

## FACT SHEET



*The winter storage basin at the Mallacoota Wastewater Treatment Plant*

### Background

Construction work for the Mallacoota Sewerage Scheme, involving gravity sewers, sewerage pumping stations and rising mains, was completed during 1987. Construction of the wastewater treatment lagoons and winter storage basin followed not long after.

The Mallacoota Wastewater Treatment Plant, which collects wastewater or sewerage from Mallacoota, has become a haven for a wide variety of water birds.

### Wastewater collection

Wastewater, which is collected via gravity sewers and pumping stations, is fed to a system of four lagoons at the treatment plant.



*Mallacoota Wastewater Treatment Plant*

### Wastewater treatment

The first two lagoons the wastewater passes through are called facultative lagoons. Here, solids settle to the floor of the lagoons and are digested by microscopic organisms. Eventually, these organic components of the solids are stabilised.

From the facultative lagoons, the partially treated wastewater flows by gravity to a third lagoon called the aerobic lagoon. Here, the water is treated further before being released to the fourth lagoon, or winter storage basin. The winter storage lagoon stores treated wastewater during winter months and wet weather when irrigation is not possible.

Water is held in this winter storage lagoon for a minimum of 20 days to allow for disinfection to occur. It can then be released for beneficial reuse.

During 2009, East Gippsland Water undertook nearly \$2 million worth of works to upgrade the winter storage lagoon. As part of this project, the storage's capacity was increased from 84 million litres to 136 million litres.

The Mallacoota Wastewater Treatment facility has the capacity to treat about 256 million litres of wastewater per year- the equivalent of water held by 256 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

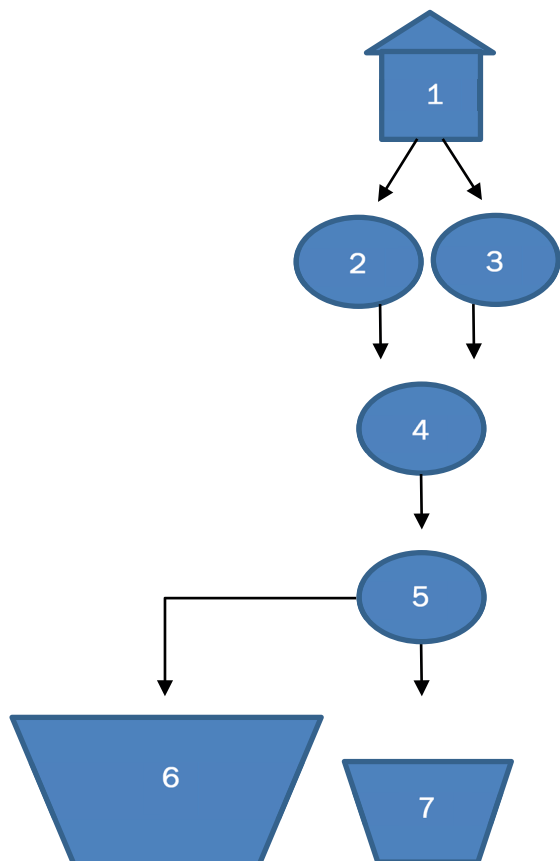
### Beneficial reuse

One hundred percent of the reclaimed water produced by the Mallacoota Wastewater Treatment plant is used to irrigate a nearby tree lot, as well as the local golf course. After a minimum of 20 days in storage, the treated wastewater from winter storage lagoon is pumped to sprinkler systems to irrigate the tree lot and golf course.

### For more information-

Contact East Gippsland water on 1800 671 841 or email [egw@egwater.vic.gov.au](mailto:egw@egwater.vic.gov.au).

Alternatively visit the Bairnsdale office at 133 Macleod street, Bairnsdale on weekdays during business hours.



### Legend:

- 1. Wastewater from Mallacoota
- 2. Facultative Lagoon 1
- 3. Facultative Lagoon 2
- 4. Aerobic Lagoon
- 5. Winter Storage
- 6. Tree Lot Irrigation
- 7. Golf Course Irrigation