



WATER THEME

Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy 2021-27

CURRENT SITUATION IN 2021

Why we need to take action

CATCHMENT CONDITION

CONDITION



Satisfactory

TREND



Declining

LONG-TERM RISK



Medium

CATCHMENT DRIVERS AND TRENDS

- Water is a tradeable commodity.
- Climate change.
- Pest plants and animals.
- Increased recreational use and amenity value of rivers, streams and lakes.
- Changing relationship with nature.
- Growing recognition of Traditional Owner aspirations and inherent rights to water.
- Infrastructure and river operations.

CRITICAL ATTRIBUTES

The key areas we need to focus on to improve the current situation

- Water availability
- Water quality
- Riparian and aquatic biodiversity

MEDIUM-TERM OUTCOMES

What we'll do by 2027

- High priority actions of the Victorian Environmental Water Holders seasonal watering plan are annually delivered 100% of the time, as they are relevant to the catchment.
- Water extractions in the dryland areas are managed to support the persistence of native fish and other aquatic species.
- 100% of catchment's water strategies incorporate Traditional Owner knowledge and priorities, as well as consideration of recreation and tourism industry priorities.
- Average Annual Damage (AAD) following floods has decreased by 50%.
- 90% of the irrigation delivery system is modernised.
- 60% of irrigated farms are redesigned to capitalise on, and align with, modernised irrigation delivery.
- The quality of water will be managed to meet State and Murray-Darling Basin agreed standards and targets 100% of the time.
- Streams with self-sustaining populations of native fish will be managed so that dissolved oxygen does not fall below 3 mg/L for three consecutive days.
- 70% of priority riparian zones and wetlands support native vegetation.
- 100% of priority waterways have a measurable increase in percentage of riparian length protected.
- Reaches identified as severely depleted or highly depleted of in-stream woody habitat have a trajectory towards natural levels.
- 400 Ha of riparian and wetland vegetation see a measurable improvement in quality.
- A diverse range of the community and visitors are engaged and connected in projects to improve waterway health and resilience.
- Partnerships are formed and maintained with a range of water users to understand their values and make it easier to contribute and participate in water resource management.

WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE IN 2040

Our goals

VISION

Water resources deliver agreed cultural, environmental, economic and social values now and for future generations.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

1. Water supply is managed to ensure the right volume is delivered to the right place at the right time 100% of the time.
2. Meeting State and Murray-Darling Basin standards and targets is well-embedded in water quality management.
3. Riparian and aquatic vegetation is healthy, provides for the many values it supports and ensures the recovery and persistence of native fish.
4. There is an increase in diversity of the Catchment community and visitors engaged in the building the resilience of the Catchment's water resources and health.
5. There is broad-scale understanding, support and agreement on sustainable water management across the water sector and stakeholders.