

# Lake Wellington Land and Water Management Plan *at a glance*

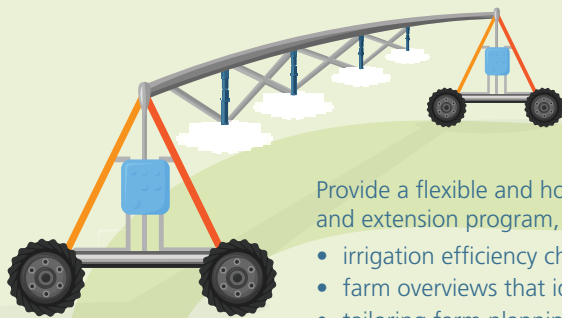
Irrigated land and the environment in the Lake Wellington catchment is set to benefit from a new plan developed with input from irrigators, industry and government.

The plan outlines how irrigators, industry and government will work together over the next 10 years to achieve a highly productive and sustainable irrigation community that values and protects its natural and cultural assets.

## What will the plan do?

- Support irrigators to be more productive, sustainable and efficient, and demonstrate this to the community.
- Protect rivers, wetlands and the Gippsland Lakes from excess nutrients and sediment and reduce the risk of algal blooms.
- Help manage impacts of salinity and high-water tables.
- Protect our natural, cultural and social assets of the irrigation regions for future generations.

## A summary of what the plan will do *(subject to funding)*



Establish an **irrigator reference group** to input into program development and implementation.

Provide a flexible and holistic **farm planning** and extension program, with support for

- irrigation efficiency checks
- farm overviews that identify on-farm assets and risks
- tailoring farm planning to farm-specific goals and aspirations
- professional farm survey and irrigation system design
- energy efficient irrigation systems
- whole farm effluent and nutrient management
- cultural heritage

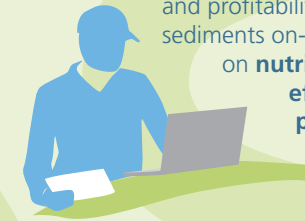


**Financial incentives, independent advice and training** for improved on-farm irrigation infrastructure and management practices, including reuse systems, flood-to-spray conversions and high flow flood on appropriate soil types.

More emphasis on **innovation and collaboration** between irrigators, agency and industry, including farmer-led discussion groups, and industry partnerships for best practice demonstrations and trials.



Help irrigators to improve productivity and profitability and retain nutrients and sediments on-farm through a new focus on **nutrient, sediment and effluent management programs**.

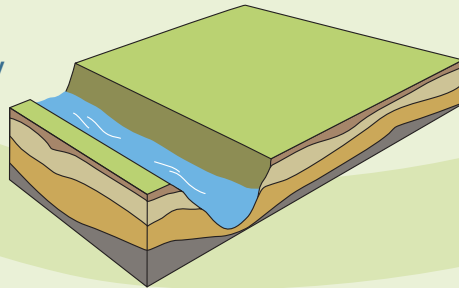


Investigating expanding extension, farm planning and incentives programs for **irrigators outside of the Macalister Irrigation District**.

Develop **collaborative arrangements** between irrigators and Gunaikurnai to protect cultural heritage values.



Continuing to **control salinity by maintaining drainage systems** that reduce irrigation-induced salinity and waterlogging in the MID.



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## REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

**\$8.7M** invested in the Macalister Land and Water Management Programs (2008-2018)

The majority of the Lake Wellington catchment is the country of two clans of the **Gunaikurnai**, the **Brayakaulung** and **Tatungalung** people

The MID provides **more than \$500 million** per year to Victoria's economy

**Dairy, horticulture, beef and sheep, mixed farming and cropping** in Lake Wellington catchment

## ACHIEVEMENTS

**239 on-farm irrigation system upgrade** projects funded

**Phosphorus target for Lake Wellington met** 6 out of 10 years between 2007 - 2017

**> \$1M per year** in landholder contribution for incentives

**10,000 ha of land covered by improved irrigation systems**

**36,000 ha** of farm land with irrigation farm plans

**34 GL of water saved** or kept on farm each year

## EPA PHOSPHORUS TARGET

New target to **reduce Phosphorus coming into Lake Wellington by 7.5 tonnes per year** from irrigated farms



## LEGEND

- Lake Wellington catchment
- Macalister Irrigation District
- Native vegetation
- Roads
- Main waterways