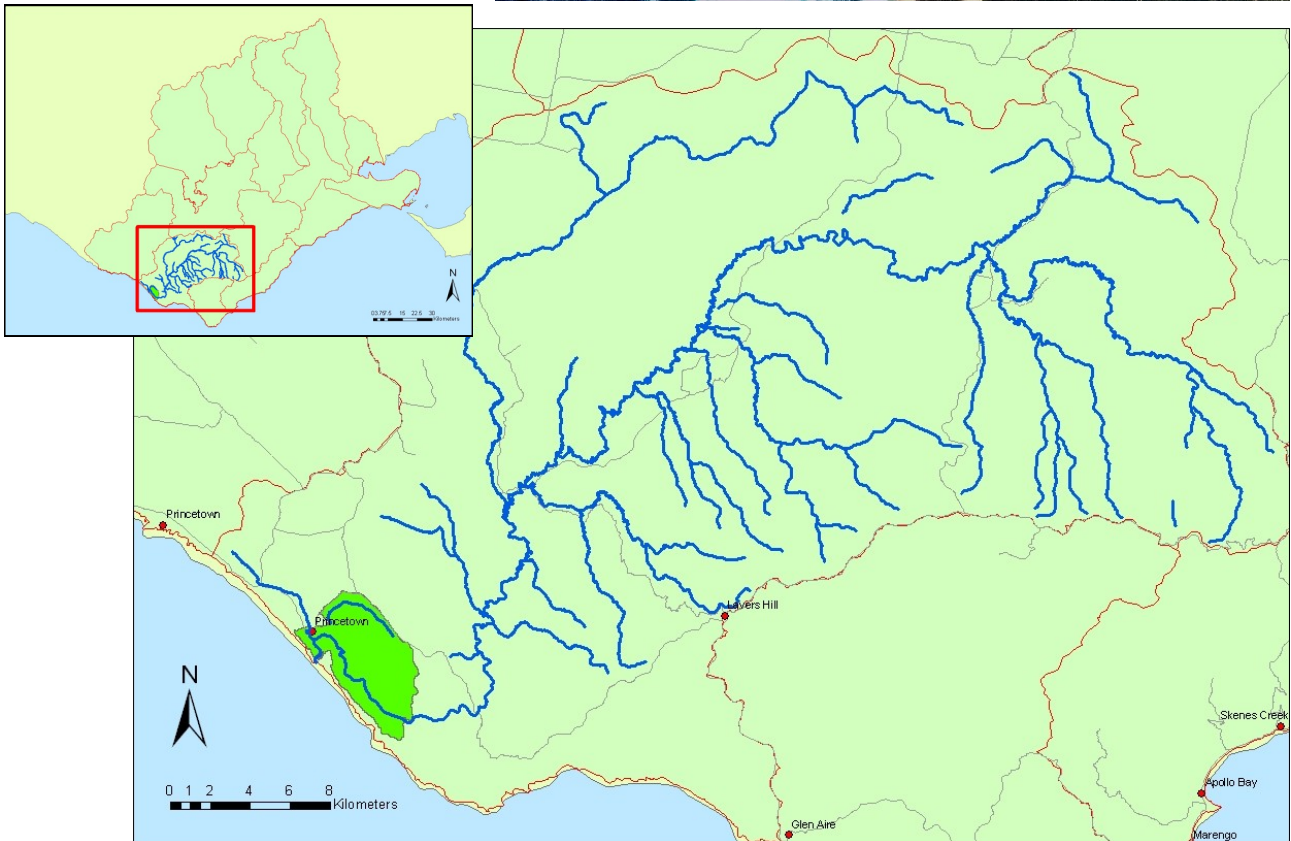


## Gellibrand River

### Characteristics:

|                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Type of Estuary:</b>              | River                              |
| <b>Landscape Zone:</b>               | Gellibrand                         |
| <b>Catchment Area:</b>               | 2,346 Ha                           |
| <b>Estuary Area:</b>                 | 29.25 Ha                           |
| <b>Estuary Length:</b>               | 8.753 km                           |
| <b>River Length:</b>                 | 120.137 km                         |
| <b>Mouth Direction:</b>              | West facing                        |
| <b>Mouth State:</b>                  | Intermittently open                |
| <b>Location:</b>                     | 143°9'24.3257"E<br>38°42'23.0748"S |
| <b>Distance from<br/>Apollo Bay:</b> | 16.947 km East                     |



### Supplementary Data:

**Estuary Watch**  
(P-Chem Data / Physical Observations)  
<http://www.estuarywatch.com.au/>

**Colac Otway Shire Council**  
<http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au>

### Contact Information:

**Colac Otway Shire Council:**  
Phone: 03 5232 9400  
Website: [www.colacotway.vic.gov.au](http://www.colacotway.vic.gov.au)  
Email: [inq@colacotway.vic.gov.au](mailto:inq@colacotway.vic.gov.au)

## Gellibrand River

### Special Attributes

#### Zones:

- 49% of Gellibrand catchment zoned as Rural.
- 44% of Gellibrand catchment zones as Public Conservation & Reserve.
- 7% of Gellibrand catchment zoned as Environmental Rural.

#### Overlays:

- Environmental Significance (covering Gellibrand river and Princetown wetlands).
- Land subject to inundation (river flats of the Gellibrand and Carlisle Rivers).
- Special building (in the far north of the catchment).
- Significant landscape (in the far north of the catchment).
- Vegetation protection (in the vicinity of Kennedys/ Gellibrand confluence).
- Wildfire management (generally covering the Rural zones, except Kennedys Creek catchment).



#### Estuarine Vegetation

| EVC Name                                  | Area (Ha) (Approx.) | Geographic Occurrence | Conservation Status |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Estuarine Wetland                         | 112.46              | Naturally Restricted  | Depleted            |
| Lowland Forest                            | 12.6                | Common                | Endangered          |
| Riparian Scrub / Swampy Riparian Woodland | 10.34               | N/A                   | Vulnerable          |
| Swamp Scrub                               | 24.04               | Common                | Endangered          |

### Key Management Issues:

**Princetown Wetlands:** Consist of swamps of varying salinity on the floodplains, Wetland types present include, deep freshwater marsh, semi-permanent saline marshes and a shallow freshwater marsh. Also contains, significant areas of Woolly Tea-tree *Leptospermum lanigerum* and large areas of Beaded Glasswort-dominated flats and reef beds.

**Australian Grayling:** Fish species with the greatest conservation need in the Otway region. Causes of decline are likely to be the building of dams and weirs and the introduction of trout and clearing of land and coastal catchments.

**Camping:** Public camping at Princetown Recreation Reserve.

**Swimming:** Section between the Gellibrand's mouth and the Princetown Recreation Reserve provide good swimming conditions during Summer.

**Passive Recreation:** Fishing, walking, canoeing, sightseeing and bird watching are prevalent.

**Flagship Species:** Low number of black bream due to high variance of salinity and presence of anoxic conditions on a regular basis.

**Tourism:** Given the natural attractions and the significance of the area for tourism it is expected that commercial tourism, in particular ecotourism will grow.