to show a revised regional boundary that includes the near-shore marine environment to 3 nautical miles and highlights that these waters, including the bays, are an integral component of this strategy for natural resource management.
- The extensive consultation undertaken with these marine interests has helped to produce an RCS that breaks new ground in linking catchment management with the management of receiving waters including oceans.



Summary of stakeholder contact

Table 17 summarises the contact made with stakeholders in the development of the draft RCS. The table reflects only stakeholders who have shown an active interest by being formally involved in the process, hosting or attending meetings, providing information or responding to discussion papers. It does not include the many people and organisations who were mailed copies of the discussion papers but did not formally respond. Where people in the process have indicated membership of an organisation, the organisation has been listed, but the table does not include individuals names. In many cases, organisations have had input into the RCS development process through multiple mechanisms, denoted by the symbol #.

Table 17: Summary of stakeholder involvement

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Government agencies										
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria		*#								*
Central Coastal Board	*	*	*				*	*	*	*
Department of Human Services		*		*						
Department of Premier and Cabinet		*								
Department of Primary Industries	*	*#	*		*	*	*	*	*	*
Department of Sustainability and Environment		*#	*		*	*	*	*	*	*
Ecorecycle Victoria		*								
Environment Protection Authority Victoria	*	*#	*			*		*	*	*
Heritage Victoria		*	*							
Marine Safety Victoria										*
North Central Catchment Management Authority										*
Parks Victoria	*	*	*		*	*	*		*	*
Sports and Recreation Victoria		*								
Tourism Victoria		*								
Victorian Catchment Management Council		*					*			
VicRoads		*		*		*		*		*
West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority										*

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Local Government										
Association of Bayside Municipalities							*			
Banyule City Council						*		*	*	*
Bass Coast Shire Council		*					*	*	*	*
Baw Baw Shire Council								*		
Bayside City Council		*				*	*		*	
Boroondara City Council								*		*
Brimbank City Council		*			*		*	*	*	*
Cardinia Shire Council		*		*	*	*	*	*		*
Casey City Council						*		*	*	*
Darebin City Council								*	*	*
Frankston City Council					*			*	*	*
Glen Eira City Council		*					*		*	
Greater Dandenong City Council		*		*			*	*	*	*
Hobsons Bay City Council				*		*			*	*
Hume City Council					*		*	*		
Kingston City Council		*					*	*	*	*
Knox City Council						*		*	*	
Macedon Ranges Shire Council		*			*	*	*	*	*	*
Manningham City Council		*				*	*	*	*	*
Maribyrnong City Council									*	*
Melbourne City Council					*	*		*	*	*
Melton Shire Council					*			*	*	
Mitchell Shire Council									*	
Monash City Council		*		*			*	*	*	*
Moonee Valley City Council		*		*			*	*	*	
Moorabool Shire Council					*			*	*	
Moreland City Council		*		*	*		*	*	*	
Mornington Peninsula Shire Council		*		*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Municipal Association of Victoria		*		*						
Nillumbik Shire Council		*					*	*	*	*
Port Phillip City Council		*					*	*	*	
Stonnington City Council								*	*	*
Whitehorse City Council				*		*	*	*	*	*
Whittlesea City Council		*					*		*	*
Wyndham City Council						*	*	*	*	*
Yarra City Council		*					*	*	*	*
Yarra Ranges Shire Council		*			*		*	*	*	*
Water Authorities										
Barwon Water						*	*			
City West Water							*	*		
Melbourne Water	*	*#	*		*	*	*	*	*	*
Southern Rural Water	*	*	*	*			*	*	*	*
South East Water				*		*	*	*		
Westernport Water							*			
Western Water							*	*		
Yarra Valley Water							*	*		*

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Environmental Organisations										
Australian Rare Fauna Research Association										*
Candlebark Nursery					*					
Darebin Creek Management Committee										*
Employment Focus – Native Habitat Group					*					
Environment Victoria	*	*			*	*				
Field Naturalist Club Blackburn					*					
Greening Australia (Victoria Inc)		*			*	*		*		
Habitat Trust										*
Inland Fisheries Committee										*
Merri Creek Management Committee						*		*	*	
Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee								*		
Mornington Peninsula and Western Port Biosphere Foundation									*	*
Mullum Mullum Branch of the ACF				*		*				
Native Fish Australia					*					
Port Phillip Ecocentre										*
River Basin Management Society										*
Serrated Tussock Working Party										*
Threatened Species Network										*
Trust for Nature						*				*
Waterwatch		*								
Werribee River Association					*	*				
Wetland Care Australia						*	*			
Community Groups										
AGRA									*	*
Arthur's Creek Landcare Group								*		
Back Creek Catchment Group					*	*		*		
Bass Coast Landcare Network										*
Bass Valley Landcare Group								*		
Bayside Friends of Native Wildlife						*				
Blackburn and District Tree Preservation Society										*
Blackwood/Barry's Reef Landcare Group				*	*	*				
Bridge Landcare Association								*		
Cardinia/Bunyip Catchment Landcare Network					*					
Cardinia Catchment Landcare Group					*					
Cape Sound Committee of Management									*	
Cardinia Environment Coalition									*	*
Cardinia Hills Landcare and Ragwort Group					*					
Carrum Residents Action Group								*		

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Community Groups (continued)										
Coast Care/Coast Action Volunteers				*						
Coimadai Landcare Group					*	*				
Capel Sound Committee of Management										*
Cootamundra Walk						*				
Cottles Bridge Landcare Group					*					
Dandenong Catchment Committee		*			*			*	*	
Diamond Creek Landcare										*
Exford Rabbit Busters					*			*		
Frankston Environment Friends Network					*					
French Island Landcare										*
Friends of Bass Valley Bush						*		*		
Friends of Braeside Park									*	
Friends of Chambers Reserve					*					
Friends of Dandenong Creek								*		
Friends of Dandenong Valley Park								*		
Friends of Emerald Lake Park										*
Friends of Gardiners Creek Valley					*					
Friends of Kororoit Creek					*					
Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek								*		*
Friends of Maribyrnong Valley								*		
Friends of Mullum Mullum					*			*		
Friends of Plenty River					*					
Friends of Pyrete				*						
Friends of Ricketts Point					*					
Friends of the Lerdererg										*
Friends of William Morris Reserve					*					
Friends of Williamstown Wetlands									*	
Glen Eira Environment Group				*						
Gould League								*		
Greater Dandenong Environment Group					*					
Greenlink Box Hill				*	*	*				*
Hochkins Ridge Flora Group				*		*				
Hughes Creek Group				*	*					
Johns Hill Landcare Group				*	*	*			*	*
Lang Lang Coast Action Group					*					
Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail						*				
Macclesfield Landcare Group				*						*
Manton and Sony Creek Landcare Group									*	
Maribyrnong Catchment Committee		*			*			*	*	
Maribyrnong Landcare Association								*		
Melton Environment Group					*	*				
Mentone Parkdale Village Community									*	
Mordialloc Beaumaris Conservation League				*		*				
Native Fish Australia									*	
Nillumbik Landcare Network									*	*

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Community Groups (continued)									*	*
No Pipes 4 Shore								*		
Pakenham Farm Tree Group										
Pentland Hills Landcare Group						*				
Phillip Island Conservation Society									*	
Phillip Island Landcare									*	*
Pinkerton Landcare and Enviro Group								*		
Poowong and District Landcare Group								*		
Rowsley Valley Landcare Group						*		*		
San Remo Foreshore Committee									*	
South Gippsland Landcare Network				*	*	*		*		*
South Alphington and Fairfield Civic Assoc								*		
Southern Peninsula Indigenous Flora and Fauna Association										*
Sunbury Conservation Council				*				*		
Tenby Point Friends of Foreshore									*	
Threatened Ecosystems Network									*	
Toolern Vale Landcare Group				*				*		
Toomuc Valley Landcare Group					*					
Truganina Landcare Group					*					
Upper Beaconsfield Conservation Group				*						
Upper Bunyip Action Group										*
Upper Maribyrnong Catchment Group					*	*		*		
Werribee Catchment Committee		*			*			*	*	
Westernport Catchment Committee		*			*			*	*	
West Gippsland Landcare									*	
Western Port Bird Observers Club										*
Western Port Protection Council										*
Yarra Catchment Committee		*			*			*	*	
Business and Industry Groups										
Australian Industry Group		*								
Central Victorian Farm Plantations						*				
Pacific Hydro					*					
Peninsula Branch of the VFF						*		*		
Victorian Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry		*								
Victorian Farmers Federation	*	*						*	*	
Victorian Water Industry Association		*					*			
VRFish		*								

Organisations consulted	Steering Committee	General Information sessions	Background papers	Response to Discussion Paper 1	Community group presentations	Response to Discussion Paper 2	Thematic workshops	Input to internal draft RCS	Community consultation meetings	Response to draft RCS
Other organisations										
Australian Institute of Family Studies		*								
Bunurong Land Council									*	
CRC for Freshwater Ecology						*				
CSIRO		*								
Deakin University		*								
Ecotone Research Services					*					
GEOplan						*				
John Leonard Consulting Services										*
Kulin Nation Cultural Heritage Organisation		*#							*	
Learning and Action Pty Ltd						*				
Mirimbiak Nations Aboriginal Corporation Victoria		*								
Monash University		*								
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology		*								
Streamline Research									*	*
South West and Wimmera Cultural Heritage Program		*				*	*			
Swinburne University of Technology								*		
The University of Melbourne		*								
University of Sydney						*				
Victorian Boonerwung Elders Lands Council		*								
Victorian Council of Social Service		*								