

# STATEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP

AUGUST 2016

This Statement of Partnership is made by the community natural resource management (NRM) groups and networks within the Goulburn Broken region and the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority (CMA). The statement aims to show community NRM groups' and the Goulburn Broken CMA's commitment to the intent of the National Statement of Common Purpose.



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## SIGNATORIES

Community NRM groups and networks include Landcare, Conservation Management, Sustainable Farming, Environment and 'friends of' groups or networks operating in the Goulburn Broken CMA. There are more than 100 of these groups or networks within the Goulburn Broken CMA area. For the purpose of authorising this statement, community NRM groups are represented by the Goulburn Broken Community NRM Network Chairs' Forum.

The Goulburn Broken CMA is the statutory authority as described by Division 3 of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 established for the catchment and land protection region of Goulburn Broken, Victoria.

## PURPOSE OF THE STATEMENT

The intent of the agreement is to create a partnership of equals as outlined in the National Statement of Common Purpose (Appendix 1.). Signatories to the October 2013 Statement of Common Purpose are the National Landcare Network and the National NRM Regions' Working Group.

Consistent with the National Statement of Common Purpose the purpose of this Statement of Partnership is to confirm an enduring and productive relationship between Community NRM groups in the Goulburn Broken region and the Goulburn Broken CMA that uses our collective capacity to optimise outcomes for the protection of natural resources in the catchment and land protection region of Goulburn Broken, Victoria.

## HOW WE WILL WORK TOGETHER

- Collaborate to develop, implement and review the Goulburn Broken Regional Catchment Strategy and its sub-strategies.
- Actively participate in the Goulburn Broken Community NRM Network Chairs' Forum and Coordinators' Forums.
- Collectively review this Statement of Partnership every two years.

## PRINCIPLES OF OUR WORKING RELATIONSHIP

In addition to the objective, focus and aim of the National Statement of Common Purpose the Goulburn Broken CMA and Community NRM groups in the Goulburn Broken region affirm the following principles as fundamental to their working relationship:

- **Shared responsibility.** The Goulburn Broken CMA and Community NRM groups bring a commitment to a healthy environment, strong communities and sustainable agriculture.
- **Organisational respect.** Each party will respect the interests the other represents, and what the other can contribute in achieving NRM outcomes.
- **Communicating early and often.** Setting priorities, designing projects and negotiating roles all need time. Discussion will start early, in anticipation of future opportunities and not only as a reaction to immediate demands.
- **Representing community views.** Each party will bring to the table their understanding of demands and opportunities in communities and in policy, and draw out the implications for wise action.
- **Devolving responsibility.** Devolution means that those who are close to an issue are given a major say in what should be done, and supported to take necessary action. Outcomes and resources should be agreed, and the responsible organisation given freedom to get results the best way it sees fit.
- **Building capacity.** People and organisations at all levels can build their capacity for decisions and action. They need to take responsibility for this and be well-supported by others.
- **Giving feedback.** The partners will give each other honest feedback on what is working and not working in the relationship, to maintain and improve the partnership.

## COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT FOR THE STATEMENT

The signatories agree to actively promote this Statement of Partnership and the National Statement of Common Purpose within their member organisations and to be supportive of its intent amongst their wider stakeholders.