

# Waranga Basin

## Recreation Guide

GOULBURN-MURRAY

**WATER**



# Welcome to Waranga Basin

Waranga Basin is the fourth largest inland waterway in Victoria.

Waranga Basin is located between the Goulburn and Campaspe River basins, approximately 8 km north-east of Rushworth and 12 km south-west of Tatura.

The Basin was formed on the site of a natural wetland (Waranga or Gunn's Swamp) which was located on Waranga Creek.

Waranga Basin is a very popular spot for fishing and boating. Facilities along the foreshore include a caravan park and picnic areas with electric barbeques.



Like to know more about Waranga Basin?  
Visit us at [www.g-mwater.com.au](http://www.g-mwater.com.au)

## Did you know?

Waranga Basin was formed in 1905 on the site of a natural swamp. Picks, shovels and horse drawn scoops were used to construct the 8.8 metre high and 7 km long embankment, which at the time was the largest project of its kind in the world!

## GMW & Dams

Waranga Basin is just one of GMW's 16 water storages scattered across a region the size of Tasmania.

GMW is not only responsible for dams - it also looks after boating and recreational activities on and around the water. GMW is also a large land manager and the largest inland boating authority in Victoria!

As part of managing these responsibilities, GMW develops a Land and On-Water Management Plan for each storage - including Waranga Basin. The Plans focus on what people value and enjoy about GMW's water storages - from boat ramps to picnic tables, water sports to wildlife habitat.

To find out more about the Waranga Basin Land and On-Water Management Plan visit:

**[www.g-mwater.com.au/storages](http://www.g-mwater.com.au/storages)**

## Dam Operations

Waranga Basin has a capacity of 432,360 megalitres and is one of the largest storages in the Goulburn System.

Waranga Basin is an important off-river storage, where water is diverted from the Goulburn River at Goulburn Weir, via the Stuart Murray Canal and Cattanach Canal.

The water stored in Waranga Basin supplies the Central Goulburn, Rochester and Pyramid-Boort irrigation areas across northern Victoria. Basin water also supplies the nearby towns of Rushworth, Kyabram, Stanhope and Tongala.

The volume of water stored is mainly regulated. All discharges take place through channel outlets. The Major Outlet has a discharge capacity of 4,200 megalitres per day, and the Minor Outlet discharge capacity is 1,850 megalitres per day.

## Fishing



More than 5,500 hectares of prime fishing water awaits you at Waranga Basin!

Fishing is one of the most popular activities at the Basin. Fish all day for Redfin, Murray Spiny Crayfish, Trout, Murray Cod and Golden Perch - and the best spots to catch? Try foreshore fishing near the canal inlet.

For the latest information on fishing at Waranga Basin contact DEPI and for some insider tips on where and when the fish are biting contact the Goulburn Valley Association of Angling Clubs.

GMW is  
Australia's largest  
rural water corporation  
managing around 70% of  
Victoria's stored water  
resources.

## Boating



Waranga Basin is a huge expanse of water, so it's no surprise that boating is the most popular pastime of Basin visitors.

Take your jet ski for a spin or try your hand at kite flying - conditions are also perfect for sailing and windsurfing.

Boats can be launched from concrete boat ramps at a number of locations around the Basin. Normal boating operations apply when water levels are at 114.38 metres (20% capacity) and above. Below this level boating is still permitted, however a 5 knot speed restriction applies. Low water level hazards include submerged tree stumps and shallow water. See *Boating Map* overleaf.

'Waranga' is  
thought to mean  
'sing' after the  
abundance of birdlife  
in the area.

## Relax & Unwind...

Waranga Basin is one of Victoria's largest water storages and best kept secrets. Explore the foreshore on one of the many trails, and you're sure to find a secluded spot to sit, relax and take in the natural wonders of this region.

Located two hours from Melbourne, Waranga Basin is surrounded by agricultural land and state forest.

This family-friendly destination offers peaceful areas for bushwalking, birdwatching, cycling and horse riding. For the more adventurous, jet skiing, boating, waterskiing and kite flying are popular ways to pass the time.

### Accommodation:

Choose from a lakeside caravan park, B&Bs and holiday houses.

For more information contact the Visitor Information Centre on 1800 808 839 or visit: [www.discovershepparton.com.au](http://www.discovershepparton.com.au)

*There are several remaining Indigenous & European archaeological sites around Waranga Basin - including scar trees and remains of early settlers homesteads.*

### *Community Vision for Waranga Basin:*

*Waranga Basin will be a well-known, accessible and safe recreation area that can be enjoyed by everyone. It will be appreciated for its environmental and heritage significance and the economic benefits it provides, while serving its important role as a water storage.*

# Who should I contact about...

## Emergencies:

Police, Fire, Ambulance  
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## Fishing information:

Department of  
Environment and Primary  
Industries 136 186

Please refer to the Victorian  
Recreational Fishing Guide  
available at  
[www.depi.vic.gov.au/fisheries](http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/fisheries)

## Weather reports:

Bureau of Meteorology  
[www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

## Boating information:

Transport Safety Victoria  
1800 223 022  
Please refer to the Victorian  
Recreational Boating Safety  
Handbook available at [www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.transportsafety.vic.gov.au)

Stay  
informed

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subscribe](http://www.g-mwater.com.au/subscribe)

## Environmental information:

EPA Victoria  
1300 372 842  
[www.epa.vic.gov.au](http://www.epa.vic.gov.au)

Parks Victoria  
131 963  
[www.parks.vic.gov.au](http://www.parks.vic.gov.au)

*GMW storages are open and easily accessible to the general public. They provide wonderful recreation opportunities, however their primary purpose is for storage and delivery of irrigation water to GMW customers. Water levels vary over the irrigation season, rising with rainfall and falling as water is released for delivery.*

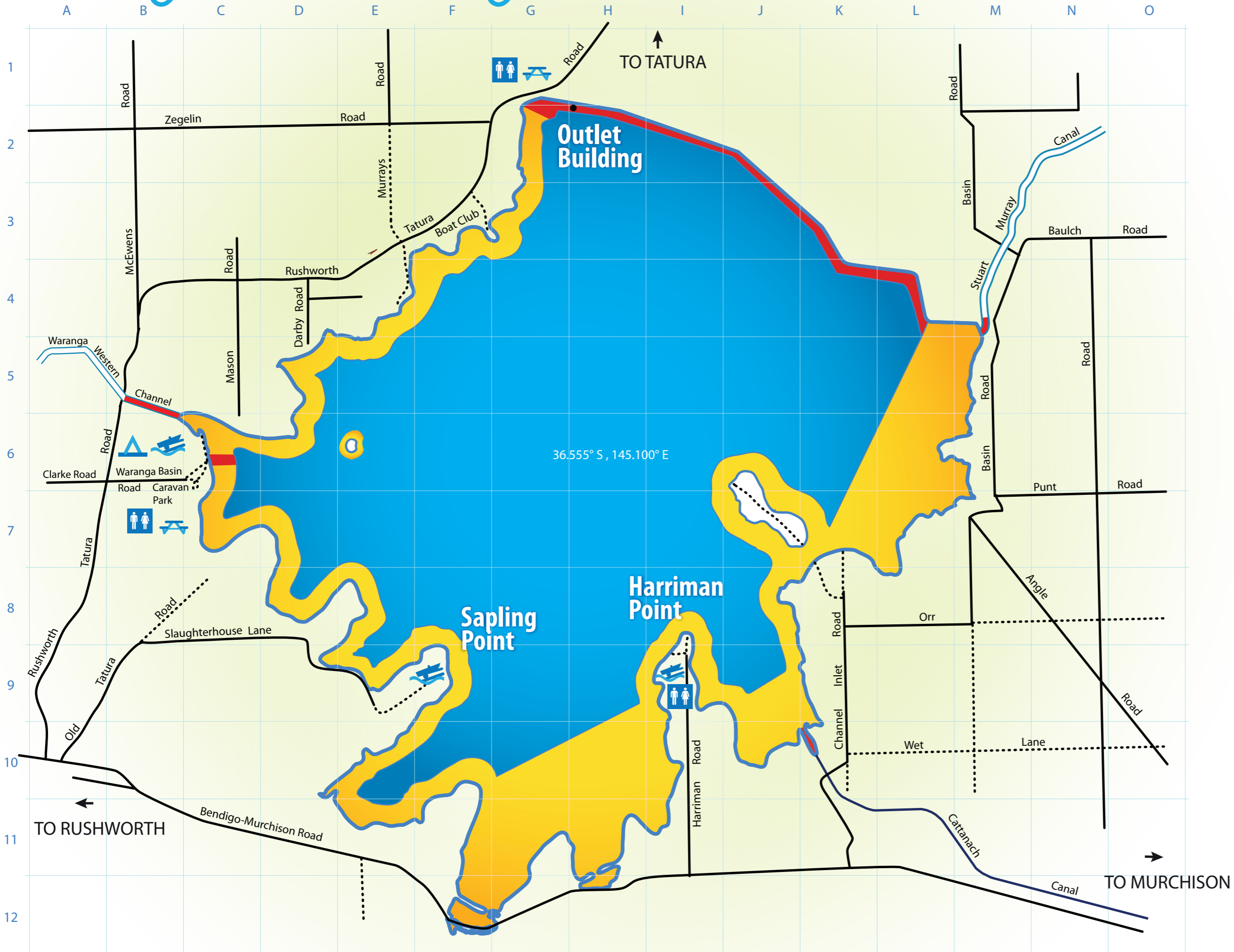


Goulburn-Murray Water  
PO Box 165  
Tatura Vic 3616

Tel 1800 013 357  
[www.g-mwater.com.au](http://www.g-mwater.com.au)

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# Waranga Basin Boating & Facilities Map



## Guidelines

You can help protect Waranga Basin and enhance the enjoyment and safety of others by following these simple guidelines:

- Help keep areas around Waranga Basin clean and protect the environment by taking your rubbish home with you.
- Vehicles and motorbikes may be used on roads open to public vehicles. All vehicles must be registered and drivers licensed. Abide by speed limits.
- A Motor Boat Licence is required when operating a motorised boat in Victorian waters.
- All plants, animals and historical sites are protected by law and must not be removed or disturbed.
- Your safety is important. If you require emergency assistance take note of your location according to the grid numbers on this map.
- Lake water is not suitable for human consumption.
- No camping on foreshore other than in designated caravan parks.
- No fires on foreshore.



## MAP LEGEND

- No Boats
- 5 Knots Speed Restriction
- Unrestricted Speed
- Public Boat Launching Area
- Public Toilets
- Picnic Facilities
- Camping Facilities



NOTE: A 5 Knot speed limit applies within 200 metres of the waters edge at any lake level except in areas prohibited to vessels or access lanes and marked with beacons, buoys and flags. At low storage levels (below 114.8 metres AHD) a 5 Knot speed limit applies to the whole storage.

