



MODULE 2

Strategic Links

This module outlines the Victorian Government strategies and approaches that underpin the Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program. Landcare facilitators should familiarise themselves with these documents and promote them to groups and networks when planning projects so that they can contribute to state environmental outcomes. A link to the full strategy document is provided at the end of each section.

Biodiversity 2037

In 2017, the Victorian Government published *Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037*.

Biodiversity 2037 established a long-term vision and goals to protect and enhance Victoria's natural environment.

Biodiversity 2037 sets out the Victorian Government's long-term vision for Victoria's biodiversity: **Victoria's biodiversity is healthy, valued and actively cared for**. This vision is supported by two goals:

1. **Victorians value nature**
2. **Victoria's natural environment is healthy.**

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) is responsible for delivering *Biodiversity 2037*, in partnership with portfolio agencies such as Parks Victoria and Zoos Victoria, as well as the Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs), and the Landcare and environmental volunteering sector.

The Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program helps the Victorian Government accomplish 14 of the 20 priorities of *Biodiversity 2037*.

You can find the priorities listed [here](#) and click below to access the full plan.

[*Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037*](#)





Environmental Volunteering Plan

In 2018, the Victorian Government released *Victorians Volunteering for Nature - Environmental Volunteering Plan* (EVP).

The EVP is a coordinated and revitalised approach to environmental volunteering that supports and fosters a sustainable, modern, effective and valued environmental volunteering sector in Victoria. DEECA is responsible for delivering the EVP in partnership with portfolio agencies such as Parks Victoria, the Catchment Management Authorities, and the Landcare and environmental volunteering sector. The Victorian Landcare Facilitator Program meets all of the focused actions of the EVP: Sustain, Expand, Value, and Understand.

[Victorians Volunteering for Nature - Environmental Volunteering Plan.](#)

Victoria's Climate Change Strategy

Victoria's Climate Change Strategy 2021 - 2030 is a roadmap to net-zero emissions and a climate resilient Victoria by 2050. The Government has set ambitious, but achievable targets to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions from 2005 levels by 28–33% by 2025 and 45–50% by 2030.

To achieve these emissions reduction targets Victoria's Climate Change Strategy includes actions to:



- Transition our state to a clean energy future that will create jobs, cut costs for households and businesses and strengthen our energy system.
- Invest in innovative technologies, such as zero emissions vehicles and hydrogen, and partner with businesses and communities to set Victoria up for their adoption.
- Recognise and safeguard the role of our natural environment in reducing emissions, and ensure our farmers are well placed to embrace new technologies and practices that reduce emissions.
- Support Victorian businesses and communities to cut emissions and thrive in a net-zero emissions future.

[Victoria's Climate Change Strategy.](#)



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The following programs/plan are aligned with Victoria's Climate Change Strategy and may be of interest to Landcare facilitators:

[The Bush Bank Program](#)

The Bush Bank Program supports revegetation and restoration of native vegetation across public and private land to improve habitat for biodiversity while increasing carbon sequestration.

[Victorian Carbon Farming Program](#)

The \$15.3m Victorian Carbon Farming Program will provide incentives for private landholders to sequester carbon, reduce emissions and build resilience to a changing climate. This Program will support private landholders to:

- plant agroforestry and shelterbelt trees,
- access existing carbon markets, and
- realise on-farm benefits and new income streams.

Note: Landcare Facilitators can register for updates on this program [here](#):

[Agriculture Energy Investment Plan](#)

The Agriculture Energy Investment Plan supports agricultural businesses to reduce energy costs, improve energy efficiency and explore alternative energy options.



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Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning Our Future'

In 2019, the Victorian Government released the *Self-Determination Reform Framework* (SDRF), a whole of government reform framework to enable Traditional Owner and Aboriginal self-determination. This framework guides how Victorian Government departments and agencies (e.g. DEECA) will act to enable self-determination.

Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning Our Future' - Aboriginal Self Determination Reform Strategy 2020-25 was published as a requirement of the SDRF.

The Strategy maps out DEECA's plan to support Aboriginal self-determination, aligns with the whole-of-government commitments set out in the *Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2018-2023*, and sets the strategic direction, outcomes, and priorities for DEECA. The Victorian Landcare Program, administered by DEECA, is guided by the SDRF and this strategy. *Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning Our Future'* seeks to remove barriers to self determination and enable DELWP to form genuine, meaningful partnerships with Traditional Owners and Victorian Aboriginal communities.

[Pupangarli Marnmarnepu 'Owning Our Future' - Aboriginal Self Determination Reform strategy](#)

Ideas on how you can support and enable Aboriginal Self-determination in your role as Landcare facilitator are provided in Module 5: Landcare Facilitator Life.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Guide (January 2020)

The *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Guide* assists Landcare and environmental volunteer groups and networks that care for Victoria's landscapes to better understand the state's Aboriginal cultural heritage management process. The guide, that was updated in January 2020, steps out the process for meeting the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* and helps groups and networks determine whether a Cultural Heritage Permit is required. The guide also provides the key Aboriginal cultural heritage contacts, including for the 11 Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) in Victoria.

The guide is located [here on the Victorian Landcare Gateway](#)

Engaging Traditional Owners

Helpful resources and Victorian Government advice on engaging Traditional Owners can be found at [First Peoples - State Relations](#)



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Biodiversity Response Planning - Focus Landscapes

Biodiversity Response Planning is a long term, area-based planning approach to biodiversity conservation in Victoria. It is designed to strengthen alignment, engagement and participation between government, Traditional Owners, non-government organisations (NGOs) and the community.

DEECA staff worked in consultation with Traditional Owners and stakeholders to identify Focus Landscapes across Victoria. A Focus Landscape is a place within which priorities for on-ground biodiversity action are located. That is, landscapes where targeting action is likely to give the greatest benefit for biodiversity.

Focus Landscapes were identified using stakeholder input, local knowledge and scientific tools like Strategic Management Prospects. The type of consultation varied across the regions depending on what the stakeholders' needs were. Broadly, DEECA developed initial maps of options and priorities that were workshopped with stakeholders. It is important to note that Biodiversity Response Planning has been developed as an ongoing process where improved information over time will enable progressive review and refinement of those priorities.

Each Focus Landscape has a Fact Sheet to describe it. These provide information about each area's key values and the most cost-effective actions to protect their biodiversity. The Fact Sheets provide useful biodiversity information for the community, non-government organisations and government organisations and may be useful for Landcare facilitators and Landcare and environmental volunteer groups and networks during project planning and development.

Note: the Focus Landscapes Fact Sheets may not be relevant to all Landcare facilitators. Relevance will depend on jurisdiction.

For more information on Biodiversity Response Planning and to access Focus Landscapes Fact Sheets, please visit:

[Biodiversity Response Planning - Working together for biodiversity](#)

Strategic Management Prospects

The Strategic Management Prospects (SMP) tool is designed to help biodiversity managers consider and compare which actions to do, where. To deliver *Biodiversity 2037's* goals and targets and to try to prevent more species from becoming threatened, we need our management efforts to achieve the most benefits for the most species. To achieve the most positive change for biodiversity, it is important to choose activities based on the greatest benefit to the most species at the least cost.

More detail on the Strategic Management Prospects tool and how its products can be used, can be found [here](#). There are a range of other tools to support project planning, mapping and reporting, which can be accessed [here](#).

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Regional Catchment Strategies

Victoria's Catchment Management Authorities (and Melbourne Water in Port Phillip and Western Port region) each lead development and delivery of a Regional Catchment Strategy for their respective CMA regions. The Regional Catchment Strategies are long-term environmental strategies, which bring government, organisations and communities together and guide their collective efforts to protect and improve the health of a region's land, water and biodiversity resources. The Regional Catchment Strategies are reviewed and renewed approximately every six years.

More information can be found [here](#).

Landcare Support Plans

For more information on Landcare in your Catchment Management Authority (CMA) region, please visit the website for the relevant CMA or Melbourne Water (click relevant link below).

Each CMA (or Melbourne Water) may have a specific Landcare Support Plan for your region. Contact your Regional Landcare Coordinator for more details about your region's Landcare Support Plan.



Corangamite	North East
East Gippsland	Melbourne Water *
Glenelg Hopkins	West Gippsland
Goulburn Broken	Wimmera
Mallee	
North Central	



*Melbourne Water, formerly Port Phillip and Westernport CMA



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