

# Management and Communication

A Sustainable Irrigation Program R&D Project

2006/07

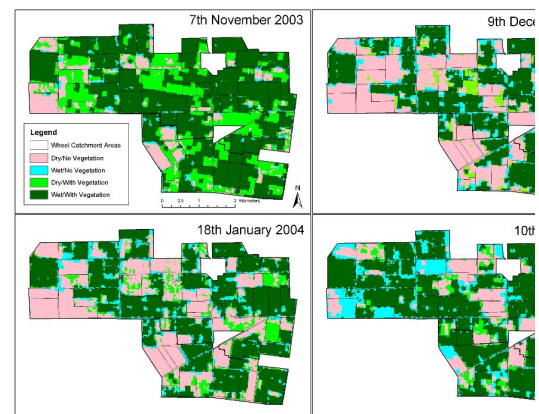
## Background

DPI Research within the Sustainable Irrigation Program provides the scientific underpinning to inform irrigation policy development, develop Best Management Practices for irrigators, improve the application of new irrigation technologies and support CMA implementation of Land and Water Management Plans and Regional Catchment Strategies.

The Management and Communication project provides the following essential elements for the success of sustainable irrigation R&D:

- Strategic planning and setting direction
- Effective communication processes with key stakeholders, including DSE, relevant CMAs, regional CAS staff and irrigation R&D networks nationally
- Accountability for quality and timely delivery of project outputs

Through its planning, communication and coordination roles, the project has a direct impact on the implementation of regional irrigation Land and Water Management Plans and Regional Catchment Strategies. The project contributes to delivery of the Sustainability Action Statement (2006) under *Our Environment, Our Future - Victoria's Environmental Sustainability Framework (2005)*.



The project also facilitates researchers' support of Victoria's role in national programs such as the Murray Darling Basin Salinity Management Strategy.

## Objectives

The Management and Communication project aims to:

- Coordinate the delivery of an integrated R&D program across DPI PIRVic and CAS sub-platforms
- Inform the development of the R&D investment strategy for the Sustainable Irrigation Program.
- Identify and develop new projects and support negotiation of project co-investment.
- Increase the impact of Sustainable Irrigation Program R&D investment through delivery of R&D services across Victoria
- Ensure accountability for quality and timely delivery of project outputs.

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### Outputs

Outputs for the 2006/07 financial year include:

Presentations of program progress to stakeholders

- Attendance and reporting on research projects at quarterly Sustainable Irrigation Program Statewide Leaders meetings
- Sustainable Irrigation Program annual research workshop
- Shepparton Irrigation Region Research Annual Reporting Day and Report
- North Central Region Research Reporting Day and Report

Project development

- Project proposals negotiated with stakeholders and prepared

Project reporting

- Sustainable Irrigation Research Program fact sheets developed, with hardcopy and VRO publication
- Half yearly project reports submitted
- Annual reports submitted
- Quarterly review meetings of the research Program project managers with the Department of Sustainability and Environment R&D Program Coordinator

### Implications

The Management and Communication project provides the following essential elements required for the success of the Sustainable Irrigation Key Project research program:

- Strategic planning processes for setting of future direction
- Effective communication with key stakeholders in Catchment Management Authorities, the Department of Sustainability and Environment and the Department of Primary Industries, national irrigation research networks and other end users of our research
- Accountability for quality and timely delivery of research program outputs.

Through its planning, communication and coordination roles, the project has a direct impact on the implementation of irrigation Land and Water Management Plans and Regional Catchment Strategies, the Victorian Government policies on water and land management and Victoria's role in the Murray Darling Basin Salinity Management Strategy.

### Stakeholders

Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment  
Victorian Department of Primary Industries

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