

Field in Focus - Historical Heritage

What are we doing?

This project provides infrastructure to deliver water to nine high-value floodplains.

The infrastructure will be used to provide water at a frequency, duration and interval required to support the ecological needs of the floodplain. This water will bring new life and help these ecologically significant floodplains to survive and build resilience to cope with future dry conditions and drought.

We aim to provide positive social and economic outcomes at the local and regional scale, whilst minimising potential impacts on existing infrastructure and open spaces.

This fact sheet is part of the 'Field in Focus' series, covering:

- surface water, groundwater, and geology
- biodiversity
- land use, community, and business
- cultural heritage
- historical heritage.

What are we investigating?

We are investigating whether there could be impacts to historical heritage from construction and/or flooding resulting from the Project.

We are assessing the potential beneficial and adverse effects associated with construction activities (i.e., the building phase) and future environmental watering (i.e., the operations phase).

Our studies address the published Scoping Requirements and are focused on places of historical heritage significance.

How are our specialists investigating these issues?

Our specialists carry out their investigations using a number of techniques including:

- reviewing and assessing previous studies, registers, landform and land use history
- identifying places and sites of historical heritage using Heritage Victoria's Guidelines for Conducting Archaeological Surveys.



Our investigations generally involve:



Historical Heritage

- Desktop assessments and field survey to identify known and unidentified heritage places.
- Establishing the extent of the proposed construction work
- Reviewing the existing environmental and social setting.
- Reviewing historical literature, maps, plans and aerial imagery to identify areas of historical heritage significance.
- Consultation with Parks Victoria, local historical societies and libraries, and Heritage Victoria.
- Undertaking risk assessments including how the risks can be mitigated.

How will these assessments be used?

This assessment forms part of the Environment Effects Statements (EES) and Environment Reports (ER) that inform statutory approvals required for the projects. This includes planning scheme amendments under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and Commonwealth environmental approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

You will have an opportunity to make a submission on the EESs, ERs, and supporting approval documents, and your submission will contribute to the statutory decision-making process.

Find out more

To find out more about the impact assessment process, please visit the 'Planning/Approvals' tab at www.vmfrp.com.au.

To provide feedback, email info@vmfrp.vic.gov.au or contact the Communications and Engagement Project Officer on **0428 516 233**.

If your query relates specifically to VMFRP proposals at Guttrum-Benwell or Gunbower, contact the Senior Engagement Officer at North Central Catchment Management Authority on **0439 554 186**.