

Definition of a catchment

A water catchment, or watershed, is an area or basin of land bounded by natural features of hills or mountains from which all run-off water drains and flows to a river, stream, lake, wetland or estuary.

We all live in a catchment!

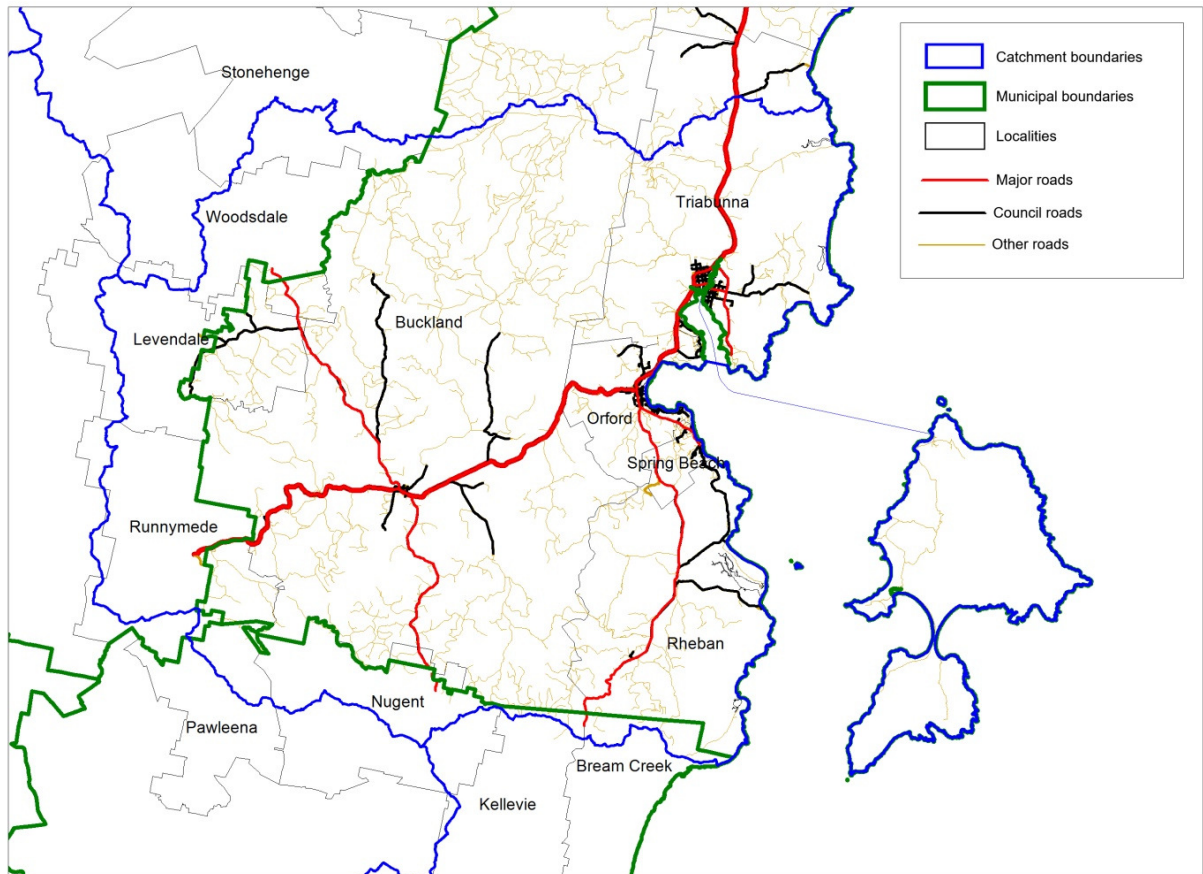
The Prosser Catchment

The 'Prosser Catchment' actually incorporates four hydrological sub-catchments that are not directly linked plus Maria Island. These sub-catchments are the Prosser and Sandspit Rivers and Maclaines and Eighty Acre Creeks plus numerous coastal streams. The mainland part of the Catchment extends from Boltons Bluff in the north to Cape Bernier in the south and Levendale in the east.

This official Prosser Catchment boundary was designated as such for administrative purposes by the State government department (DPIPWE) responsible for water management planning. This boundary is also adopted by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council (GSBC) for overall catchment planning.

Most of the Prosser Catchment falls within the GSB Municipality with small sections in the west and south falling in the Southern Midlands and Sorell Municipalities respectively. See maps below.





Definition of a Catchment Plan

Firstly, a Catchment Plan is NOT a plan that deals with water management planning and water allocation. In Tasmania a Catchment Plan has NO legislative basis (as may be the case in other states).

A Catchment Plan provides an approach to land and water management which incorporates not only natural assets but also economic and social assets within the catchment. In summary, the aims of such a plan are to:

- Provide an overview of the catchment’s natural, economic and social structure.
- Highlight some possible risks to its assets.
- Provide some advice and resources for best practice natural resource management (NRM).
- Present a framework for on-ground works to proceed in an integrated and coordinated way.

This approach is also referred to as Integrated Catchment Management (ICM). It has been utilised by GSB Council over the last 20 years as it has been found to be a useful tool for progressing natural resource management.

The Prosser Catchment Plan review

The first and only version of the Prosser Catchment Plan was compiled in 2002, although it has remained in ‘draft’ format since then. This 2002 version brought together all previous work and collective knowledge within the community (from local, state and federal governments, community and business groups, private landholders and individuals) at that time. Much of the information in the 2002 Catchment Plan is still relevant today but many aspects of it require updating to reflect new knowledge, physical changes within the Catchment as well as changes in policies and legislation.

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