

Catchment planning and management

Objective

To assist the protection and restoration of catchments, water bodies, groundwater, and the marine environment.

Strategies

Ensure the continued availability of clean, high-quality drinking water by protecting water catchments and water supply facilities.

Consider the impacts of catchment management on downstream water quality and freshwater, coastal and marine environments.

Retain natural drainage corridors with vegetated buffer zones at least 30 metres wide along each side of a waterway to:

- Maintain the natural drainage function, stream habitat and wildlife corridors and landscape values,
- Minimise erosion of stream banks and verges, and
- Reduce polluted surface runoff from adjacent land uses.

Undertake measures to minimise the quantity and retard the flow of stormwater from developed areas.

Require appropriate measures to filter sediment and wastes from stormwater prior to its discharge into waterways, including the preservation of floodplain or other land for wetlands and retention basins.

Ensure that development at or near waterways provide for the protection and enhancement of the environmental qualities of waterways and their instream uses.

Ensure land use and development minimises nutrient contributions to water bodies and the potential for the development of algal blooms.

Require appropriate measures to restrict sediment discharges from construction sites.

Ensure planning is coordinated with the activities of catchment management authorities.

Policy documents

Consider as relevant:

- Any regional catchment strategy and related plans approved under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*
- *State Environment Protection Policy (Waters of Victoria)*
- *Murray River Regional Environmental Plan No 2 (REP2) of New South Wales*
- *Planning permit applications in open, potable water supply catchment areas* (Department of Sustainability and Environment, 2012)
- Any applicable implementation strategy approved by a catchment management authority or waterway management authority
- Any special area or management plan under the *Heritage Rivers Act 1992*
- Any action statement or management plan prepared under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*
- *Urban Stormwater - Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines* (Victorian Stormwater Committee, 1999)