

## Barwon Basin

The majority of streams in the Barwon Basin are in marginal to poor condition. The few streams in excellent or good condition are mainly in the forested areas in the south of the Basin. More than 85 per cent of the landscape is cleared and threats to the waterways in this catchment include high urban water resource demand, urban development, sedimentation and algal blooms.

## Lake Corangamite Basin

The streams in the Corangamite Basin are either in marginal or very poor condition. Most of the catchment is cleared for agricultural pursuits and many wetlands are drained.



*Aire River, located near Glen Aire, is a high value heritage river*

## Otway Coast Basin

Unlike other basins in the Corangamite region, about 60 per cent of the Otway Coast Basin is covered by forest. Consequently, a significant proportion of streams are in good or excellent condition. Most of the ecologically healthy streams are in the central section of the Basin. Thirteen of these streams have the highest stream condition rating.



*On-ground river protection and restoration helps to maintain healthy waterways and aquatic life*

## Improvement program

In its roles as caretaker of river health, Corangamite CMA provides leadership and support to individuals, agencies and community groups to enhance and protect the waterways in the Corangamite region.

As part of the on-ground river protection and restoration program, the CMA and partners undertake works to:

- restore riparian vegetation
- restore instream habitat
- install fishways
- stabilise river banks, banks and gullies
- improve environmental flows to rivers and wetlands
- build community capacity
- build partnerships to improve stormwater management
- control exotic flora and fauna species.

To be involved in work along any rivers or streams, contact the CMA.

For further information, contact Corangamite CMA

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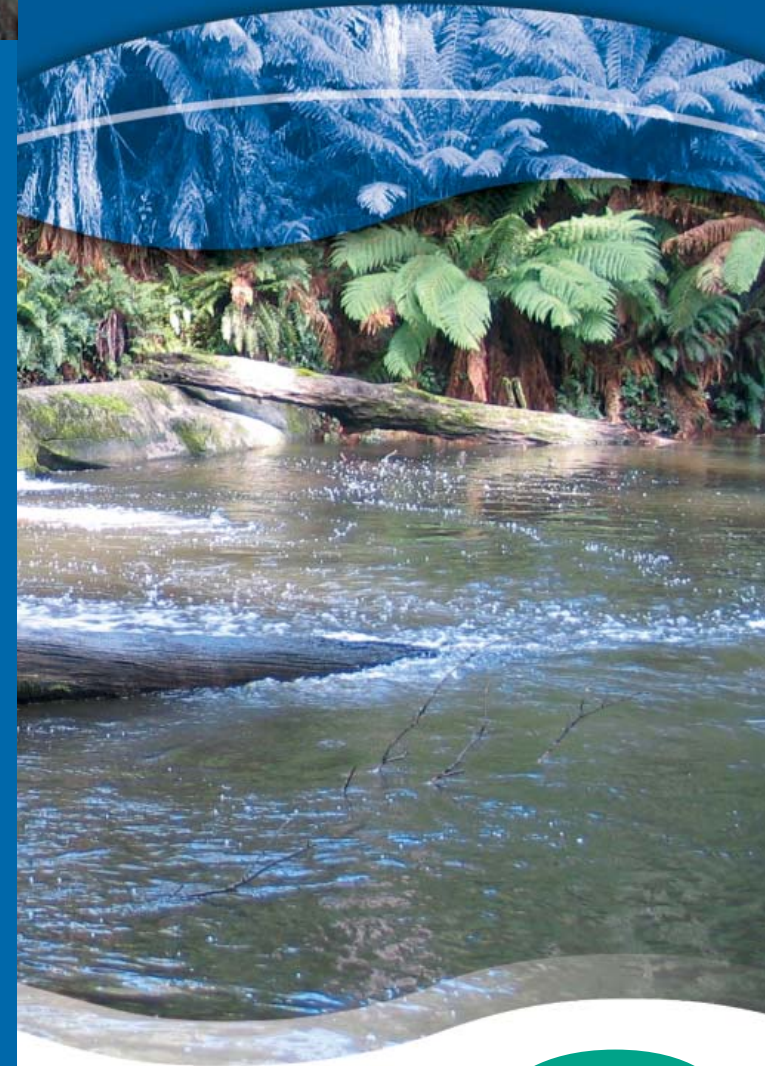
Email: [info@ccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@ccma.vic.gov.au)

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# How healthy are our rivers and streams?

*Results of the Index of Stream Condition Assessment*





## How do we measure river health?

The Index Stream of Condition (ISC) is an indicator of environmental condition. It integrates information about our river systems that is important from an ecological perspective. By bringing together information on the current river flow regime, water quality, condition of the channel, riparian zone and the invertebrate communities living in the stream, the ISC provides an overall indication of changes in river condition.

## Assessing streams in the region

ISC data is collated by trained Corangamite CMA staff. More than 300 sites, representing 125 rivers, are chosen randomly.

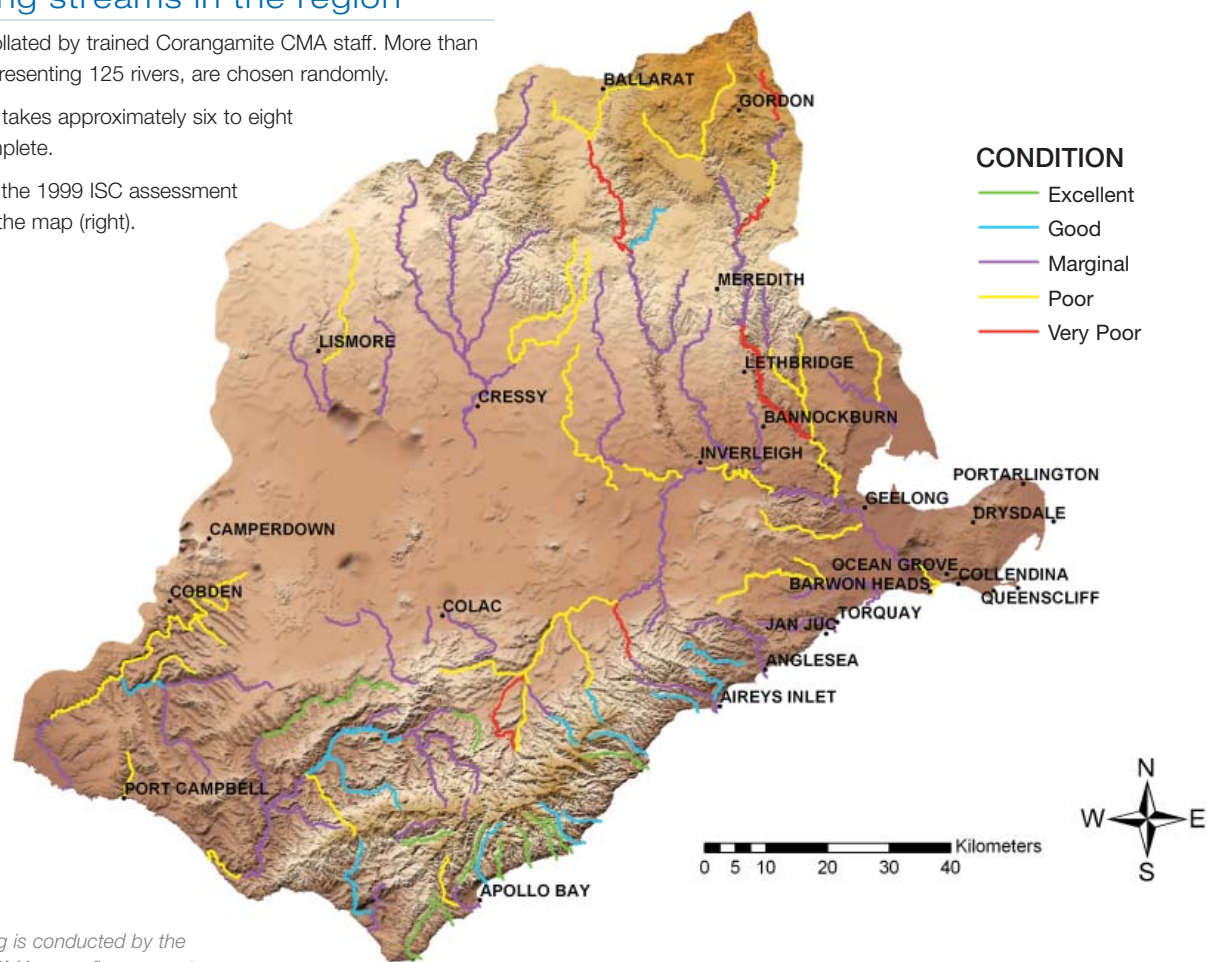
The sampling takes approximately six to eight weeks to complete.

The results of the 1999 ISC assessment are shown in the map (right).

## The results of our assessments

### Moorabool Basin

There are no streams in the Moorabool Basin that are in excellent or good condition. The majority of streams are rated as being in poor condition. This is mainly due to extensive demand for water for both urban and rural uses, with more than 60 per cent of available surface water supplies used, impacting significantly on stream flows.



Left: Monitoring is conducted by the Corangamite CMA every five years at 300 randomly selected sites