

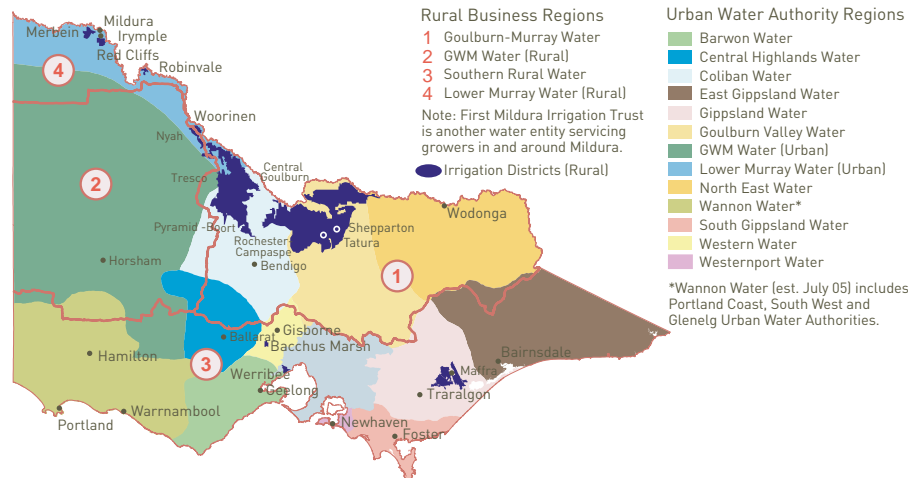
Water management

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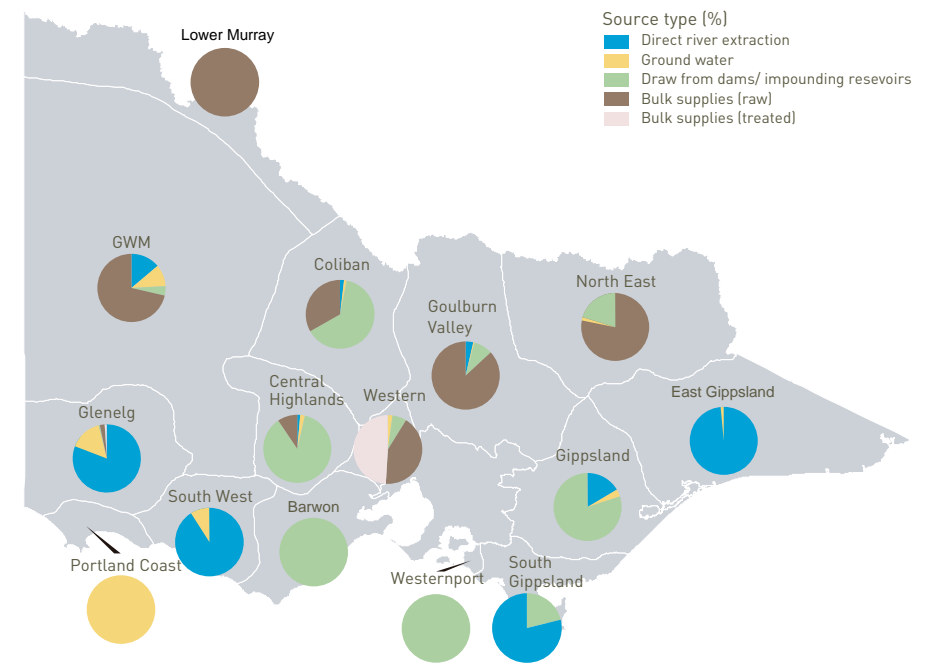
Water resources can be seen to exist within natural boundaries such as river basins and smaller level catchments. However, most administrative boundaries are not based on natural landscapes. This means that regional co-operation and understanding of the water resource along its complete length is important for effective management. Urban water authorities operate throughout Victoria providing water for domestic and industrial/commercial use. Rural water authorities provide irrigation and rural water supply. Other authorities whose activities may be relevant to water resource management include local Government (land use planning), Catchment Management Authorities (catchment planning) and Victorian Government (public land management).

Victorian water agencies¹

August 2005



Sources of urban water 2003¹



NOTE: Bulk raw water is that released into a river system for extraction downstream by a regional urban business.

Urban water supplies

Melbourne draws most of its water from large dams in its catchment, particularly to the east where runoff from the Great Dividing Range provides a more reliable supply. Treated water from these dams is then transferred to other metropolitan water authorities. In regional Victoria there is greater diversity in water sources with areas like East Gippsland, Glenelg and South West drawing most or all of their water directly from rivers rather than storing it in dams. Along the Murray River, bulk raw water is provided from upstream dams. Portland is unusual in the Victorian context by being reliant solely on groundwater for its urban water supplies.

Land and People "Land Management" p. 70, "Landscape Health" p. 74

Source ¹VWIA 2004 *Victorian Water Review*; Victorian water agency websites 2005