



Murray Darling Association Inc.

Ordinary Meeting of Region 6
12 August 2022
09:30 am – 13:00 pm
**Mobilong Room. Local Government Centre.
Rural City of Murray Bridge.
2 Seventh Street Murray Bridge.**

[Join meeting](#)

MICROSOFT TEAMS

AGENDA – 12 AUGUST 2022

- 1. WELCOME**
 - 1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

- 2. ATTENDANCE**
 - 2.1. RSVP
 - 2.2. Guests
 - 2.3. Apologies
 - 2.4. Declarations

- 3. PREVIOUS MINUTES**
 - 3.1. Minutes from Ordinary Meeting 20 May 2022 Attachment 1

- 4. REPORTS**
 - 4.1. Chair's Report - Cr Melissa Rebbeck
 - 4.2. CEO's Report – Mark Lamb
 - 4.3. Murray Darling Basin Authority – Deana Mildren
 - 4.4. Commonwealth Environmental Water Office – Richard Mintern
 - 4.5. Office of Inspector General Water Compliance - Greg Burns
 - 4.6. Member's Updates (written or verbal)

- 5. CORRESPONDENCE**
 - 5.1. Correspondence Out
 - 5.1.1. Letter to Minister Close Attachment 2a
 - 5.1.2. Letter to Minister Plibersek Attachment 2b
 - 5.1.3. Memo Region 6 Chair – 2023 MDA Conference and AGM Attachment 2c
 - 5.2. Correspondence In
 - 5.2.1. Hay Shire Council Attachment 3

- 6. BUSINESS ARISING**
 - 6.1. Actions from previous Ordinary meetings Attachment 4
 - 6.2. Actions from previous Executive meetings Attachment 5

- 7. GENERAL BUSINESS**
 - 7.1. Membership Recruitment

- 8. STRATEGIC DIRECTION & MOTIONS**
 - 8.1. Draft Motions – 2022 MDA Conference and AGM Attachment 6
 - 8.2. MDA Strategic Plan Attachment 7

- 9. INTER-REGIONAL MEETING**
 - 9.1. 6 September 2022

- 10. NATIONAL CONFERENCE (19-21 September, Albury)**
- 10.1. 2022 National Conference (19-21 September. Albury NSW)
- 10.2. 2023 National Conference (19-21 September. Murray Bridge SA)

- 11. CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- 11.1 Updated Calendar of Events

Attachment 8

- 12. NEXT MEETING**

- 12.1. Agenda Items
- 12.2. Guest Speakers

- 13. CLOSE**

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Rural City of Murray Bridge for its support in hosting this meeting of Region 6.

Appendix 1. Murray Darling Association Region 6 – Membership 2022

2021/2022 REGION 6 MEMBERSHIP				
As of August 2022				
Position	Name	Council	Executive Member	Voting Member
Chair	Cr Melissa Rebbeck	Alexandrina Council		
Coordinator	Ali Birbeck	Region 6		
Council Representatives	Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	GM Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	Sue Reynolds	Rural City of Murray Bridge		
	CEO Bridget Mather	Coorong District Council		
	Cr Vern Leng	Coorong District Council		
	Cr Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District Council		
	TBD	Alexandrina Council		
	Cr Michael Scott	Alexandrina Council		
	Cr Marilyn Henderson	City of Victor Harbor		
	Cr Miles Hannemann	Tatiara District Council		
	CEO Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee District Council		
Individual Member	Adrian Pederick, MP JP			
	Colin Grundy			
	Warren Jacobs			
Life Members	Graham Camac			
	Phillip Moore			

ATTACHMENT 1

MDA Ordinary Meeting



Murray Darling Association Inc.

Ordinary Meeting of Region 6
20 May 2022
10:00 am – 1 pm

[Join meeting](#)

Passcode: 65 225 291 4

DRAFT MINUTES – May 2022

1. WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. ATTENDANCE

2.1. RSVP (no less than 1/3 of Member Councils for a quorum (16.6(d) MDA Constitution 2019)

Cr Melissa Rebbeck (Chair)	Alexandrina Council
Warren Jacobs (Virtual attendance)	Individual member
Mayor Brenton Lewis	Rural City of Murray Bridge
GM Heather Barclay	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Stephen Packer	Rural City of Murray Bridge (Proxy)
Cr Vern Leng	Coorong District Council
CEO Bridget Mather	Coorong District Council
Cr Brenton Qualmann	Coorong District Council
Cr Marilyn Henderson	The City of Victor Harbor
Cr Michael Scott ASM OAM	Alexandrina Council

2.2. Guests

Mark Lamb	CEO MDA
Tim Phillips	MDA
Monika Rhodes	Environmental Strategy Officer, Alexandrina Council
Ali Birbeck	Coordinator MDA Region 6
Tim Hartman	CEO Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation
Tim Goodes	MDBA
Richard Mintern	CEWO

2.3. Apologies

Greg Burns	OIGWC
CEO Jason Taylor	Southern Mallee District Council
Colin Grundy	Individual member
Sue Reynolds	Rural City of Murray Bridge
Tracey Strugnell	Coorong District Council
Cr Tracy Hill	Coorong District Council

2.4. Declarations - Nil

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved Heather Barclay Seconded Cr Leng

That the minutes of the Murray Darling Association (MDA) Region 6 - Ordinary Meeting held 25 February 2022, as circulated to Members, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

CARRIED

4. REPORTS

4.1. Chair – Cr Melissa Rebbeck

- Advised that she has taken on a new role and has had discussions with the Executive team regarding ongoing continuity. Cr Rebbeck is able to commit to 2 further meetings: Inter-regional and will advise 2 months prior of ability to attend the National Conference;
- The role of Region 6 coordinator has been advertised and will be based at the Rural City of Murray Bridge. It is a 0.4 FTE role which will commence 1/7/2022.

Discussion points included:

- Heather Barclay reported that the advert for Coordinator role had closed this week and that Bridget, Heather and Monika would be on the interviewing panel.

4.2. MDA CEO – Mark Lamb

The CEO report for May 2022 was taken as read.

Discussion points included:

- Cr Leng asked whether the Members had seen Labor's 5 point water resilience plan. A link to the following plans were provided during the meeting.
 - [Labor's Plan to Future-Proof Australia's Water Resources | Policies | Australian Labor Party \(alp.org.au\)](https://www.alp.org.au/our-work/our-policies/our-water-policies)
 - [Labor's Five-Point Plan to Safeguard the Murray Darling Basin | Policies | Australian Labor Party \(alp.org.au\)](https://www.alp.org.au/our-work/our-policies/our-water-policies)

4.3. Murray Darling Basin Authority – Tim Goodes (Executive Director, Basin Plan)

- They are unable to provide policy comment as they are currently in 'caretaker' mode;
- Inflows into the River Murray is just over 300 GL (more than the usual average 164 GL);
- Expect 800-1200 GL to flow into the Menindee Lakes (approx.. 113% capacity);
- Main storage for SA: Dartmouth 94% capacity, Hume 90%, Lake Victoria 49% (due to management of cultural water);
- Flow across SA border is 2400ML/day;
- Working with NSW on their water resource plan (NSW is the only state who have not got an accredited plan);
- Inspector General is now responsible for water compliance, the handover of reports is still continuing;
- To improve transparency, an annual conference is to be held on 1-2 June 2022 'River Reflections'. All tickets have been sold but the conference will be available to view online on the MDBA website. [Day 1 conference livestream | Murray-Darling Basin Authority \(mdba.gov.au\)](#) and [Day 2 video livestream | Murray-Darling Basin Authority \(mdba.gov.au\)](#)

Discussion points included:

- Blackwater conditions were discussed and it was reported that there is no need for alarm at this time of the year. The black water is providing food for many aquatic species;
- The possibility of flooding was discussed due to the high rainfall. The meeting was told that States and the SES are monitoring and planning pre-releases to prevent this.

4.4. Commonwealth Environmental Water Compliance – Richard Mintern

A presentation was provided showing the flows into the River Murray over the last 100 years. The long duration of the strong flows have activated nutrients in the system making it more productive and enabling increased water bird and native fish breeding. See Appendix 1.

4.5. Office of Inspector General Water Compliance – Greg Burns

Greg provided a written report prior to the meeting, including the following:

- I am continuing to build relationships with key stakeholders along the SA portion of the Murray Darling Basin, these include - Citrus SA, Hon Karlene MAYWALD, Garry HERA-SINGH and Warren JACOBS – to mention a few.
- I have been travelling along the Darling River of recent meeting with various groups.

- Common themes/issues are beginning to emerge from discussions - which are being reported upon and fed back.
- IGWC is continuing to evolve and develop its priorities and find its place within a congested water space.

4.6. Member's Updates

Warren Jacobs

- Has represented the Primary Producers SA;
- He is a member of the Basin Community Committee. They met in March and April. Next meeting is 31/5/2022;
- Has met with Greg Burns to discuss local issues.

Cr Leng

- Has met Senator Karen Grogan and discussed sea water rise issues;
- Will be attending the MRLGA Water Position Paper Workshop, 24th May. [Heather Barclay and Warren Jacobs will also be attending. The Chair asked for a report after the workshop].

Action arising: Report to be provided on the Water Position Workshop.

Heather Barclay

- Cr Rebbeck's potential unavailability to attend the National Conference was discussed in the Executive meeting and advice was requested from the MBA regarding the voting powers of a proxy representative. Cr Rebbeck will advise of her availability to attend 2 months prior to the conference.

Discussion points included:

The current constitution does not seem to allow proxy voting rights; however, the Chair believed that a region can nominate who has voting rights. Some attendees thought that a previous motion had already been agreed (2-3 years ago) that a proxy could have voting rights at a National Conference.

Action arising: Tim to follow up and provide advice to MDA R6.

Motion:

Moved Cr Leng Seconded Cr Scott

That proxy representatives of all regional Chairs should be allowed to vote in the event a Chair is unable to attend the National MDA AGM.

CARRIED

Cr Scott

- Met with David Speirs (SA Liberal Opposition Leader) and expressed a personal appreciation in his interest in the MDA during his time as Minister for the Environment and Water.

Motion

Moved Cr Scott Seconded Cr Leng

That the Members receive and note the verbal updates from MDA Region 6 Members.

CARRIED

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Members received and noted the Correspondence In and Out as presented to Members.

6. BUSINESS ARISING

The Members reviewed and updated actions outlined in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1. Summary of notable actions and updates – Ordinary Meeting

Item		Action	Person(s) Responsible	Update
5.2	MOTION	That the Region 6 Committee write formally to Mr Tuckwell acknowledging his service Recommend the Executive nominate him to the MDA Board for life membership	Cr Scott / Coordinator	Ongoing
		Update: May 2022 Cr Scott to prepare lodgement for life membership & to work with Coordinator as required to achieve timeframes.		Ongoing
8.3	ACTION	To canvass the members regarding a motions workshop in the New Year	Coordinator	Completed
7.1	ACTION	To forward relevant reports and information to Jacobs (Water Position Paper – MRLGA)	Coordinator	Completed
9	ACTION	To see suggestions from the membership regarding Agenda items and guest speakers before the next Executive meeting	Coordinator	Completed
4.6	ACTION	The current constitution does not seem to allow proxy voting rights, however the Chair believed that a region can nominate who has voting rights. Some attendees thought that a previous motion had already been agreed (2-3 years ago) that a proxy could have voting rights at a National Conference. MDA team to investigate.	Mark Lamb / Tim Phillips	Ongoing
4.6	MOTION	That proxy representative of all regional Chairs at the AGM should be allowed to vote in the event Chair is unable to attend.	Mark Lamb	Ongoing
5.2	ACTION	Cr Leng, Heather and Warren to report back on MRLGA Water Position Paper Workshop to be held 24 th May.	Cr Leng, Heather Barclay, Warren Jacobs	Ongoing
6.1	ACTION	Motions used to be displayed on the MDA website and are no longer visible. Tim to check and report back.	Tim Phillips	Ongoing
6.1	ACTION	Coordinator to add 'Membership Recruitment' to next Ordinary meeting agenda	Coordinator	Completed
8	ACTIONS	Motion Brainstorm...motions were assigned to the following attendees. (Note: The motions brainstorm document has been updated to reflect the changes – See Appendix 2)	Cr Rebbeck, Cr Scott, Stephen Packer, Heather Barclay, Cr Leng, Cr Hill, Mark Lamb, Deana Mildren	Ongoing – To be completed by 3/6/22
8	ACTION	Coordinator to set up virtual meeting on 8 th June @ 9am to approve and move motions. Motion assignees to attend	Coordinator Cr Rebbeck, Cr Scott, Stephen Packer, Heather Barclay, Cr Leng, Cr Hill, Mark Lamb, Deana Mildren	Ongoing 8 th June

11	MOTION	Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB), on behalf of Region 6, to proceed with a bid for the National Conference and to have an offline discussion regarding funding to enable the production of the video to go ahead.	Mayor Lewis, Heather Barclay	Ongoing
11	ACTION	RCMB to take the lead in the preparation of the bid for the 2023 National Conference with assistance from the Coordinator. A working group to be set up. Alexandrina Council to raise a purchase order in favour of RCMB for \$2500 to assist with the production costs of the video and with costs towards the National Conference bid. To progress production of video. Coordinator to assist as required.	Mayor Lewis, Heather Barclay, Coordinator	Ongoing

Table 2. Summary of notable actions and updates – Executive Meeting

Item		Action	Person(s) Responsible	Status / Conclusion
6.1	ACTION	Members to seek support from their Council to support Region 6 video production and to explore additional funding streams.	Executive	Ongoing
6.2	ACTION	To make initial contact with region 5 and 7 to identify their interest in attending an Inter-regional meeting	Coordinator	Completed
7.1	ACTION	To check agreed contributions from previous Exec minutes for regional video. Alexandrina to invoice each council once contribution agreed (after internal discussion with relevant Finance teams) Coordinator to contact videographer (Mike Tye) to identify what information is needed from the Exec Team/Ordinary meeting members Coordinator to add Video to Ordinary meeting agenda If go ahead is given for payment of video, the coordinator to obtain permission from all participants in the video for their appearance. Update: Actions moved to Ordinary Meeting Actions & National Conference working party	Coordinator	Completed Ongoing Completed Completed Completed
7.2	ACTION	To contact possible speakers for the Ordinary meeting. Cr Rebbeck to provide the contact number of Grant Rigney.	Coordinator	Completed
7.6	ACTION	To contact LGA to determine the availability of Ministers/MPs for the inter-regional meeting.	Coordinator	Closed
7.6	ACTION	To organize a 30 minute virtual meeting with the Chairs of R5, R6 and R7 to determine agenda items for inter-regional meeting	Coordinator	Ongoing

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1. None

8. STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS & MOTIONS

8.1. Regional Motions 2022

At the November 2021 Ordinary meeting, members brainstormed topics issues to inform our Motions to the MDA's 78th National Conference to be held in Albury NSW in September 2022. This information was recorded and synthesised by the Coordinator to help inform further discussion. During the May 2022 Ordinary meeting, motions were delegated to members, this document has been updated to reflect the delegations and actions assigned (See Appendix 2). Individual R6 motions can be viewed in Appendix 3.

Wider MDA motions can also be found on the MDA website in the 2021 AGM minutes.

<https://www.mda.asn.au/source/ckfinder/files/MDA%20AGM%20Meeting%20Minutes%20-%2019%20May%202021%20v3.pdf>

9. INTER-REGIONAL MEETING (TBC: July 22nd or July 29th 2022)

Region 5 are taking the lead in organising this meeting. Final date to be confirmed out of session.

10. NATIONAL CONFERENCE (19-21 September, Albury)

Registration dates & costs can be found at the MDA website: <https://www.mda.asn.au/events/2022-albury.aspx>

11. REGION 6 VIDEO

- Mike Tye has been paid for his day of filming at the Barrage event in 2021. He has not edited the film that was taken.
- He questioned the need for an additional film and recommended the following film that also looks at the health of the Coorong
<https://uk01.l.antigena.com/l/ltlBmSPzyzMgUWHXLL1NG4aPXHjiHVtAjTey8WfImIU3uQQ5NDEaslNH3PUiENBEWvBbeOYDs87I7-JmXqPR9gGdX8dgMwHOYNtqz5Hr6tnDj3Xpgcrhq-lnAJ5qnWWKn1jCDwsD>
- If we go ahead with the filming we need to consider the following:
 - What is the brief? What will the film be used for? Who is the audience?
 - May need additional footage of the Coorong as backdrop to people speaking on the Barrage tour;
 - Cost are approximate \$1000 per minute of video;
 - Talent release forms need to be signed by all participants in the video;

Discussion points included:

The Chair commented that the film would be used to:

- Share with other upstream Chairs of the MDA;
- Advocacy tool on the importance of the Coorong and for national ecology;
- Used for advertising Region 6's bid for the National Conference in 2023.
 - There was a vote on whether Region 6 should bid for the 2023 (Vote in favour 5:1).
- Suggested Brief:
 - The Mouth, Lakes, River system, the importance of Coorong and lower lakes and Murray Mouth to the biodiversity, food web survival of entire river system.

Actions arising:

- Rural City of Murray Bridge to take the lead in the preparation of the bid for the 2023 National Conference with assistance from the Coordinator. A working group to be set up.
- Alexandrina Council to raise a purchase order in favour of RCMB for \$2500 to assist with the production costs of the video and with costs towards the National Conference bid.
- To progress production of video. Coordinator to assist as required.

Motion:

Moved Cr Mayor Lewis Seconded Cr Scott

That the Rural City of Murray Bridge, on behalf of MDA Region 6, proceeds with a bid for the National Conference 2023; including the development of a promotional MDA Region 6 video.

CARRIED

12. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS 2022

Members received and noted the calendar of Region 6 meetings and events as presented to Members.

13. NEXT MEETING

13.1. Date of next meeting: 12th August, 9am – 12 noon, Rural City of Murray Bridge

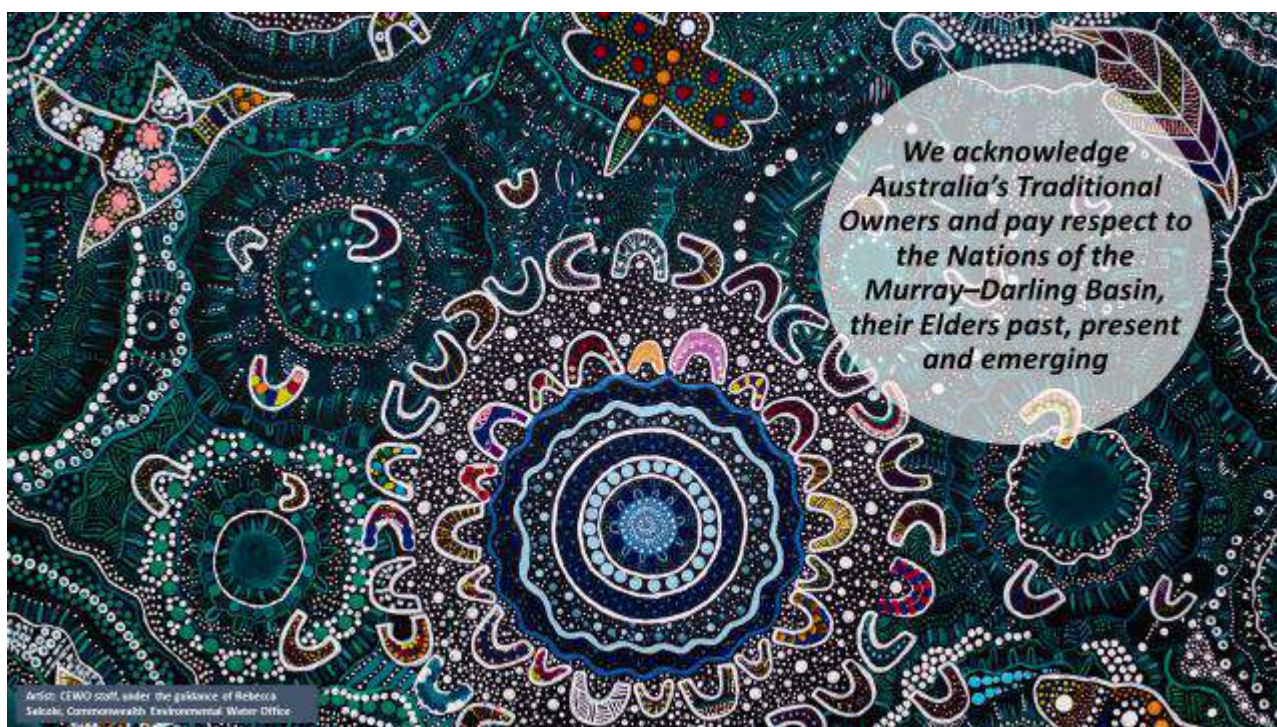
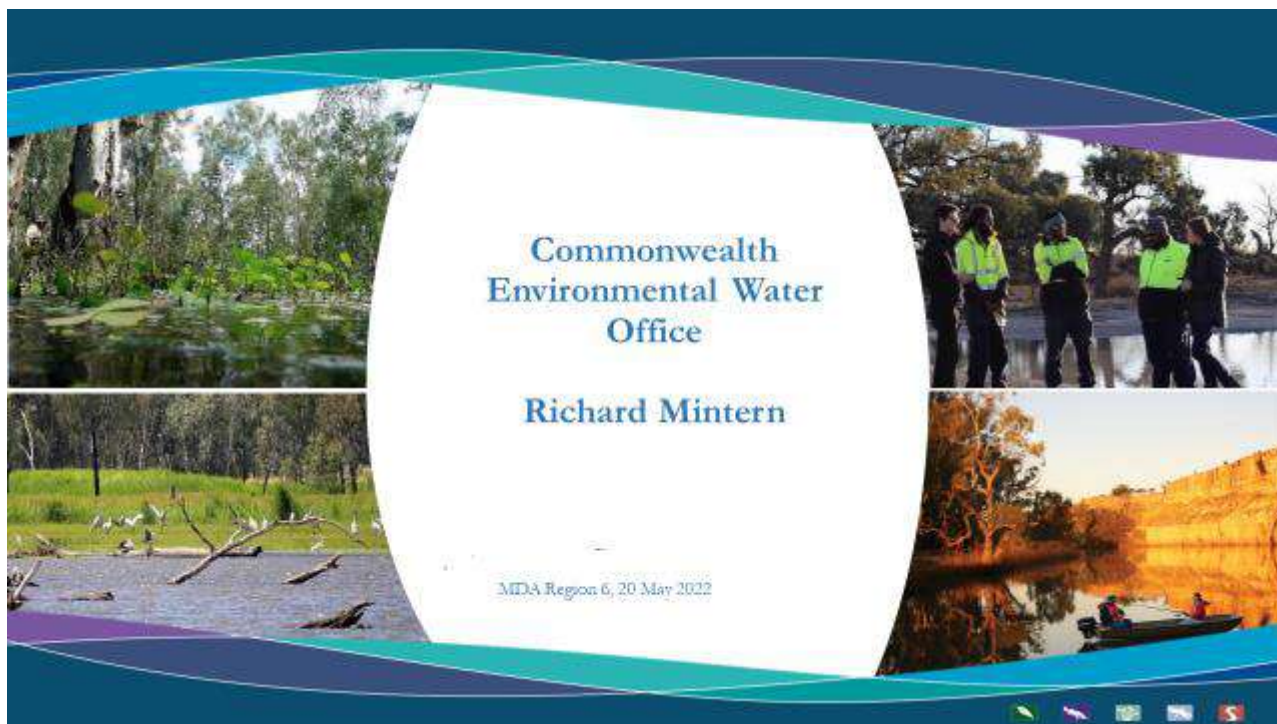
14. CLOSURE

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 12.52pm.

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Coorong District Council for its support in hosting this Ordinary meeting and video conference of Region 6.

Murray Darling Association Inc.

Appendix 1 - Commonwealth Environmental Water Office – Report by Richard Mintern





Golden perch in the northern Basin 2022-23



Golden perch size classes caught in Menindee Lakes Early 2022 (NSW Fisheries)



Juvenile golden perch and Murray cod in lower Baaka



The next generation golden perch!



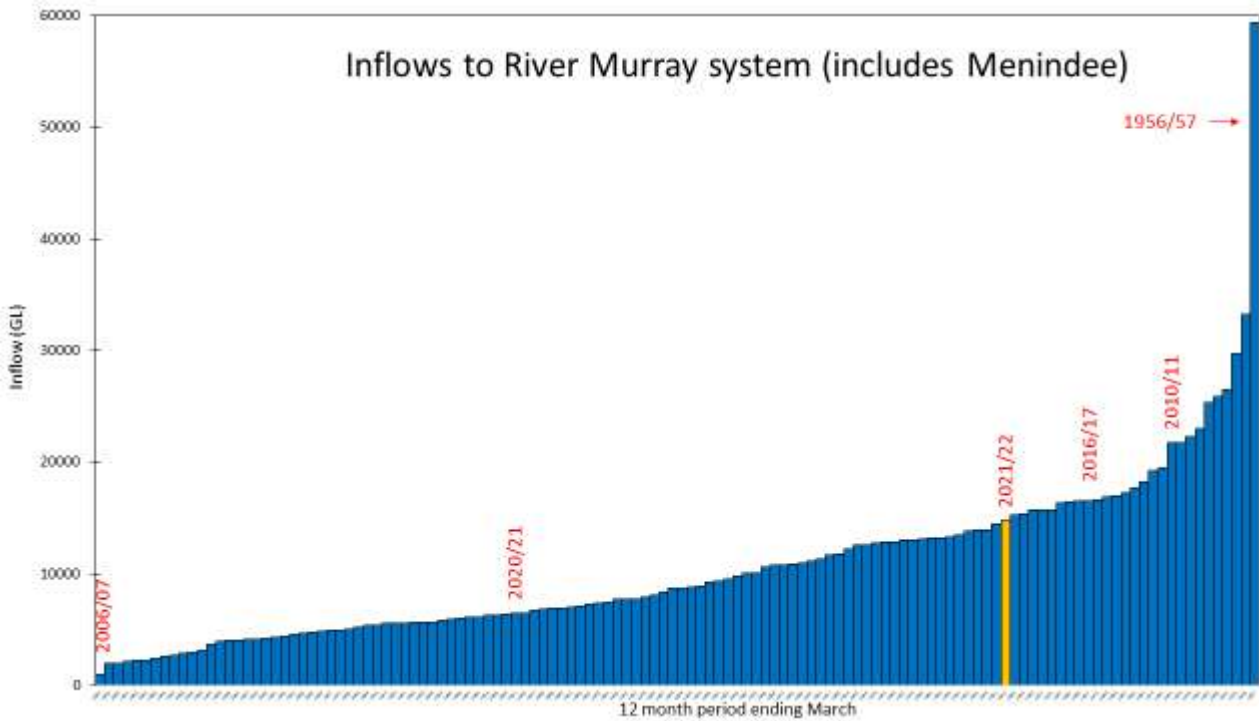
Olive perchlet in Menindee Lakes



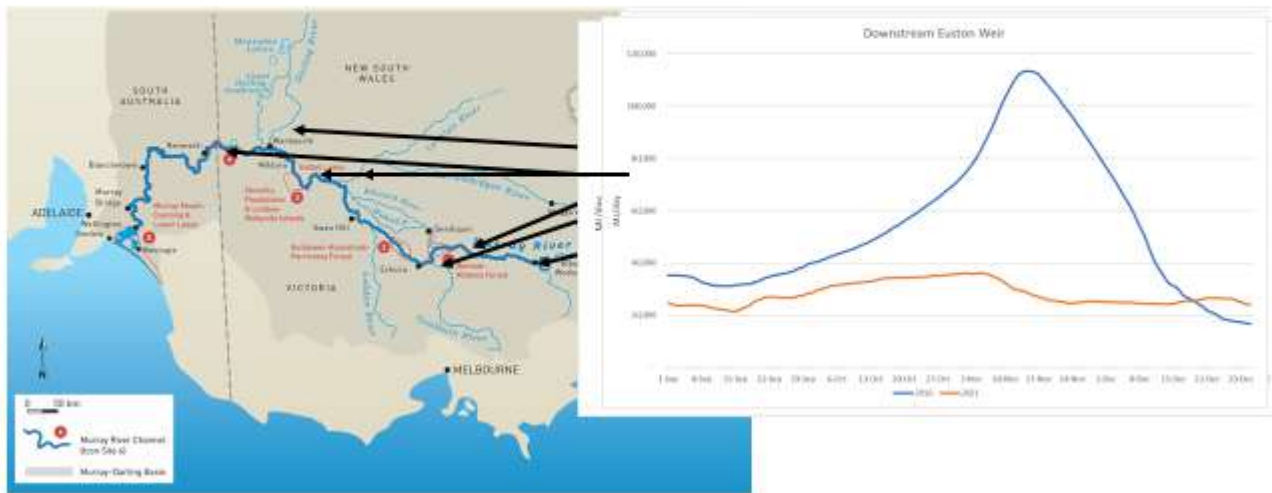
"The SSF generation"
Murray cod



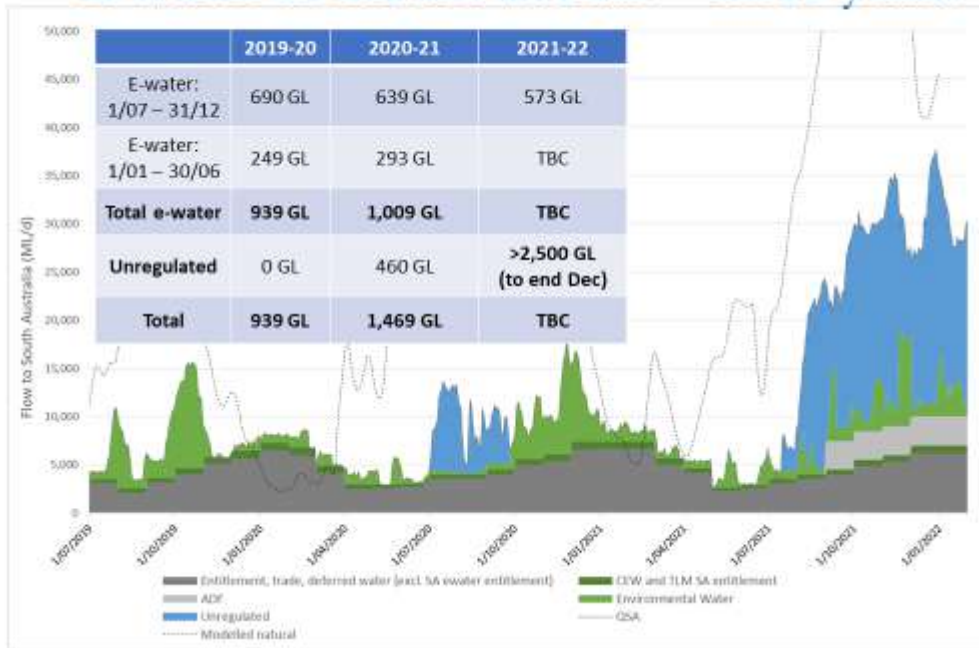
Reedy Point
(Situated between Milang and Clayton Bay)



Every year is different: 2016 vs 2021 events



E-water at the SA border – three years



Appendix 2 - MDA Region 6 – Motions Brainstorm – 31 January 2022 – Updated 20 May 2022

	National	State	Region	Motion Concepts	Person to develop motions
1	Basin Plan Review 2026				
1.1	Governance (Michael Young)	It is in the interest of all regions to have appropriate reps. on the MDB Authority and Basin Community Committee	In the interest of Region 5,6,7, and SA for this resolved ASAP.	No longer required.	New membership recently announced includes SA.
1.2	Climate Change Blue Carbon – linked E-water outcomes?	Less inflow and more extreme extremes projected.. HCHB Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure Improvement Projects Sea-level-rise (barrages) Recovery of Sth Lagoon 	<p>Preferences for https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/environment/docs/CIIP-Draft-Feasibility-Assessment-Report-summary.pdf - options?</p> <p>Support for; (DEW Proposed Desired State of the Coorong discussion paper (2020)) - Proposed desired state? and or Feasibility Assessment Report</p> <p>Regulation of Blue Carbon (offsets) in Aust = tangible economic benefits for agriculture and the environment of E-water outcomes (recently legislated Jan 2022).</p> <p>https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2022-01-25/blue-carbon-accounting-carbon-credit-but-skepticism-remains/100777876</p>	<p>See previous year's motions</p> <p>Cr Rebbeck to follow up with HCHB team</p> <p>To be prepared by 3/6/22</p>
1.3	Environmental water and how it is calculated. (Base flow)	Reach by reach calculation of the end of system flows required (base flow) as a percentage of inflows scenarios (Low, Med High)	It is in the interest of all communities to have a base flow, not just Region 6).	The 100 year average does not reflect the current or future climate reality. A more dynamic approach is required to determine base/end of system flow targets (%) annually.	<p>Cr Scott</p> <p>To be prepared by 3/6/22 (Note: Coordinator has provided contact details of Mike Young from conference attendance) Cr Rebbeck to talk to Cr Scott regarding this motion / discussion with Mike Young</p>
1.4	Net Accounting Vs Gross Accounting (Michael Young)	That measures cumulative impacts and extraction creep.	Supports End of System flows and meeting targets.	Benefits of moving to a Net system (for all stakeholders) Net inflow is more significant than gross inflow when water is removed from storage (more efficient) less water to be returned.	<p>Cr Scott</p> <p>To be prepared by 3/6/22</p>

				https://millenniumindicators.un.org/unsd/envAccounting/ceea/Plmeetings/AC-116-10.pdf	
1.5	Basin Agreement	Carryover Rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELMA – allocations • Jobs 	Optimisation of Environmental Land Management Allocations (ELMA) in the Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Area (report)	Cr Scott To be prepared by 3/6/22
2	Compliance				
2.1	Regulations of Flood Plain Harvesting (FPH) (under the cap)	Reliance on Murray – (capacity)	Productivity and water temp Darling (Bakka) contribution	Support for the regulation of (under the current cap)? Improved compliance and end of system flows.	See previous year's motions Stephen Packer To be prepared by 3/6/22
3.1	Total System Losses	Conveyance losses / Evaporation Compare Major Storages.	Lower Lakes and Coorong Evaporation (fair comparisons)	Water Literacy (Myth busters) Objective the Office of the Inspector General Water Compliance (IGWC)	Coordinator to send to Deana Mildren for preparation of motion To be done by 3/6/22
5	Cultural Water				Cr Rebbeck
5.1	Ownership (\$40M) vs Water management input	Ownership Reconciliation Closing the Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jobs and opportunity • (i.e. Native nursery (Ralkkan)) • Crops • Tourism 	Support for MILDRN's calls for a timely resolution? Dual naming of MDB Places and things?	Originally assigned to Cr Rebbeck, however post meeting agreement that Dual Placename motion to be allocated to Cr Leng Cr Rebbeck remainder of motion To be prepared by 3/6/22
		Sharing Knowledge Monitoring of cultural, social and economic benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to the country • e –water management efficiency 	Demonstrate how stakeholder engagement and Co-design improves e-water management outcomes (i.e. CLLMM CAP)?	Cr Rebbeck To be prepared by 3/6/22
6	E-water				
6.1	Language (nuance) to promote water-literacy	Monitoring of social and economic benefits	Benefits of having water in the region during the most recent drought of record.	Investigation/report contrasting the economic performance of the region during the most recent drought (of record) and that of the Millennium Drought)	Cr Rebbeck To be prepared by 3/6/22
6.2	450 GL recovery	The opportunity cost of not delivering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Environment (RAMSA) 	Lots of talk about the economic cost to irrigators of removing this water on-farm (buy-backs or efficiencies), but what are the environmental costs of no further action?	See previous year's motions Stephen Packer / Heather Barclay

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural • Climate mitigation 		To be prepared by 3/6/22
6.3	Sustainable Diversion Limit Projects	Lack of progress interstate	Less end of system flows	How the SDLs help secure the 450GL	Stephen Packer / Heather Barclay To be prepared by 3/6/22
7	National Carp Control Plan	Benefits Opportunities Risk	Alternate opportunities Mitigation Plan/compensation		See previous year's motions Cr Leng To be prepared by 3/6/22
8	MDA Moving to Corporations Act (e.g. ALGA) Name change (impasse)	Benefits Opportunities Risk	Benefits Opportunities Risk	That the MDA consider moving from the Association Act of NSW (date) to the National Corporations Act (date)	Cr Leng (To discuss further with Mark Lamb) To be prepared by 3/6/22
9	Other			Mark Lamb to follow up state of Motions from last year	Mark Lamb To be done by 3/6/22

Appendix 3 – Region 6 Motions

Motion 1. Region 6 - Warren Jacobs (Individual Member)

Motion: *That the Murray Darling Association endorse the findings of the Independent report "Managing Delivery Risks in the River Murray System" (the Report) and commit to the implementation of its future recommendations to mitigate deliverability risk in the Southern Basin.*

Objective:

- *What is your Motion trying to achieve?*

To support MDB stakeholders to mitigate the risks of deliverability in the southern Basin. That the MDA find or allocate funds to further extend the outcomes of the Report.

A commitment to understanding the Report in particularly the movement of Commonwealth Environmental Water throughout the Basin.

"...Environmental water deliveries each year are generally largest over the May to December period and smaller during the peak irrigation demand period of January to April. The timing reflects environmental watering requirements and generally avoids the peak irrigation demand period, lessening competition for channel capacity between the two water uses..."

- *Who benefits from your Motion?*

All stakeholders will benefit from a better understanding of the complexity of River operations and water delivery. In order to allow irrigators to optimise their allocations and for environmental managers to better understand and manage their regions.

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

Understandably, riparian communities within the Basin are concerned about bank erosion and damage to their rivers and amenity. The common perception perpetuated by social media is that the delivery of Environmental Water and the expansion of permanent plantings are the cause and the Basin Plan is to blame.

However, while the Report acknowledges that the River Murray system's key reaches and its tributaries are operating at flows above tolerable seasonal rates, E-water delivery is generally not putting additional pressure on historic peak flows of summer and autumn down the Murray River system.

The Report also demonstrates that, while Inter Valley Trade (IVT) is a significant water source, there has been no increase in water demand from the River Murray system. Moreover, while Land use –irrigation has moved downstream into the Sunraysia region, there has been no discernible change in timing, and the current trade rule has ensured no net increase in downstream trade.

While there are many interrelated factors, the largest contributor is the Barmah Choke, where capacity has steadily reduced (by up to 20 per cent) over the last three decades. This loss combined with stable demand contributes to the prolonged excessive flow conditions and associated Bank erosion. Sediment cores suggest the "Sand Slug" results from historical gold mining, land clearing, de-snagging and river regulation.

- *What is the risk if the Motion does not get up?*

Bank erosion and delivery risk are emotive issues that galvanises action from communities, however, if all contributing factors are not well understood it does nothing to resolve the problem.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this Motion is successful?*

River Operations and Water Delivery in the Murray Darling Basin is highly complex. The Report and continued extension of the findings in a user-friendly manner will help transform an emotive issue (erosion) into an operational issue (water delivery) required to promote constructive conversations and develop pragmatic solutions.

Background and supporting information:

[Managing Delivery Risks in the River Murray System, Murray–Darling Basin Authority Canberra, 2020. CC BY 4.0 \(November 2020\)](#)

Key points

- No growth in demand from the River Murray system;
- Water use has moved, and crop types have changed;
- Inter Valley Trade has provided a significant source of water;
- Reduction in capacity of the Barmah Choke is an increasing shortfall risk;
- Basin states and the MDBA are working together to manage and mitigate the risk of shortfall;
- Basin Ministers will make Decisions about taking pressure off the Choke; and
- These issues are ongoing, and there are multiple interdependencies.

Motion 2 Region 6 – Clear Messaging [Rural City of Murray Bridge]

Motion: *The Murray Darling Association*

- i. Acknowledge the challenges inherit in providing adequate information to inform communities and debunk Basin myths.*
 - ii. Encourage Basin Governments to continue to collaborate to minimise myths and misinformation that exists across the Murray-Darling Basin.*
 - iii. Support and resource appropriate community lead education and training programs.*
-

Objective:

To support constructive discussion and debate by extending science-based reports to basin communities and the general public.

To continue to work together to actively correct myths and misinformation that exist across the Murray Darling Basin through the extension of clear and straightforward facts (in the form of videos, fact sheets, and conference presentations).

Key Arguments:

- Disinformation about the River inhibits constructive discussion about issues and improved management. It only acts to causes unnecessary friction and distraction from the real issues. It would help if the MDA, MDBA, CSIRO and Government water ministers were proactive in correcting misinformation and be transparent about River Operations, which will help all the communities work together better.
- Perpetuation of myths and false information usurp efforts to provide equality and understanding, creating disharmony and a lack of trust in managing water. Examples include but are not limited to:
 - The Lower Lakes/Coorong Estuary myth
 - Support to build Lock Zero with no consideration of the impacts this would have on water quality, community and irrigators in that region
 - The character of Inter Valley Transfers (temperature, speed, and volume)
 - Biodiversity characteristics
 - Rules on allocation, preferences for permanent plantings over annual use
 - Flood Plain Harvesting
 - Darling and Menindee Lakes
 - NSW Government rules and aims for allocation of some agriculture over human needs
 - Over allocation or the lack of available water to meet these allocations is never mentioned as a problem
 - New dams make new water.
- This motion is an attempt to remedy the arguments, angst and fighting that will otherwise continue to the detriment of the basin Plan and the Communities.

Motion: *That the Murray Darling Association call on the Federal Government to develop and implement a policy for Australia to become carbon neutral by 2050.*

Objective:

- *What is the motion trying to achieve?*

To maximise Australia's contribution mitigating climate change and the severity of the current negative projections for the Murray Darling Basin. To ensure agriculture across the Murray Darling Basin is supported to contribute to an Australian policy for carbon neutrality by 2050.

- *Who benefits? From your motion?*

With appropriate support, agriculture across the MDB has opportunities to both adapt and mitigate climate change through carbon sequestration, solar and wind energy, waste efficiency, circular economies, and more while increasing productivity and economic prosperity.

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

Australia needs to contribute to the global solution of carbon neutrality by 2050. The Federal Government must recognise that agriculture can play a key role in mitigating and adapting to climate change while improving productivity.

Agriculture takes up 50% of Australia at 384 342 500 hectares. Federal Government policy and support could encourage each farmer to capture a minimum of 1 tonne/ha/y of carbon being 384 342 500 tonnes of carbon mitigated per year (minimum with minor changes). Each tonne of carbon sequestered will increase water holding capacity, production and the economic output of agriculture.

Although representing just 14% of Australia's total land area, the MDB contains 20% of Australia's agricultural land and contributes to 40% of the total agricultural production. Collectively generating a gross value of over \$15 billion the MDB will contribute strongly to the Federal Government Agricultural Productivity Target Bill (\$60 billion), while mitigating and adapting to climate change.

- *What is the risk if this motion doesn't get up?*

The MDB has been severely affected by drought over the last decade, with 2019 being the worst drought ever on record and worse than the previous. [Rainfall](#) and [Temperature](#) trends are alarming, resulting in lower flows into the MDB, including:

- 9000 GL since 1892;
- 7700 GL last 30 years;
- 5700 GL previous 10 years;

- 2800 GL 2018; and
- <2000 GL 2019.

The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights that these negative trends will only continue to intensify and compound impacting productivity and the social, economic and environmental health of the MDB unless unilateral actions to reduce carbon dioxide from current 410ppm to (350 ppm) and to limit warm to (1 degree).

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

There is much research to date that shows that by improving soil carbon, we can mitigate climate change and build production and profitability through improved soil moisture, better feed efficiencies, reduce methane and enhance production. Cost can also be reduced through investment in, efficient waste solutions, solar and renewable energy.

Furthermore, there are growing international carbon market. Affording Australian farmer's opportunities to access these markets through carbon offsets (planting and soil carbon) would help them to diversify their business risk under a variable climate. These opportunities would support a policy for Australia to become carbon negative by 2050.

Industries, local and state governments are now setting targets of carbon-neutral by 2030 such as Meat and Livestock Australia, Dairy SA, and more as they recognise the potential of agriculture to contribute to this goal. If Federal Government were on board too, carbon negativity by 2050 could be a reality. It is time for Federal Government to get on board, recognise the opportunities for economic prosperity and support Australia by setting carbon neutral target for 2050.

Background and supporting information:

[Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology Climate History - Rainfall](#)

[Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology Climate History – Temperature](#)

Motion: *That the Murray Darling Association calls on the Federal Government to initiate and implement greater Research and Development into alternative carp mitigation/controls, in addition to the proposed Cyprinid Herpesvirus 3.*

Objective:

- *What is your Motion trying to achieve?*

To mitigate the abundance of European Carp in the Basin rivers by exploring bulk harvest and marketing opportunities to exploit the Carp as a resource that could benefit Basin Communities by sustaining novel and circular economies.

- *Who benefits from your Motion?*

Carp's bulk harvest could support many market potentials, including but not limited to; fertiliser, protein, human consumption, and international export. There is an untapped export demand for our virus-free fish, with Carp considered a normal part of the diet in many countries across Europe and Asia.

By contrast Carp as a table fish have established an unwarranted stigma in Australia. However, the Australian pallet is changing and targeted marketing and promotion of Carp for human consumption, supported by appropriate preparation methods (E.g. catch and cooking techniques, pate', sausage rolls, fish patties, Mornay etc.) would support a burgeoning domestic demand. Carp are not typically targeted by recreational fishers but can be a fantastic sport fish, a sector that could help support regional economies.

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

The impact of the European Carp on Australia's river systems, including the Murray Darling Basin, is well documented with the Federal Government implementing the National Carp Control Program in 2016. However, the Terms of Reference restricted the mitigation measures primarily toward the Cyprinid Herpesvirus 3 with a follow up of Daughterless Carp (genetic mitigation).

The Federal Government has spent millions of dollars on researching their Carp Control Program, with little practical impact on the rivers and waterways. Whilst the government consternates in its decision to release the Virus, hundreds of tonnes of Carp could be removed from the rivers and breeding through proven practical measures. Such as the introduction of "Daughterless Carp" to reduce the reproduction rate and increase the number of Carp Separation Cages at all river barriers such as weirs and regulators.

The Williams' Carp Separation Cage (CSC Separation Cage) exploits the Carp's natural behaviour to migrate upstream and its willingness to jump small waterfalls opposed to our native fish. It has been in use at the Blanchetown weir with great success following a trial period when it removed 300 tonnes of Carp and now,

averaging 80-100t per year, whilst allowing our native fish to continue upstream through Fishways. NSW DPI followed, using the CSC in several key locations, which supports a niche fertiliser industry with potential to be replicated and scaled.

- *What is the Risk if the Motion Does not get up?*

Carp numbers will only increase at alarming numbers affecting not only the condition of our waterways but also our native fish stocks.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this Motion is successful?*

Increase the quality of our waterways and promote social and economic benefits to our communities through diversification and regional tourism.

Background and supporting information:

[Williams' Carp Separation Cage](#)

[National Carp Control Program](#)

[ABC Report 2020](#)

[Daughterless Carp Program](#)

Motion: *That the Murray Darling Association works with CSIRO and other agencies to investigate and report on the sustainability of the Sustainable Diversion Limits (SDLs) within the MDB plan in the face of climate change projections and trends.*

Objective:

What is your motion trying to achieve?

To facilitate an evidence-based approach to reviewing current SDLS and future scenarios, in response to climate change trends and projections. To ensure adequate flows now and into the future for environmental rehabilitation and community sustainability across the MDB.

Who benefits from your motion?

When it comes to optimising the benefits to Basin communities and the environment, "to be forewarned is to be forearmed". Stakeholders across the MDB can only benefit from transparent SDLs projections under different climatic scenarios. Information that will support participation in setting and meeting appropriate targets.

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

A review of SDLs will ensure that they adequately account for reduced flows due to drought and climate change. The MDB has been severely affected by drought over the last ten years, with each successive drought more severe than the previous, with 2019 being the worst drought on record. [Rainfall](#) and [temperature](#) trends are alarming, resulting in lower flows into the MDB, including:

- 9000 GL since 1892
- 7700 GL last 30 years
- 5700 GL last 10 years
- 2800 GL 2018
- <2000 GL 2019

- *What is the risk if this motion doesn't get up?*

The scientific consensus from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is that these negative trends will only continue to intensify and compound impacting, water flow, productivity and the social and environmental health of the MDB.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

The entire MDB will be better informed to implement and adjust the SDLs within the MDB plan to benefit river communities and the Nation.

Background and supporting information

[Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology Climate History - Rainfall](#)

[Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology Climate History – Temperature](#)

ATTACHMENT 2A, 2B, 2C

MDA Ordinary Meeting



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553 Kiewa Street
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Albury NSW 2640

P.O. Box 1268
Echuca VIC 3564

August, 13, 2022

The Hon Susan Close MP
Minister for Climate, Energy and Water
Parliament of South Australia
GPO Box 11071
ADELAIDE SA 5001

By email: OfficeOfTheDeputyPremier@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister Close

Re: Congratulations from Murray Darling Association - Region 6

On behalf of our members, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations on your appointment as Minister for Climate, Environment and Water.

About the MDA

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is the peak body representing local government and their communities across the Murray-Darling Basin. The MDA comprises 12 regions across Queensland, New South Wales, The Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia. Local governments form the core membership of the MDA, but individuals, businesses, not-for-profit and community service organisations can also become associate members.

About MDA Region 6

South Australia's MDA Region 6, encompasses an area over 16,360 km² from the lower Murray Valley and the grassy slopes of the Mt. Lofty Ranges, down to the Southern Ocean coastline, the lower River Murray, its lakes and Coorong, Lower Lakes, and eastward across the Mallee to the Victorian border. Our membership is the most successful of all MDA regions with all but one council a current financial member. Our Current financial membership of MDA Region 6 includes:

- Alexandrina Council,
- City of Victor Harbor,
- Coorong District Council,
- Rural City of Murray Bridge,
- Southern Mallee District Council, and
- Tatiara District Council.
- Kingston District Council



There are also several individual members with long-standing interest and experience in local water resource management issues.

Key issues

The devastation of the Millennium Drought ensures our region has been a consistent and vocal supporter of the Basin Plan, which on balance, will benefit not only our region but the Basin as a whole.

While significant efforts toward environmental water recovery via the implementation of the Basin Plan over the last decade are welcome. A changing climate and declining flows will require effective adaptation and support at the policy, Basin and regional level. An independent study has shown that our region has only received 1% of the 450GL promised to SA and we are concerned that climate change will further hinder the recovery of this. It is vitally important to receive this water for the recovery of our environment and survival of the entire system as we all know a river dies from the bottom up.

Our region will continue to work in partnership with the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) and a range of local, regional, state and national decision-makers, to support timely and equitable water policy.

We have devised a series of motions for the national conference in September in Albury in 2022 and in 2023, region 6 via the Rural City of Murray Bridge will be the Host of the 2023 MDA Conference and AGM. MDA representatives from all 12 regions will attend this event and we would welcome your attendance at the conference and update you when a date has been set.

We have sent a separate invitation asking if you can attend our inter regional meeting at Local Government House on the 6th of September and look forward to your attendance to discuss Murray Darling Advocacy.

On behalf of the MDA please accept my well wishes for a prosperous and successful term and we thank you for your continued support of the Murray Darling Basin vitality.

Yours sincerely

Cr. Melissa Rebbeck

Chair Murray Darling Association Region 6

cc: Mr Tony Pasin MP, Federal Member for Barker

cc: Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP, Federal Member for Mayo





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August, 13, 2022

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
Minister for the Environment and Water
Parliament of Australia
PO Box 2676
Strawberry Hills NSW 2012

By email: tanya.plibersek.mp@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister Plibersek

Re: Congratulations from Murray Darling Association - Region 6

On behalf of our members, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations on your appointment as Minister for the Environment and Water.

About the MDA

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) is the peak body representing local government and their communities across the Murray-Darling Basin. The MDA comprises 12 regions across Queensland, New South Wales, The Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia. Local governments form the core membership of the MDA, but individuals, businesses, not-for-profit and community service organisations can also become associate members.

About MDA Region 6

South Australia's MDA Region 6, encompasses an area over 16,360 km² from the lower Murray Valley and the grassy slopes of the Mt. Lofty Ranges, down to the Southern Ocean coastline, the lower River Murray, its lakes and Coorong, Lower Lakes, and eastward across the Mallee to the Victorian border. Our membership is the most successful of all MDA regions with all but one council a current financial member. Our Current financial membership of MDA Region 6 includes:

- Alexandrina Council,
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- Tatiara District Council.
- Kingston District Council



There are also several individual members with long-standing interest and experience in local water resource management issues.

Agriculture is the region's largest industry and includes grazing, wool, dairy, broad-area cereal crops, vegetables, fishing, and viticulture from some of South Australia's oldest vineyards. Riparian and agricultural land-use is reliant upon the productive waters flowing to the lower Murray and lower lakes. Our region and lands of the arid Mallee depend upon groundwater and alternative water resources.

The environmentally important Coorong and Lakes Alexandrina and Albert Ramsar wetlands are also dependent upon quality environmental water flows. These wetlands are one of the top international migratory waterbird wetlands in the world; providing critical habitat to threatened wildlife and rare plants, fish and turtles. This region is still recovering environmentally from the Millennium drought and we are now minus a fish species with some birds also now critically endangered

Tourism is also a key driver with many coming to the region to experience the internationally renowned Coorong, the Southern Ocean Way, and the Mighty Murray Way tourism routes.

Region 6 remains an intrinsic part of the spiritual identity, of what is today the Ngarrindjeri Nation, with freshwater flows seen as their lifeblood and the environment as their home.

Key issues

The devastation of the Millennium Drought ensures our region has been a consistent and vocal supporter of the Basin Plan, which on balance, will benefit not only our region but the Basin as a whole.

While significant efforts toward environmental water recovery via the implementation of the Basin Plan over the last decade are welcome. A changing climate and declining flows will require effective adaptation and support at the policy, Basin and regional level. An independent study has shown that our region has only received 1% of the 450GL promised to SA and we are concerned that climate change will further hinder the recovery of this. It is vitally important to receive this water for the recovery of our environment and survival of the entire system as we all know a river dies from the bottom up.

We have devised a series of motions for the national conference in September 2022 in Albury and in 2023, region 6 via the Rural City of Murray Bridge will be the Host of the 2023 MDA Conference and AGM. MDA representatives from all 12 regions will attend this event and we would welcome your attendance at the conference and update you when a date has been set.

On behalf of the MDA please accept my well wishes for a prosperous and successful term and we thank you for your continued support of the Murray Darling Basin vitality.

Yours sincerely

Cr. Melissa Rebbeck

Chair Murray Darling Association Region 6

cc: Mr Tony Pasin MP, Federal Member for Barker

cc: Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP, Federal Member for Mayo



DRAFT





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Echuca VIC 3564

August, 13, 2022

Re: 2023 79th Murray Darling Association Conference and Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of Region 6 I am delighted to announce our Member Council the Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB) was successful in its submission to Host the 2023 79th Murray Darling Association Conference and Annual General Meeting.

In recognition of the benefits gained through maintaining a healthy river that flows all year round through drought and flood, the suggested theme for the 2023 Conference is 'Environmental Flows'.

There are a number of venues in Murray Bridge that will be considered for the Conference. Study tours options include the Murray Mouth, Barrage Crossing, Lake Alexandrina and Lake Albert.

On behalf of Region 6 I congratulate the Rural City of Murray Bridge and look forward to supporting the planning of the 79th Murray Darling Association Conference and Annual General Meeting.

Yours sincerely

Cr. Melissa Rebbeck

Chair Murray Darling Association Region 6



ATTACHMENT 3

MDA Ordinary Meeting



Hay Shire
COUNCIL

Hay Shire Council

ABN: 84 075 604 155

134 Lachlan Street PO Box 141 HAY NSW 2711

Telephone: 02 6990 1100 Facsimile: 02 6993 1288

Email: mail@hay.nsw.gov.au Website: www.hay.nsw.gov.au

Ref :

29th July 2022

Cr David Thurley
National President – Murray Darling Association

Email: david.thurley@albirycity.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Thurley,

Re: Murray Darling Basin Plan – 450GL “Up Water”

As you would be aware, a further 450GL water recovery was added to the Murray Darling Basin Plan in 2012 for enhanced environmental outcomes, on the condition that there would be neutral or positive socio-economic impacts from recovering this water. It now appears that the new Federal Government is committed to recovering of the additional 450GL of upwater from the Murray Darling Basin.

Council, at its meeting 26th July 2022, discussed this matter and resolved to support Griffith City Council’s motion to ensure the recovery of the additional 450GL of upwater from the Murray Darling Basin be achieved without adverse social and economic impacts as required by the Murray Darling Basin Plan. In addition, Council opposes the use of buybacks to achieve the saving of 450GL of upwater. While it is understood that the previous buybacks in late 2000’s resulted in mix outcomes for our local agricultural economy, buybacks always place rural areas at risk of the degradation of social and economic conditions.

We request your strongest advocacy on this matter to ensure there are no socio-economic impacts for our region.

Thank you for your time and if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 6990 1100.

Yours faithfully

David Webb
General Manager

ATTACHMENT 4


MDA Ordinary Meeting



**Murray Darling Association Region 6. Ordinary Meeting
Matters in progress arising from previous meeting**


Description		Strategic Objective*	Persons Responsible	Status / Conclusion
5.2	MOTION:	That the Region 6 Committee write formally to Mr Tuckwell acknowledging his service	Cr Scott / Coordinator	Ongoing
		Recommend the Executive nominate Mr Tuckwell to the MDA Board for life membership. Update: May 2022 Cr Scott to prepare lodgement for life membership & to work with Coordinator as required to achieve timeframes.	Cr Scott / Coordinator	Ongoing
5.1	ACTION	Prepare a draft letter of acknowledgement of Mr Tuckwell's service for the consideration of the Chair.	Cr Scott / Coordinator	Ongoing
4.6	ACTION	The current constitution does not seem to allow proxy voting rights, however the Chair believed that a region can nominate who has voting rights. Some attendees thought that a previous motion had already been agreed (2-3 years ago) that a proxy could have voting rights at a National Conference. Tim to follow up.	Tim Phillips	Ongoing
	MOTION	That proxy representative of all regional Chairs at the AGM should be allowed to vote in the event a Chair is unable to attend.	Mark Lamb	Ongoing
5.2	ACTION	Cr Leng, Heather and Warren to report back on MRLGA Water Position Paper Workshop to be held 24 th May.	Cr Leng, Heather Barclay, Warren Jacobs	Ongoing
6.1	ACTION	Motions used to be displayed on the MDA website and are no longer visible. Tim to check and report back. Post meeting note: Tim has reactivated the page displaying past Conference Resolutions (MDA website, under Events menu tab)	Tim Phillips	Completed

*1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice

 Denotes item completed.

8	ACTIONS	Motion Brainstorm...motions were assigned to the following attendees. (Note: The motions brainstorm document has been updated to reflect the changes)		Cr Rebbeck, Cr Scott, Stephen Packer, Heather Barclay, Cr Leng, Cr Hill, Mark Lamb, Deana Mildren	Ongoing
8	ACTIONS	Coordinator to set up virtual meeting on 8 th June @ 9am to approve and move motions. Motion assignees to attend		Cr Rebbeck, Cr Scott, Stephen Packer, Heather Barclay, Cr Leng, Cr Hill, Mark Lamb, Deana Mildren	Completed
11	MOTION	Rural City of Murray Bridge (RCMB, on behalf of Region 6, to proceed with a bid for the National Conference and to have an offline discussion regarding funding to enable the production of the video to go ahead.		Mayor Lewis, Heather Barclay	Ongoing
11	ACTION	RCMB to take the lead in the preparation of the bid for the 2023 National Conference with assistance from the Coordinator. A working group to be set up. Alexandrina Council to raise a purchase order in favour of RCMB for \$2500 to assist with the production costs of the video and the National Conference bid. To progress production of video. Coordinator to assist as required.		Mayor Lewis, Heather Barclay, Coordinator	Ongoing Completed

**1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 Denotes item completed.

ATTACHMENT 5

MDA Ordinary Meeting




Murray Darling Association Region 6. Executive

Matters in Progress arising from previous meetings


Description		Strategic Objective*	Persons Responsible	Status	Conclusion	
December 2021						
6.1	ACTION	Members to seek support from their Council to support Region 6 video production and to explore additional funding streams.		Executive	Completed	Action moved to Ordinary meeting & Working party for National Conference bid 2023
6.2	ACTION	Coordinator to make initial contact with region 5 and 7 to identify their interest in attending an Inter-regional meeting		Coordinator	Completed	Initial contact made with Region 5. Awaiting Region 6 and 7 responses.
May 2022						
7.1	ACTION	Coordinator to check agreed contributions from previous Exec minutes for regional video. Alexandrina to invoice each council once contribution agreed (after internal discussion with relevant Finance teams) Coordinator to contact videographer (Mike Tye) to identify what information is needed from the Exec Team/Ordinary meeting members		Coordinator	Completed	Action moved to Ordinary meeting & Working party for National Conference bid 2023

*1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice

 Denotes item completed.


		Coordinator to add Video to Ordinary meeting agenda If go ahead is given for payment of video, the coordinator to obtain permission from all participants in the video for their appearance.				
7.2	ACTION	The Coordinator to contact possible speakers for the Ordinary meeting. Cr Rebbeck to provide the contact number of Grant Rigney.		Coordinator Cr Rebbeck	Completed	
7.6	ACTION	The Coordinator to contact LGA to determine the availability of Ministers/MPs for the inter-regional meeting.		Coordinator	Closed	11/5/2022
7.6	ACTION	The Coordinator to organize a 30 minute virtual meeting with the Chairs of R5, R6 and R7 to determine agenda items for inter-regional meeting		Coordinator	Completed	
7.7	ACTION	The Coordinator to investigate the rules around proxies under the MDA constitution. Update: After May 2022 Ordinary meeting, Tim Phillips and Mark Lamb to investigate further.		Coordinator	Completed	

**1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 *Denotes item completed.*


Description			Strategic Objective*	Persons Responsible	Status	Conclusion
July 2022						
3.1	ACTION	Letter to Ministers – congratulation on appointment . Cr Rebbeck to further amend the letter Final draft presented at next Ordinary Meeting for endorsement. Final draft sent to Region 6 Council CEO's for countersigning.		Chair Coordinator	Ongoing	
5.1	ACTION	Strategic Action Plan - To be tabled at Ordinary Meeting for discussion Motions - To be finalized and tabled at Ordinary Meeting for endorsement		Coordinator	Ongoing	
6.1.1	ACTION	The follow items are to be tabled on the Agenda of the Ordinary Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Actions Plan in lieu of guest speakers • Motions for MDA Conference and AGM • Update Report for MDA Board Meeting • Strategies for National Conference 		Coordinator	Ongoing	

**1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 Denotes item completed.


		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congratulation Letter to Ministers for endorsement • Inter-region Meeting 24th August 				
6.1.2	ACTION	Refer to Constitution and Region 6 Coordinator to seek advice from MDA CEO Mark Lamb or Tim Phillips. Region 6 Coordinator to contact Tim Phillips and request the issue of the Chair position during the Caretaker period be added to the Agenda of the next MDA Board meeting.		Coordinator	Ongoing	
6.3	ACTION	Chair and Region 6 Coordinator will meet every fortnight. Chair will directly conversed with Region 6 Coordinator on matters pertaining to Region 6, including providing additional support for MDBA Board matters. Region 6 Coordinator will inform GM Heather Barclay of outcomes of fortnightly meetings with Chair.		Chair Coordinator	Ongoing	
6.5.1	ACTION	Region 6 Coordinator to forward a copy of the RCMB draft Council Agenda to the CEO Executive Assistant (CEO EA) of each of the Region 6 Councils. This will enable the CEO EA to devise a Council Report seeking approval and funding for Council representatives at the		Coordinator	Ongoing	

**1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 Denotes item completed.

		2022 Conference and AGM.				
6.5.2	ACTION	Region 6 Coordinator to contact Mark Lamb to request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Guest attendance of CEO Michael Sedgman, CEO Nigel Morris and GM Heather Barclay at the MDA Board Meeting. II. Presentation of the RCMB Submission by GM Heather Barclay 		Coordinator	Ongoing	
6.5.4	ACTION	Region 6 Coordinator to continue with the process to contact video participants and to liaise with Mike Tye for the video to be edited and finalized.		Coordinator	Ongoing	

**1: Maintain and Grow Influence, 2: Share Perspective, 3: Advocacy, 4: Drought Preparedness, 5: United Voice*

 *Denotes item completed.*

ATTACHMENT 6

MDA Ordinary Meeting

MOTION 1 Region 6 – Coorong District Council. Murray Darling Association

MOTION: That the Murray Darling Association requests that the Murray Darling Basin Authority encompass the effects of sea-level rise on the lower Murray River, Lakes and Coorong in their Climate Change research for the 2026 Murray-Darling Basin Outlook report and the updated MDB Plan

OBJECTIVE:

- *What is motion trying to achieve?*

The CSIRO acknowledged that by 2050-60, the average annual stream flows in the Basin could be reduced by 20 to 30% due to climate change. In fact, we are experiencing worse than this in recent drought years with record low inflows. Reduced rainfall, higher evaporation and plant transpiration are addressed; however, there appears to be no acknowledgment of the consequential effects of Sea-Level Rise as the river flow to the sea diminishes. If the rising sea level is encompassed by increasing drought the consequences for saline inflow into the basin are enormous.

The intent of this motion is for the MDBA and Governments to acknowledge the consequence of allowing seawater to penetrate the Murray River and the domino, socio-economic effects this would bring to riparian communities and communities of South Australia, reliant on waters below Blanchetown.

e.g. Domestic water for SA Mid-north and Yorke Peninsula (Figure 1)- Swan Reach pipeline; greater Adelaide dependent on the Mannum & Murray Bridge pipelines; SA Upper South-East, dependent on the Tailem Bend to Keith pipeline; the Wine Districts of the Barossa, Clare and Langhorne Creek.

- *Who would benefit from the motion?*

All communities that are reliant upon the freshwaters of the Murray River below Blanchetown would be decimated by the inundation of seawater into the river system.

KEY ARGUMENTS:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

The Government scientifically acknowledges climate Change and rising sea levels.

In 2016, the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility modelled that by 2050, sea-level rise at the Murray Mouth would reach 1.2 m above mean sea level or AHD. At this level, seawater will flood across the low-lying islands at the Murray Mouth, bypassing the barrage system unabated and entering the Lower Lakes and the River Murray. It is further predicted that this inundation would achieve 1.62 m AHD by 2100, not only threatening the local ecology in the Coorong and Lower Lakes, the salinity level of the river below Blanchetown and the consequential impact on those communities reliant upon that water supply but in some areas, isolating road access. Dr Chiew et.al. confirm similar rises by 2100 in his team's 2020 review of the Lower Lakes science.

- *What are the risks if this motion does not get up?*

If the Government, its Basin States and the Murray Darling Basin Authority do not acknowledge and work towards the mitigation of Sea-Level Rise by 2030 the pool level of saline water below Blanchetown, weir 1, could reach 1.62m by 2100 and continue to rise. The Blanchetown weir holds the river at a maximum of 3.3m AHD Pool height.

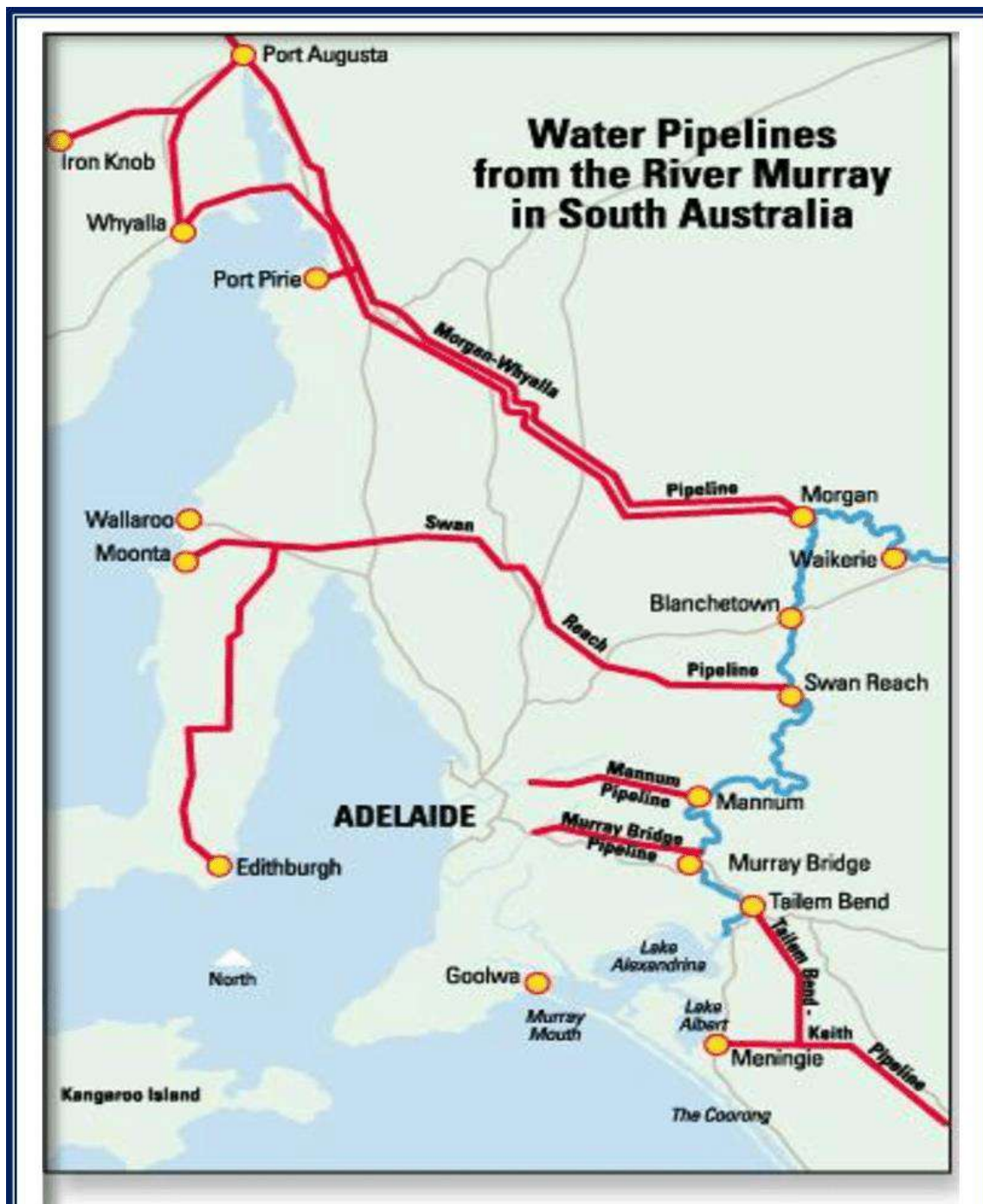
What are the ramifications to communities when the sea level exceeds river level?

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

The Federal Government needs to recognise and respond to the threats posed by rising sea levels v. reduced downriver flows (drought) due to climate change and mitigate those threats.

DRAFT

Figure 1. S.A. Murray River Pipelines. Source: Discover Murray River, 2014



REFERENCE:

- Effect of Sea-Level Rise on Alexandrina Council, Murray Mouth and its barrier Islands 2050 -2100 - https://coastadapt.com.au/sea-level-rise-information-all-australian-coastal-councils#SA_ALEXANDRINA
- History and Review of Lower Lakes Science (p.10) - Dr Chiew et.al. 2020 https://www.mdba.gov.au/sites/default/files/images/LowerLakesScienceReview_FIN_ALREPORT_29Apr2020-web.pdf
- Murray Darling Water and Environment Research <https://getinvolved.mdba.gov.au/murray-darling-water-and-environment-research-program>

MOTION 2 Region 6 – Murray Darling Association

MOTION:

- a) That the MDA calls upon Member Councils of the Association to consider the assignment of Traditional names for dual-naming of locations within their district; and
 - b) That all Member Councils consider the inclusion of local, Traditional place names as well as non-Aboriginal place names on all replacement signs in their district.
 - c) That the MDA calls upon the State Governments to ensure appropriate funding is allowed in each financial year for the inclusion of these names to replacement and new signs.
 - d) The MDA calls upon the Federal and State Governments to ensure great awareness of Traditional Culture is offered in regional school curriculum.
-

OBJECTIVE:

- *What is motion trying to achieve?*

Greater involvement by First Nations into the management of the MDB

- *Who would benefit from the motion?*

These actions would demonstrate reconciliation towards First nations across the MDB acknowledging their lands, waters, environment and communities across the MDB

KEY ARGUMENTS:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

Indigenous cultures have over 60,000 years of connection to country and understanding of the importance of responsible water use.

Greater cultural integration will allow indigenous nations to teach the connection to country to all people, therefore supporting our nations to all be more responsible for water use.

In addition traditional owners have been advocating for the return of land and waters for their own use. Land provision is growing through the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation, but little water has been provided for cultural use. We trust that this motion will also support the acquisition of cultural water for indigenous nations.

- *What are the risks if this motion does not get up?*

Less cultural integration and less responsible water use

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

Enhanced reconciliation and communities jointly working together for the benefit of our shared lands and waters

Motion 3. Region 6 – Murray Darling Association

MOTION: That the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) or the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water publishes clear, simple, timely, and accurate reporting on the delivery of the 450 GL Recovery Programs.

OBJECTIVE:

- *What is motion trying to achieve?*

To provide current, accurate, clear, precise and simple to follow, updates from all jurisdictions to show the progress in water efficiency projects.

Background

The Basin Plan includes a provision for up to 450 GL/y additional water recovery separate from the gap-bridging target. This is for enhanced environmental outcomes on the condition that there are neutral or positive socio-economic impacts from the water recovery.

According to the former Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment website, 426.1 GL/y remains to be found, with no reporting or certainty on achieving when, where or how this water.

There is uncertainty within the basin about achieving this on time. In addition, NSW is three years behind in delivering water-saving plans and implementing them.

- *Who would benefit from the motion?*

Basin Communities and the Environment. Upfront and verified data on the progress of these projects gives all Regions confidence in the Basin Plan, the regional and State Plans and the ability to meet the targets set.

KEY ARGUMENTS:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

This motion intended to find and report on the progress of the Efficiency measures Projects to meet the target of 450 GL/y. Extensive research of the Murray Darling Basin Authority and the Australian Government's Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water websites failed to find a single page describing the current projects and the progress to date.

There are numerous pages on both websites describing efficiency measures generally, with no links to state plans and the efficiency projects and how much water is planned to be recovered or recovered to date. Both sites refer to each other for more information as well as to State Government websites, which also do not provide detailed plans or results. A comprehensive report is, however, available on the completion of the savings from South Australia.

The lack of progress in meeting the 450 GL/y is compounded by the limited information available about the plans and progress.

- *What are the risks if this motion does not get up?*

That reporting and progress will continue to be poor, leading to not meeting the 450 GL/y and further environmental and cultural impacts on the Murray-Darling Basin.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

Increased confidence in the reporting mechanism of the Murray Darling Basin Authority and Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment to deliver on the Basin Plan.

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Motion 4. Region 6 – Murray Darling Association

MOTION: That the MDA call on the Australian Water Minister to set final submission dates and apply Section 68 of the *Water Act 2007* for the Murray Darling Basin Authority to prepare the New South Wales Water Resource Plans as required by the Murray Darling Basin Plan, in line with all other Basin States and Territories.

OBJECTIVE:

- *What is motion trying to achieve?*

For the Water Minister to request the MDBA to prepare all outstanding NSW Water Resource Plans for approval by the Minister to deliver the outcomes of the MDBP. This will ensure that the environment, human needs, industrial, agricultural, cultural, native title, town water supply and stock and domestic needs of riparian landowners along the length of the river are provided for, as a priority, during extended dry periods.

Background:

NSW is three years behind the second deadline set by the Australian Government for the completion and approval of the Water Resource Plans required to deliver the agreed outcomes of the Murray Darling Basin Plan. Without these plans, the promised water cannot be delivered and the industrial, human and environmental components of the MDB will suffer further. These plans are legislated to be implemented by 2024.

The Australian Government Water Minister is empowered within the Water Act 2007, Section 68^[1] to request the MDBA to prepare Water Resource Plans upon meeting particular conditions, such as where no current or temporary Water Resource Plan exists. *Who would benefit from the motion?*

All Basin Communities and the Environment

KEY ARGUMENTS:

Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, and the Australian Capital Territory completed their Water Recovery Plans according to the timeline established in the Murray Darling Basin Plan, however, NSW is progressing very slowly, putting the MDB Plan in jeopardy.

- *What is the current context/issue?*

That WRPs are not in place across NSW after 10- years since legislated to be completed. Every state, and the territory, had seven years to build these plans. They were due to start in 2019 and already, they are three years overdue from being finalised.

The Basin Plan requires a WRP to set out the method for determining the maximum quantity of water permitted to be taken for consumptive use in each accounting period. The WRP also establishes the method for determining the annual actual take.

^[1] http://classic.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/wa200783/s68.html

Accredited WRPs are required to enable compliance and enforcement, and those plans also ensure the following:

- i. The limits on how much water can be taken from the system and that water takes are maintained
- ii. That water will be made available to the environment
- iii. Consideration for cultural values and uses; and finally,
- iv. Water quality targets are managed.^[2]

- *What are the risks if this motion does not get up?*

That the MDB Plan will fail to provide water to all communities, particularly in drought years and increasing threats under the influence of Climate Change. That by failing to produce the required plans, NSW cannot be audited or can be taking more water than entitled without consequences.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

Fairness and equity across the Basin, an equal playing field between states and territories, more water for all, and a resilient River system.

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Motion 5. Region 6 – Murray Darling Association

MOTION: That the MDA advocate to basin governments for funding for circular economic projects that include carbon drawdown, mitigation and adapt to climate change.

OBJECTIVE:

- *What is motion trying to achieve?*

Supporting regional local governments to have access to information and technology that will allow circular economic projects that encompass waste to energy, increased economic improvement in towns, carbon drawdown, renewable energy, and water savings and hence enhanced economic viability to the region

At the national MDA conference in 2022, several circular economic projects that encompass water savings are being presented.

- *Who would benefit from the motion?*

Some projects may invariably improve soil water holding capacity an opportunity that could be considered by governments in water-saving plans.

Regional communities may also be able to claim carbon credits if they are doing projects that draw down carbon.

Regional communities will benefit economically from implementing these projects in regional towns.

KEY ARGUMENTS:

- *What is the current context/issue?*

The MDA is currently working with the CSIRO on the opportunities and barriers to circular economic projects in regional towns. There are many opportunities for circular economic projects in regional towns.

Regional towns need education on the benefits of the circular economic project. Elected members and administration of councils should be briefed on their potential and implement resources to research possible projects for each MDB council region.

- *What are the risks if this motion does not get up?*

That towns along the MDB will not have the opportunity to benefit economically and also less opportunity for drought and climate change mitigation.

- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

The projects will benefit the economic viability of towns and may include strategies that support drought resilience, and adaptation and mitigation of climate change.

ATTACHMENT 7

MDA Ordinary Meeting

Murray Darling Association Region 6 – 2020 Strategic Directions and Work Plan

Background:

In developing this document, consideration has been given to following documents:

- [MDA Constitution](#)
- [MDA Strategic Plan 2016-2019](#)
- MDA-R6 Strategic Directions Report & Action Plan 2018 (Attachment 4c)
- Summary of MDA-R6 Achievements - February 2018 to February 2020 (Attachment 4d)
- MDA-R6 Communications and Engagement Strategy April 2018, revised February 2020 (Attachment 4e)
- MDA-R6 Symposium Report October 2019 (Attachment 4f).

MDA-R6 2020/21 Calendar:

R6 Meetings
R6 Events
MDA Meetings/Events

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
14 February 2020	R6 AGM & Ordinary Meeting	Topic: set region direction for 2020
12-13 March	MDA Strategic Planning Workshop	R6 attendance TBD
15 May 2020	R6 Ordinary Meeting	Topic: Drought Preparedness Member councils to share info re use of Federal drought funds Seek relevant guest speaker *Forward planning for National Conference motions
26-27 May 2020	Basin Communities Leadership Program (BCLP) – Lower Lakes	Lead: Alexandrina
June/July 2020	EM & Inter-Regional Tour of CLLMM	Lead: TBD, liaise with MDA Primary audience = Members & EMs of R6 member councils; Secondary audience = Members of upstream regions; BCLP Cohort
7 August 2020	R6 Ordinary Meeting	Topic: Consider National Conference motions
12-14 August 2020	MDA AGM National Conference	R6 attendance TBD
Sept/Oct 2020	Annual R6 Stakeholder Symposium	Lead: Executive Officer Outcomes of Lower Lakes Independent Science Review + Shared Vision Statement + Drought Preparedness
6 November 2020	R6 Ordinary Meeting	Topic: TBD
5 February 2021	R6 AGM & Ordinary Meeting	Topic: Set region direction for 2021

Strategic Directions:

	Strategic Direction	Actions
1.	Maintain and grow influence & credibility of MDA-R6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Continue to implement Communications & Engagement Strategy as resources allow with a focus on Goal 1: Retain Existing Members, Goal 4: Maintain collaborative relationship with MDA, Goal 6: Engagement with key stakeholders
2.	Share perspectives and encourage links with upstream communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tour of Barrages- Annual Stakeholder Symposium
3.	Advocacy Priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• full and timely implementation of Basin Plan with focus on environmental flows• Climate change: CLLMM and Basin Plan• Coorong Environmental Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Capitalise on opportunities to advocate for continued focus on recovery of environmental water under the Basin Plan including via voluntary buybacks if necessary- Continue to advocate for climate change considerations to be incorporated into Basin Plan review, and for full consideration of climate adaptation pathway for CLLMM- R6 members Councils to advocate locally for Coorong Environmental Trust concept, especially importance of transparent longitudinal monitoring
4.	Drought Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Topic for May meeting + Annual Stakeholder Symposium
5.	United Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Possible statement to be launched at Annual Stakeholder Symposium offering shared vision, common language for CLLMM stakeholders

2020 Executive Officer Work Plan

The 2020 Work Plan assumes that a part-time (0.2FTE) Executive Officer will continue to be engaged by MDA-R6 during the 2020-21 financial year. Should more or less resourcing eventuate as of 30 June 2020, the Work Plan will need to be reviewed accordingly.

In Scope:

1. Secretariat for four (quarterly) meetings – meeting coordination, agendas, minutes, track actions, monitor emerging issues, secure guest speakers relevant to topical issues
2. Regular Reporting – Monthly Board Reports, MDA Monthly Bulletin, Annual Report, Media Updates
3. Support MDA to deliver Basin Communities Leadership Program
4. Support lead Council to deliver R6 Tour of Barrages
5. Deliver Annual Stakeholder Symposium

Out of Scope:

1. Organisation of SA Inter-Regional Meeting (R6 will attend if organised by MDA and/or another SA region)
2. Additional engagement/advocacy/policy support - may be provided on in-kind basis by R6 member councils as negotiated by relevant Executive delegate

ATTACHMENT 8

MDA Ordinary Meeting

Murray Darling Association Region 6 - Calendar of Meetings and Events 2022/2023.

Date	Event	Notes
	MDA Basin Leadership Program	TBC
6 September 2022	Inter-Regional Meeting – Led by Region 5 – Berri Barmera Council	Topics: Motions/Water Position Paper
12 August 2022	Ordinary Meeting 3	Rural City of Murray Bridge R6 Confirm Attendance National Conference 2022
19-21 September 2022	MDA National Conference	City of Albury NSW
14 October 2022	Executive Meeting 3	Virtual - Set Agenda Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting
11 November 2022	Ordinary Meeting 4	Topics
9 December 2022	Executive Meeting 4	Virtual - Set Agenda Guest Speaker for Ordinary meeting Topics: Nominations, Budget and Draft work plan
24 February 2023	AGM/Ordinary Meeting 1	Topics: Elections and Work plan 2023
19-21 September 2023	MDA National Conference	Murray Bridge SA

R6 Executive Meeting
R6 Ordinary Meeting
R6 Events
Events

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