

EastLink Wetland Systems

The entire landscape and wetland component of EastLink will amount to an area greater than the renowned 480 hectares of parks and gardens within the City of Melbourne.

ConnectEast is establishing around 70 constructed wetlands, water retention basins and bioretention strips along EastLink's route, representing a degree of wetland provision unparalleled for a roadway project of this magnitude in Australia.

These wetlands function as a north-south string of new aquatic habitats within the road corridor, connecting to existing waterways, drainages and creek channels. The wetland ponds will create a safe ecosystem for frogs, water birds, insects and small mammals in these areas.

Feature Wetlands

- North of the confluence of the Heatherdale and Dandenong Creeks
- South of Ferntree Gully Rd in Scoresby, where the project crosses the Corhanwarrabul Creek
- North of Police Rd where the project crosses Dandenong Creek
- South of Cheltenham Rd, where the project intersects with Mile Creek
- Boggy Creek in Carrum Downs, where EastLink joins the Frankston Freeway.



The EastLink project is unique in Australia in that it has been designed for the capture and treatment of all road surface water run-off throughout the 39km of freeway standard motorway. The series of wetlands has been designed to accept all of this water before it is safely released into the waterways nearby.

Pollution Control

Most of EastLink's wetlands are comprised of two or more basins or ponds, the first in line being a sediment trap. Sediment-free water then flows into the downstream ponds with special water plants rooted in their mud lining. The submerged parts of these water plants grow microscopic colonies of algae and bacteria that help to remove much of the nitrogen and phosphorus contained within the run-off water.

This water is then returned to the natural environment and ultimately into Port Phillip Bay, and will be in a much cleaner state than run-off from most other major roads in Australia where it flows directly into stormwater drains.

The water-sensitive design will be appreciated not only by users of the new shared use paths who can access most of these areas when using the EastLink Trail; but also by the wildlife inhabiting the wetland environments in these parts of Melbourne.

For further information please contact:

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