



Stream Flow Management Plans and Local Management Rules

Many of the waterways in the Port Phillip and Westernport Region are unregulated. This means their flows are not controlled or modified by a dam (eg. such as the Upper Yarra Dam or Melton Reservoir). Water can still be harvested from these waterways to fill farm dams, or to irrigate crops and for domestic, stock and town use. In these waterways, Stream Flow Management Plans or Local Management Rules can be developed where there is a high level of water use.

These plans set rules to ensure that there is enough water for the environmental values that live in the waterway and water is equally shared amongst other water users.

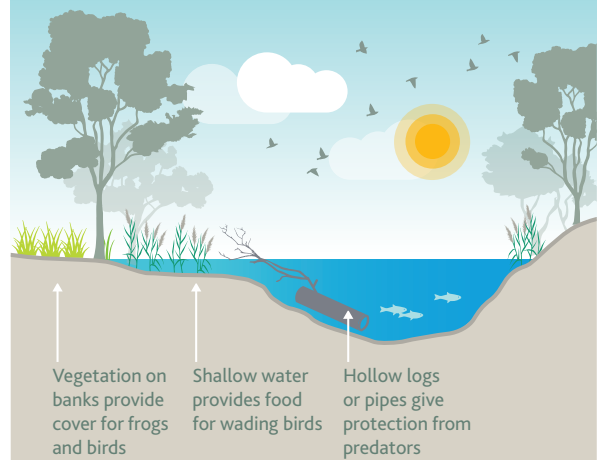


A farmer with a licence can capture water in farm dams



Water is used for irrigation in the Yarra Valley region

Farm dams can store water from waterways for commercial or domestic use



Farm dams can provide a good habitat for birds and animals as well as providing a sustainable source of water for commercial and domestic use.

The Management Plans and Local Rules can specify:

- Minimum environmental flows that should remain in the waterways
- Conditions on water licences for when water can be taken from waterways
- The total volume of water that can be diverted each year from a waterway
- Trading rules for transferring water licences into, and within, a waterway
- Monitoring and metering requirements to understand how and when water is used

To find out more about Water for the Environment visit:
melbournewater.com.au/environmentalwater

Stream Flow Management Plans

Stream Flow Management Plans (SFMPs) have been developed for the following waterways:

- Olinda Creek
- Plenty River
- Stringybark Creek
- Woori Yallock Creek
- Steels, Dixons and Pauls Creek
- Little Yarra and Don River
- Hoddles Creek

Local Management Rules

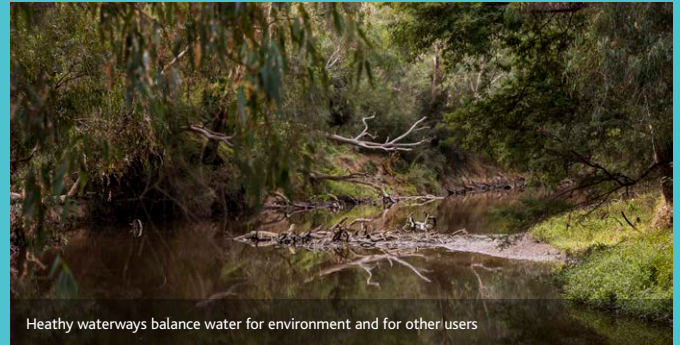
Local Management Rules (LMRs) are created for areas that have a lower level of water demand than waterways with SFMPs. LMRs have been developed for the following waterways:

- Merri Creek
- Kororoit Creek
- Darebin Creek
- Gardiners Creek
- Mullum Mullum Creek
- Moonee Ponds Creek
- Diamond Creek

The SFMPs and LMRs set minimum environmental flow rules and ensure that water extraction does not exceed sustainable levels. They can be downloaded from: www.melbournewater.com.au/water/waterway-diversions/stream-flow-management



Freshwater crayfish live in SFMP and LMR catchments



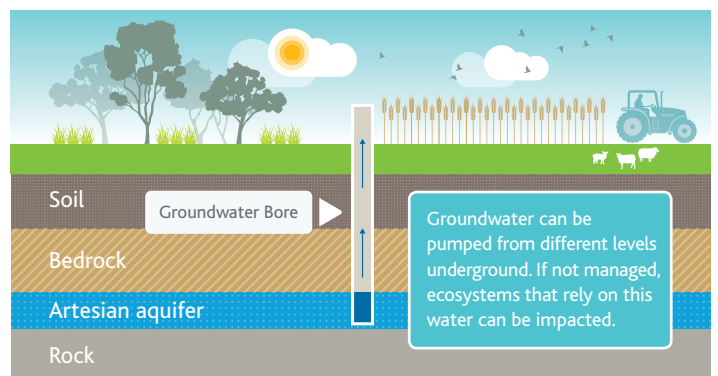
Healthy waterways balance water for environment and for other users



Groundwater Management Plans

Southern Rural Water Authority (SRW) manage Groundwater in this region. Melbourne Water work with SRW to develop Local Management Plans where needed to provide clear water sharing arrangements for the use of Groundwater.

Local Management Plans for Groundwater are responsive and adaptable to local conditions and the characteristics of each Groundwater system. They specify rules for applying and removing restrictions on the extraction of Groundwater to share water for the environment.



More Information

Everyone benefits from a healthy river. For more information visit Melbourne Water's Environmental Water website: www.melbournewater.com.au/EnvironmentalWater
Email environmentalwater@melbournewater.com.au or call 131 722

