

West Campaspe Groundwater Management Area

Developing a Local Management Plan

How is groundwater managed?

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) is responsible for managing groundwater in its region, which includes the Campaspe groundwater catchment.

Licensing ensures fair sharing of available resources and protection of the environment and the rights of other users.

The West Campaspe Groundwater Management Area

GMW proposes to establish the West Campaspe Groundwater Management Area (GMA). The proposed area is shown overleaf in Figure 1.

It will include the area to the north of the existing Lower Campaspe Valley Water Supply Protection Area (WSPA) and will include the townships of Gunbower, Leitchville and Huntly.

GMW will develop a Local Management Plan (LMP) which aims to:

- Identify key groundwater management issues.
- Manage groundwater resources in the area.
- Manage impacts to the environment and other users.
- Provide guidance where necessary on licensing policy, including the needs and concerns of First Nations people.

Local Management Plans clearly document management objectives and water sharing arrangements for all users and the environment for an area.

There is increased interest in new licences for the West Campaspe GMA. A LMP ensures that the resource can be managed appropriately and fairly for all licence holders.

How will the plan affect current groundwater licence users?

The plan will not directly impact on existing groundwater users but will explain expectations for new applicants and those looking to increase their existing entitlements.

The plan will outline groundwater monitoring and water sharing arrangements which may apply during times of water shortage.

How will the plan affect the environment?

The risk of impacts to groundwater pumping on surface water, groundwater dependent ecosystems and groundwater quality will be considered during the plan development.

The plan will communicate expectations to applicants to address these issues.

What consultation will GMW undertake?

GMW will meet with various stakeholders to determine their values in relation to groundwater, including the community, the North Central Catchment Management Authority, Traditional Owner Groups, local councils and urban water authorities.

Information from these sessions will be used to inform the Local Management Plan.

Your views are important to us

GMW would like your views on what you think are the key groundwater issues within the West Campaspe catchment.

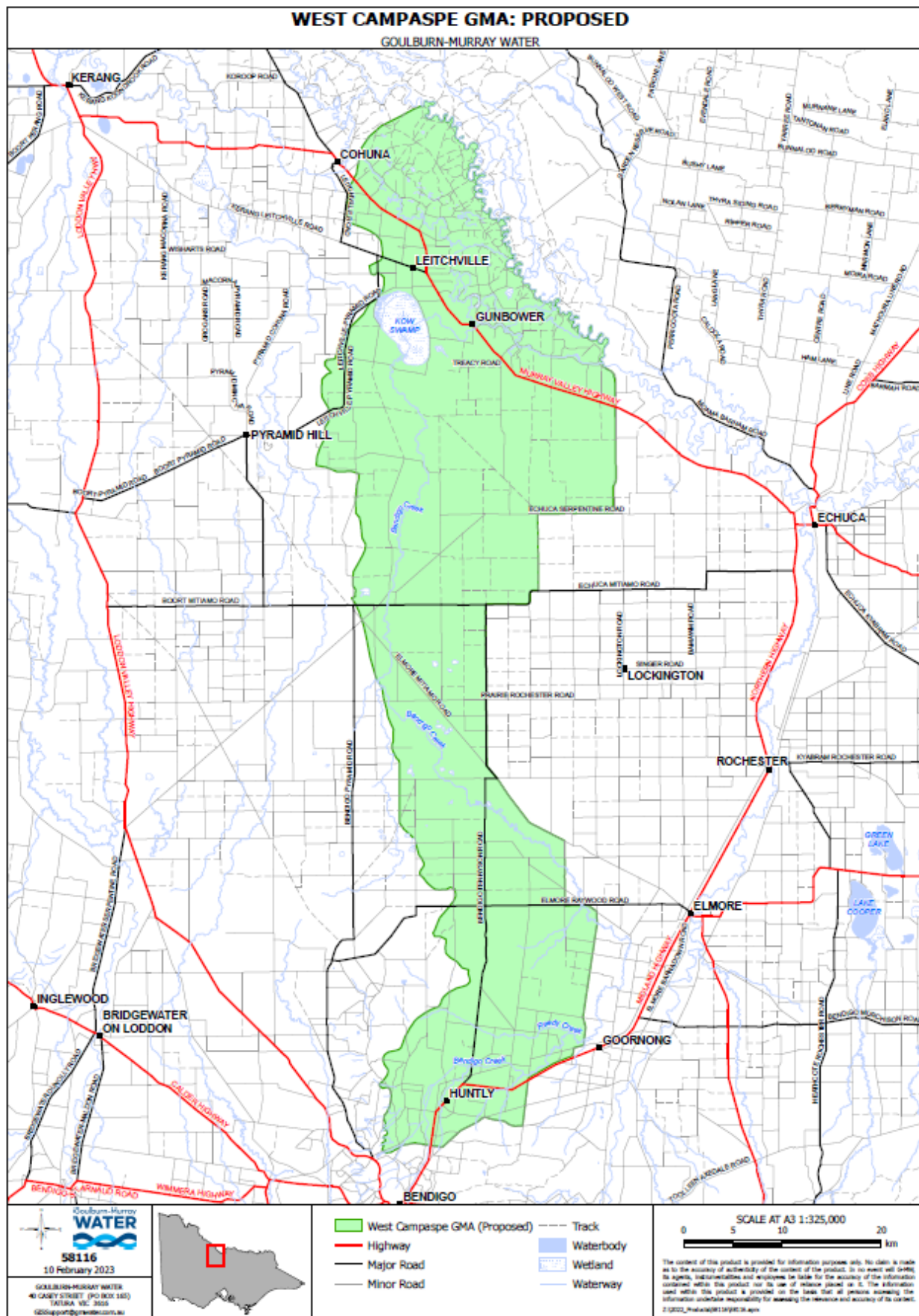
GMW is holding an information session on Thursday 11 May 2023 to explain the planning process and to allow community members the opportunity to provide input into the process.

- **When:** 12 noon Thursday 11 May 2023
- **Where:** Gunbower Recreation Reserve, Gunbower Island Road, Gunbower VIC 3566

How can I find out more?

Information is available at yoursay.gmwater.com.au or contact GMW Senior Groundwater and Streams Project Officer Suzanne Hayes on 1800 013 357.

FACT SHEET



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