

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 2011

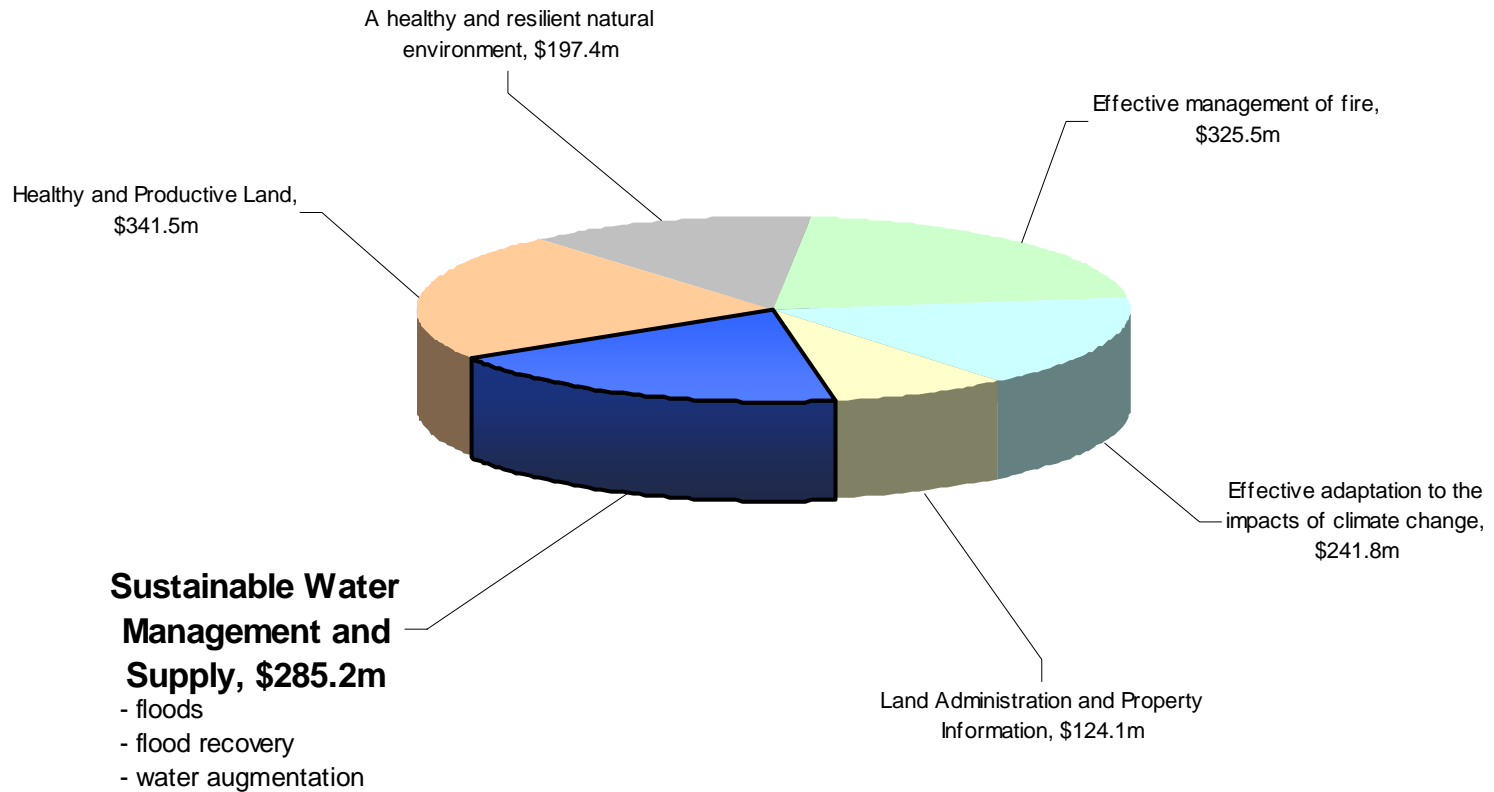
Cardinia Reservoir

Source: Melbourne Water

The Honourable Peter Walsh MP

Minister for Water

Output Summary – DSE Budget





Challenges facing the Water Portfolio

- Since taking government, we have had to address a variety of issues including:
 - Water projects
 - Murray Darling Basin Authority
 - Drought and flood challenges
 - Water Authority management
 - Strengthening urban water sustainability



January 2011 Floods

- During late 2010 heavy rains caused severe flooding in the north east region of Victoria
- In early 2011, further high intensity rainfall caused major flooding across much of the northern and western parts of Victoria
- In many cases the recorded flows in early 2011 were the highest or second highest on record
- In both the late 2010 and early 2011 floods, damage was sustained to critical public infrastructure, including roads and bridges.



Flood Recovery Program – Water Portfolio

- Since the 2010-11 Budget, \$175 million for State-wide flood recovery plans have been committed to affected areas
- Water Portfolio projects are:
 - \$19.2 million to Flood Warning Network – Repair & Improvement
 - \$5.1 million to Lower Loddon Floodplain and Groundwater Bore works
 - \$17.4 million to Goulburn Murray Irrigation District Flood Recovery & Floodplain Restoration



Living Victoria

- Leading the Way – Liveable Victoria – funding for communities to adopt integrated water cycle management - \$50 million
- Water efficiency rebates for residential and small business customers - \$40 million
- Feasibility study – funding to develop a city-wide Integrated Water Cycle Management Framework for Ballarat – \$ 1 million