

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Regional Catchment Strategy

Glenelg Hopkins CMA is currently developing the Glenelg Hopkins Regional Catchment Strategy (RCS), which will be the fourth RCS for the region.

What is an RCS?

Regional Catchment Strategies are a requirement of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 and is intended to be the primary integrated planning framework for land, water and biodiversity for the region. It helps provide direction for how the region's land, water and biodiversity should be managed and should capture the values and priorities of the regional community.

Is the RCS a CMA document only?

The RCS is not intended to be a CMA document. While Glenelg Hopkins CMA has a responsibility to prepare an RCS and coordinate its implementation, it is intended to be a regional document that is recognised and implemented by a range of partners and the community.

How is the RCS developed?

The RCS is being developed according to guidelines set by the Victorian Catchment Management Council and will be a web-based document. The following principles are being incorporated into the development process:

- Regional ownership – regional delivery model
- Place-based
- Strong community engagement and stakeholder partnerships
- Triple bottom line approach
- Evidence-based
- Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) approach

The RCS includes major themes based on water, land, biodiversity, coasts and marine and community. It is recognised that these themes are inter-connected, but they align with how governments and other investors often plan and fund programs.

The RCS will also include a 'Local Area' section to focus on the integration of the themes in a way that is meaningful to local communities. Local Areas should reflect local community priorities and interests and show how organisations and communities can work together to manage our land, waters and biodiversity.

Development of the RCS will be a highly collaborative process, with input and feedback sought from a range of regional partners and the community more broadly.



Who will be involved in developing the RCS?

A diverse range of partners, regional stakeholders, community groups and community members will be involved in developing the RCS. Key inputs will be sought from specific partners and regional experts. Community members will also have opportunities to provide feedback on specific content as it develops.

The regional community as a whole will be invited to comment on the draft RCS when it is provided for public consultation in 2021.

What is the timeline for RCS development?

Development of the RCS will occur during 2020-2021 and will be submitted for Ministerial approval by 30 September 2021.

Timeline overview:

October 2020 to July 2021	Develop RCS with partners and community
30 September 2021	Submission of the RCS for Ministerial approval

How will the RCS be developed with coronavirus (COVID-19)?

Community engagement is an extremely important element for development of the RCS. The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the restrictions that are currently in place, impact on our ability to work together face-to-face as we normally would. While social distancing restrictions are in place, alternative arrangements will be implemented such as online meetings and workshops, and other online platforms to gather input and feedback on the RCS. If your access to online tools is limited, alternative arrangements can be organised on request.

How will I be kept informed of what is happening?

Updates will be posted on the Glenelg Hopkins Facebook page and the Glenelg Hopkins CMA website. Email and phone contact will continue with key partners and correspondence will be distributed for online meetings and workshops.

The public consultation period on the draft document will be advertised in regional newspapers, in addition to online media and targeted correspondence.

Who do I contact if I have any questions?

Jane Walker (Catchment and Indigenous Partnerships Manager) on j.walker@ghcma.vic.gov.au
or

Hannah Brook (MER and RCS Coordinator) on h.brook@ghcma.vic.gov.au

