

OVENS RIVER (WANGARATTA) WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT



**Statement prepared for consideration by the
Land Conservation Council
Regarding a proposal to proclaim the catchment to the Ovens and
Kings Rivers**

September 1987

Land Protection Division
Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands

OVENS RIVER (WANGARATTA) WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT

Information summary to accompany recommendation for proclamation

The catchment, in North East Victoria, drains the Northern slopes of the Eastern Highlands and extends a short distance across the Northern Plains to Wangaratta. The area of 3070 km² under consideration, is the Ovens River Catchment upstream of the City of Wangaratta's offtake on the Ovens River adjacent to CA7 section 41 of Parish of Wangaratta North, but excludes areas already proclaimed as shown on accompanying plan No. S-1464.

The Catchment

Geomorphic zones

Elevated plateau (Upper King and Boggy Creek catchments, Stanley); mountains with plateau (Mt Buffalo, Upper King and Boggy Creek catchments, e.g. Drum Top); mountains (abutting Mt Buffalo and catchment boundary in south and east); hills (central catchment); loam-clay plains (lower catchment - below Moyhu/Whorouly); alluvial plains (extensive flood plains of the present stream system).

Rainfall/Elevation

Bright	1083 mm/306 m	Mt Buffalo Chalet	1928 mm/1331 m
Moyhu	725 mm/200 m	Whitfield	1129 mm/246 m
Myrtleford	903 mm/223 m	Wangaratta	642 mm/150 m

Land Tenure and Use

Public Land

56% total area - parks, state forests (softwoods/hardwoods), reference areas, scenic reserves. Important areas - public land water frontages and streamside reserves. Recommendations made by the Land Conservation Council for the use of public land, can be found in the Council's Final Recommendations for the following areas: North Eastern Study Area - Districts 3, 4 & 5 (1977); Special Investigation, North Eastern Victoria, Ovens Softwood Plantation zone (1981); North Eastern Area (Benalla - Upper Murray) Review (1986).

Freehold Land

44% total area - predominantly grazing (sheep, beef and dairy cattle); cropping (tobacco, pasture seed production); tree crops (fruit, nuts). Large area (tobacco and pasture) adjacent to main streams is irrigated.

Water Supply Systems

Irrigation

Regulated flow from Lake Buffalo to Buffalo/Ovens Rivers and from Lake William Hovell to King River.

Urban/Industrial

Wangaratta	17,200 people	Pump offtake on Ovens River
Myrtleford	3,500 people	Gravity offtake on Buffalo Creek
Whitfield	150 people	Gravity offtake on Mush Gully Creek
Moyhu	200 people	Pump offtake on King River
Oxley	200 people	Pump offtake on King River

Administrative Areas

Parishes

Barwidgee	Dandongadale	Harrierville	Oxley	Wabonga
Beechworth	Dederang			Wagonga South
Bright	Dueran East	Lacey	Porepunkah	Wandiligong
Bruarong				Wangaratta North
Buckland	Edi	Matong North	Stanley	Wangaratta South
Bungamero	Eurandelong	Morockdong		Whitfield
	Everton	Moyhu	Tarrowingee	Whitfield South
Cambatong		Mudgeegonga	Tawanga	Whorouly
Carboor	Freeburgh	Murmungee	Towamba	Winteriga
Carraragarmungee				

Municipalities

City of Wangaratta

Shires

Beechworth, Bright, Myrtleford, Oxley, Wangaratta

**PROCOLAMATION OF THE OVENS RIVER (WANGARATTA)
WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT**

I recommend that the Land Conservation Council recommend to the Governor-in-Council that the area to be called the Ovens River (Wangaratta) Water Supply Catchment, as indicated on Plan No. S-1464, be proclaimed pursuant to S22(1) of the *Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act* 1958.

L. Foster
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Department of Conservation, Forests and Lands

PLAN NO.

OVENS AND KING RIVERS WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT

