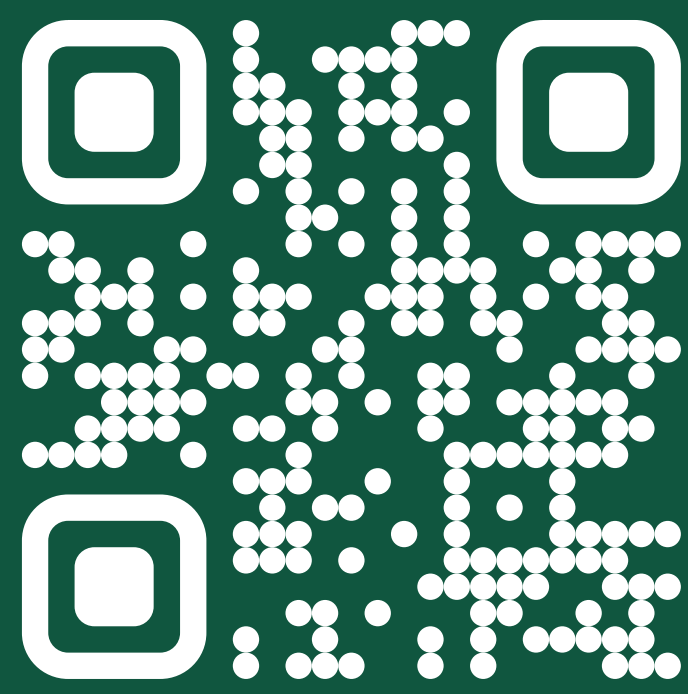


# Port Phillip and Western Port Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan



SCAN TO VIEW OUR DIGITAL POSTER ON YOUR DEVICE

## Introduction

As a catchment manager, Melbourne Water is responsible for the integrated planning of land, water and biodiversity management across the Port Phillip and Western Port region. This includes meeting the objectives of the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* which focuses on management of pest plants and animals and promoting sustainable land use.

With respect to biodiversity, Melbourne Water has a significant role in leading and coordinating the planning and delivery of biodiversity conservation and protection efforts across the Port Phillip and Western Port region in collaboration with partner agencies and the community.

In 2024, Melbourne Water in collaboration with RMCG developed its *Biodiversity Conservation Action Plan (BCAP) 2024-2028* which articulates Melbourne Water's regional approach to biodiversity protection and conservation and provides a blueprint to protect and enhance biodiversity assets and values in the region.



PLAN



CONSULT



DEVELOP

## Results



**The BCAP provides a guide for the development and implementation of biodiversity projects across the Port Phillip and Western Port region.**

It is used to facilitate discussions and design projects that will strengthen the strategic alignment between Melbourne Water's work, partner initiatives and broader state and federal priorities.

## Method

The BCAP is comprised of two main components:



1.

**An ecosystem based approach including detailed spatial priorities to inform biodiversity investment by Melbourne Water and its partners.**

The aim of this approach was to identify where Melbourne Water could deliver biodiversity conservation and protection interventions within the landscape to maximise the benefits to biodiversity. The approach was tenure blind and not tied to any particular funding program. The prioritisation process was characterised by the following steps:

- Spatial analysis of biodiversity data against a set of thresholds and criteria
- Consultation with a wide number of biodiversity experts in the region including Zoos Victoria, Bird Life Australia, Trust for Nature, Phillip Island Nature Parks, Parks Victoria, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) and Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)
- Cost-benefit analysis.

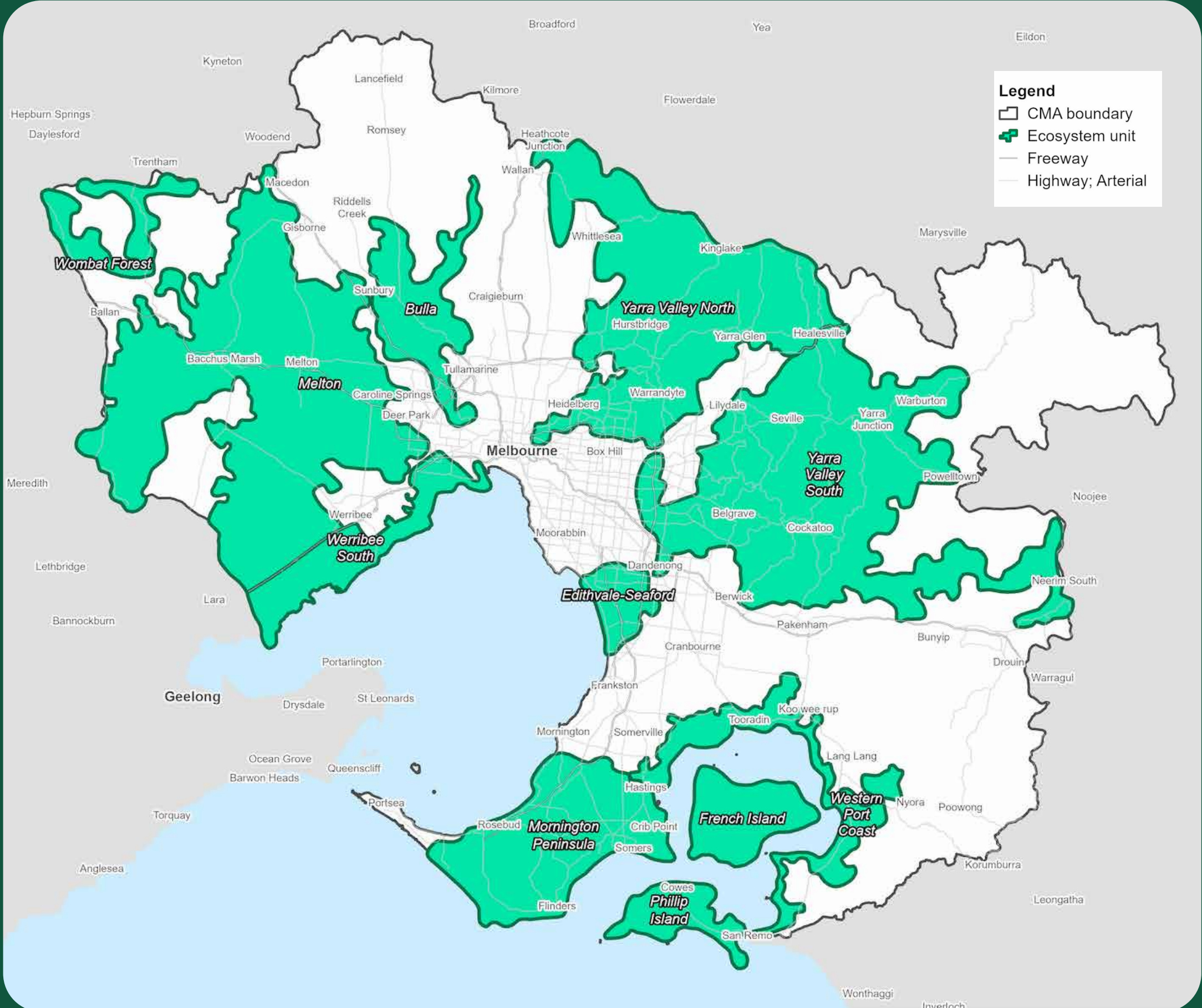
2.

**Organisational objectives and actions that will help to embed biodiversity protection and conservation into business as usual across Melbourne Water.**

Through intensive staff engagement, a meaningful set of objectives and actions were developed to more effectively embed biodiversity management and protection into business as usual. These have been grouped into five themes to better equip Melbourne Water to conserve and enhance biodiversity over the next five years.



## Ecosystem Units in the Port Phillip and Western Port Region



Top: Powerful Owl. Left: Musk Lorikeet. Right: Southern Bell Frog