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Catchment Snapshot

Latest news from the CMA



Hello river lovers,

🗞 Welcome to our last edition of Catchment Snapshot for 2025.

🌿 It's been a busy year across West Gippsland with projects well underway on behalf of the Australian and Victorian Governments to improve and protect the region's wonderful natural assets.

🌟 We're taking a break for the restive season and our office will be closed from Tuesday 23 December until Friday 3 January.

From the West Gipps CMA team.



Past year shows strong returns for West Gippsland catchment

From mountain headwaters to the Bass Strait coast and Gippsland Lakes, the CMA has put West Gippsland's waterways on the right side of the ledger for another year.

Every tree planted, kilometre of river fenced, hectare of weeds removed, wetland protected and event held for the community in 2024-25 is captured in the CMA's latest Annual Report approved in State Parliament recently.

"This report is more than numbers, it's our story and showcase of the overall effort across the catchment and we are extremely proud of every achievement," says Martin Fuller, CEO of West Gippsland CMA.

[Read more](#)



Getting down to earth about carbon farming

Carbon farming is talked about a lot right now, but what exactly is it?

That's what 35 South Gippsland farmers came to find out at the 'Down to Earth Farm Field' day at Malabar Farm in Tarwin Lower recently.

The group was shown first hand by fellow farmers how it is possible to farm in a way that is in tune with the environment, creates healthier soils, helps reduce emissions and is financially successful.

[Read more](#)



Corner Inlet postcards

We have just released two new postcard designs to share messages with locals and visitors about how to care for Corner Inlet's beach nesting and migratory birds.

Get your free cards Visitor Information Centres, cafes and the Sea Days Festival in Port Welshpool Saturday 3 January and Sunday 4 January 2026.

The cards include important messages like:

- Please help by following any signage when you enter an area.
- If you see unusual signs of sickness or death in wildlife, please call the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888

[Read more about Corner Inlet](#)



Kugerungmome – a river with heart

The current Kugerungmome Powlett River Partnerships will deliver environmental improvement outcomes on the ground and continue to build even stronger partnerships to work together in and advocate for the catchment and river to deliver on our shared vision.

We're working with Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, Bass Coast Landcare Network, Trust for Nature, Birdlife Australia and South Gippsland Water to deliver a range of on-ground projects.

They will bring landholders and community together and expand the reach and possibilities of works. They will also build a sense of stewardship to leave a lasting legacy in the catchment covering over 50,000 hectares.

Sub-projects include protecting cultural values, controlling predators to protect wildlife, protecting threatened birds such as the Hooded Plover, revegetating riverbanks and improving water quality across the Powlett catchment.

[Read more about Kugerungmome](#)



Rainbow Creek restoration

The CMA regularly visit restored waterway sites to see how they're tracking and what's changed over time. We look for signs of weeds, revegetation growth, erosion, and fence condition.

It's a simple but important way to maintain healthy waterways and measure the improvements achieved in partnership with local landholders - like here at this site on Rainbow Creek which has seen huge improvements since we started working with the landholder back in 2017.

This site is part of a bigger project to keep Carran Carran (Thomson River) flowing.

[Read more](#)

Join team CMA

We're looking for a Sustainable
Irrigation Project Officer & Financial

If this sounds like you or someone you know, visit our website for details including how to apply. Applications close early January.

[Read more](#)

Shoring up Blue Rock Lake's popular walking track

Visitors to Blue Rock Lake will benefit from new erosion control works that will protect the popular walking track while supporting the lake's health.

[Read more](#)

Get your Catchment Map

Our new Catchment Map for River Lovers is now here! You can pick up a copy from our offices and also view it online.



Discover more stories

In brief



Grand Designs wetlands style



Team Tarwin

We hit the road for a tour of the Tarwin catchment to discover how our

Gunaikurnai Country. The impressive feat of engineering will help us support the Gippsland Lakes' fringing wetlands by reducing salinity levels and bringing these systems back into natural balance. Stay tuned for updates!



Going with the flow

We hosted Environmental Water Managers from across Victoria recently, taking them on a tour of the path environmental water takes as it's released from Blue Rock dam down the Latrobe River and into the lower Latrobe wetlands (including Heart Morass) and Lake Wellington.

this part of the world. From on-ground works, to big picture thinking it was a day for sharing ideas, stories and opportunities for how we can work in partnership to restore the entire Tarwin catchment.



Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to our new Board member, Glenys Watts for being awarded the Premier's Volunteer of the Year! Glenys is a proud Gunaikurnai Elder and respected community leader whose influence spans more than 30 years of dedicated volunteer service.



Trees on Farms event

Learn how trees can benefit your farm and the opportunities for agroforestry in livestock enterprises at a free farm field day event happening in February 2026 in Darriman.

[View event](#)

Hoodies workshops

Our friends at Bird Life Australia are running Hooded Plover Monitoring Training Workshops in January with free workshops taking place in Foster and Powlett River Mouth.

[Find out more](#)

Listen to Gippslandscapes podcast

Coming in early 2026, we chat with our CEO Marty Fuller about the year that was, the year that's coming and why CMAs and partners are so vital to healthy landscapes.

meantime, check out previous episodes on our website.

 [Podcast archive](#)



We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Traditional Owners of the region, the Gunaikurnai, the Bunurong, the Boonwurrung and the Wurundjeri peoples, their rich culture and spiritual connection to Country.

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