



Evaluation, Reporting and Review

Evaluating, reporting and reviewing progress towards river and creek targets and objectives form an important component of this strategy.

An evaluation and reporting framework will be developed and implemented to review progress and report on river and creek targets.

Communities and stakeholders will be provided with access to clear and accurate information on river health through:

- publishing of results and reports, and inclusion on websites
- establishing websites for all catchments (see case study on “*Our Yarra* website”)
- production of an annual rivers and creeks report that contains an overview of the condition of rivers and creek in the region and a summary of programs undertaken.

Case Study

Our Yarra website

A website that encourages people to get involved in the health of the Yarra River has been developed by Melbourne Water. The *Our Yarra* website helps people to connect to the Yarra by providing localised water quality data, information on river health activities, and tips for reducing stormwater pollution.

The interactive “*What’s in my neighbourhood*” search facility allows users to get details on their local rivers and creeks, community groups and interesting facts simply by entering a postcode or suburb.

Other information on the site includes local data on frog populations, education resources and useful links to other agencies involved in improving and monitoring the health of the river.

The *Our Yarra* website is part of Melbourne Water’s *I love living here* community awareness and education campaign designed to increase understanding about the impacts that everyday activities can have on the health of our rivers and creeks – which are home to an enormous variety of plants, fish and animals – and the ways we can all help protect and improve them.

An initial review of this strategy will be completed early 2007. This review will draw information from the long-term program contained in the Resource CD to update programs, costs and targets for the period 2008/09 to 2013 to feed into the Melbourne Water *Water Plan* for this period.

The review process will be undertaken in consultation with the Melbourne Water Waterways Advisory Committee. It will take into account:

- Experiences in implementing, monitoring and reporting on targets and commitments
- The progress in completing actions and towards targets
- Changes in policy framework and strategic direction.

A major review of the strategy will take place in five years. The evaluation and review framework will outline the process for the review. This review will also allow an opportunity to evaluate and update:

- The condition of rivers and creeks
- Progress towards implementing actions
- Success of actions in achieving outcomes
- Assumptions made in developing the strategy
- Prioritisation approach and review of targets
- Status of proposed future works, i.e. works identified in the strategy for implementation in the long-term
- Information on river and creek assets to account for changes in community perceptions, expectations and scientific information
- Direction for regional investment in river and creek health.

References

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