



Murray Darling Association Inc.

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Minutes of Meeting No. 107 of Adelaide Metro Region (7) On Thursday 25th Oct 2018 at the City of Tea Tree Gully Civic Centre, 571, Montague Rd, Modbury

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Present

Cr Lynda Yates	Secretary, Holdfast Bay Council
Cr David Shetliffe	Region 7 Chair, Walkerville Council
Mayor Simon Brewer	Campbelltown Council
Darren Willis (Speaker)	Team Leader, Floodplains and Wetlands, Natural Resources SA, Dept of Environment and Water
Chris Steer	Community Engagement, NRSA, DEW
Thornton Harfield (Speaker)	Director, Assets and Environment, Tea Tree Gully Council
Cr Robin Coleman	Tea Tree Gully Council
Shane Broadbent	Coordinator Engineering Works, Charles Sturt Council
Cr Andrew Tilley	Mitcham Council
Cr Denis Davey	Playford Council
Pauline Frost	Life Member
Gary Goland	
Frank Verrall	

1.2 Apologies

Peter Tsokas	CEO, Unley Council
Mark Dowd	CEO, Onkaparinga Council
Adrian Skull	CEO, Marion Council
Mayor Kevin Knight	Tea Tree Gully Council
Mayor Lorraine Rosenberg	Onkaparinga Council
Cr Peter Hughes, Acting Mayor	Unley Council
Cr Karen Hockley	Mitcham Council
Cr John Kennedy	Campbelltown Council
Cr Garth Palmer	West Torrens Council
Cr Arthur Mangos	West Torrens Council
Cr Kristina Barnett	Prospect Council
Cr Peter Jamieson	Pt Adelaide Enfield Council
Stephen Smith	LGA
Ray Najjar	

2. WELCOME

- 2.1 Cr David Shetliffe welcomed those attending.
- 2.2 Cr Robin Coleman thanked David for the marvelous job he has done as Chair and welcomed MDA attendees to Tea Tree Gully.

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS None

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The 106th meeting of the region was held on 23/08/18 at Playford Council.

Motion: That the minutes of the last Adelaide Metro meeting be accepted.
 Moved Cr Denis Davey, Seconded Cr Andrew Tilley – Carried

5. PRESENTATIONS

5.1 Murray Darling Basin: Managing Wetlands in a Complex Environment – Darren Willis

The first presentation is provided as an email attachment.

5.2 City of Tea Tree Gully: Street Sweeping and Stormwater Management – Thornton Harfield

Thornton gave a brief outline of how TTG has improved the productivity of street sweeping and stormwater management. Street sweeping is important as it is the first line of defense in reducing pollution of the rain that ends up as stormwater. Originally streets were systematically swept according to an overall plan but that resulted in some areas being over-serviced and others under-serviced. Now staff are provided with data and take responsibility for planning where they will sweep. This has resulted in significant savings for Council and an overall better appearance of TTG's streets.

6 REPORTS

6.1 Report from Region Chair

Motion: That the Chair's report be noted.
 Moved Pauline Frost, Seconded Gary Golland - Carried

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Annual Conference and AGM

David said the conference had very good speakers and was worthwhile. The Slido app was used to improve audience participation and worked very successfully for asking questions and for getting information. The next conference will be in Toowoomba.

Motion: That the AGM report be noted.
 Moved Cr Denis Davey, Seconded Pauline Frost - Carried

7.2 Adelaide Metro AGM

It was decided to ask Emma Bradbury to contact our region's councils to check whether MDA delegates will all be chosen in time for a provisional AGM date of Dec 13th and to hold this meeting at the LGA Adelaide office if possible.

Cr Andrew Tilley is interested in being the new Chair, but we must wait to see if he is re-elected. The Chair's council must also be ready to support him in this role. He will have a seat on the MDA Board. Meetings are mostly held via Zero, a Skype-like app, but there are 2 face-to-face meetings a year, although one of those is held at the Conference, so there is only one meeting to travel to. The Chair may also require other assistance from his Council.

7.3 Other Business

None

8. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2019

4th Thursday in the month – 28 February, 23 May, 22 August, 28 November are provisional dates.

9. CLOSE 9.30pm

Secretary Lynda Yates lyates@holdfast.sa.gov.au ; Mob 0417 484 717

*The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks
Tea Tree Gully Council for arranging and hosting this meeting of Region 7.*

Managing the wetlands along the SA River Murray

Murray Darling Association – October 2018

Darren Willis

Team Leader – SAMDB Floodplains & Wetlands



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South Australia



Natural Resources
SA Murray-Darling Basin

Overview

- **Its a very big system**
- **The ups and downs of water**
- **Who gets what ...And where is it**
- **250 wetland complexes - large and small**
- **What does SAMDB wetland management involve**
- **You guys do wetland monitoring ...right?**
- **What does real 'adaptive management' look like**



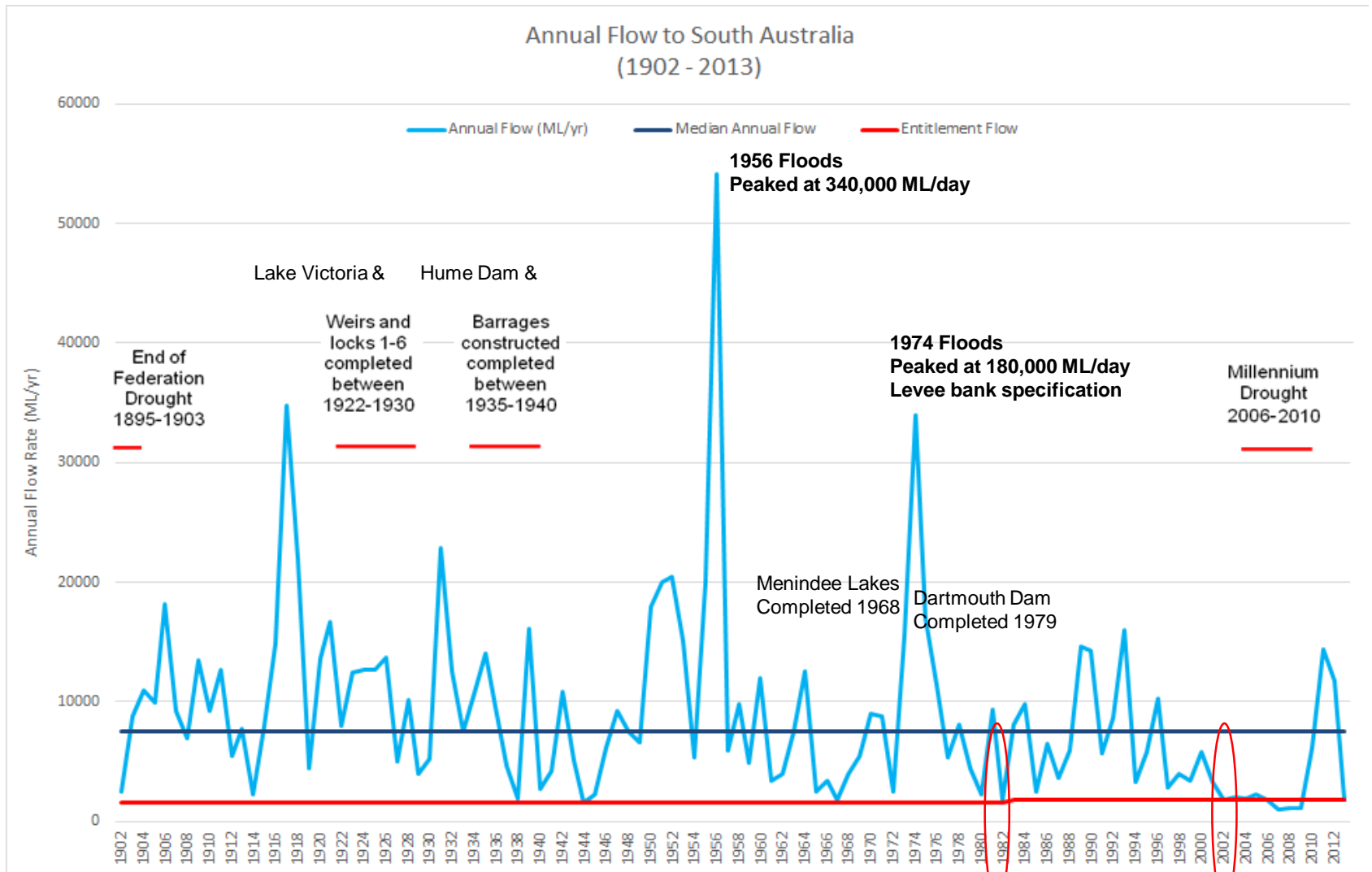
The Murray-Darling Basin – Its a VERY BIG System

~1 million km² - 14% of the continent

- 2 major river systems
 - River Murray
 - Darling River
- 4 States & 1 Territory
- ~2.6M people
- Produces \$22B of food and fibre pa - the food bowl of the nation
- 98% of South Australians rely on water supplied from the River Murray
- Exports ~1.84M t of salt pa



The ups and downs of River Murray water



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**Dredging
Murray Mouth Closes**

Highly variable flow - before regulation

1914 Drought - Berri School Picnic



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Highly variable flow - after regulation

1920's floods - Murrumbidgee River



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River Regulation – Removed natural variability

Drying out many wetlands for long periods and permanently inundating others

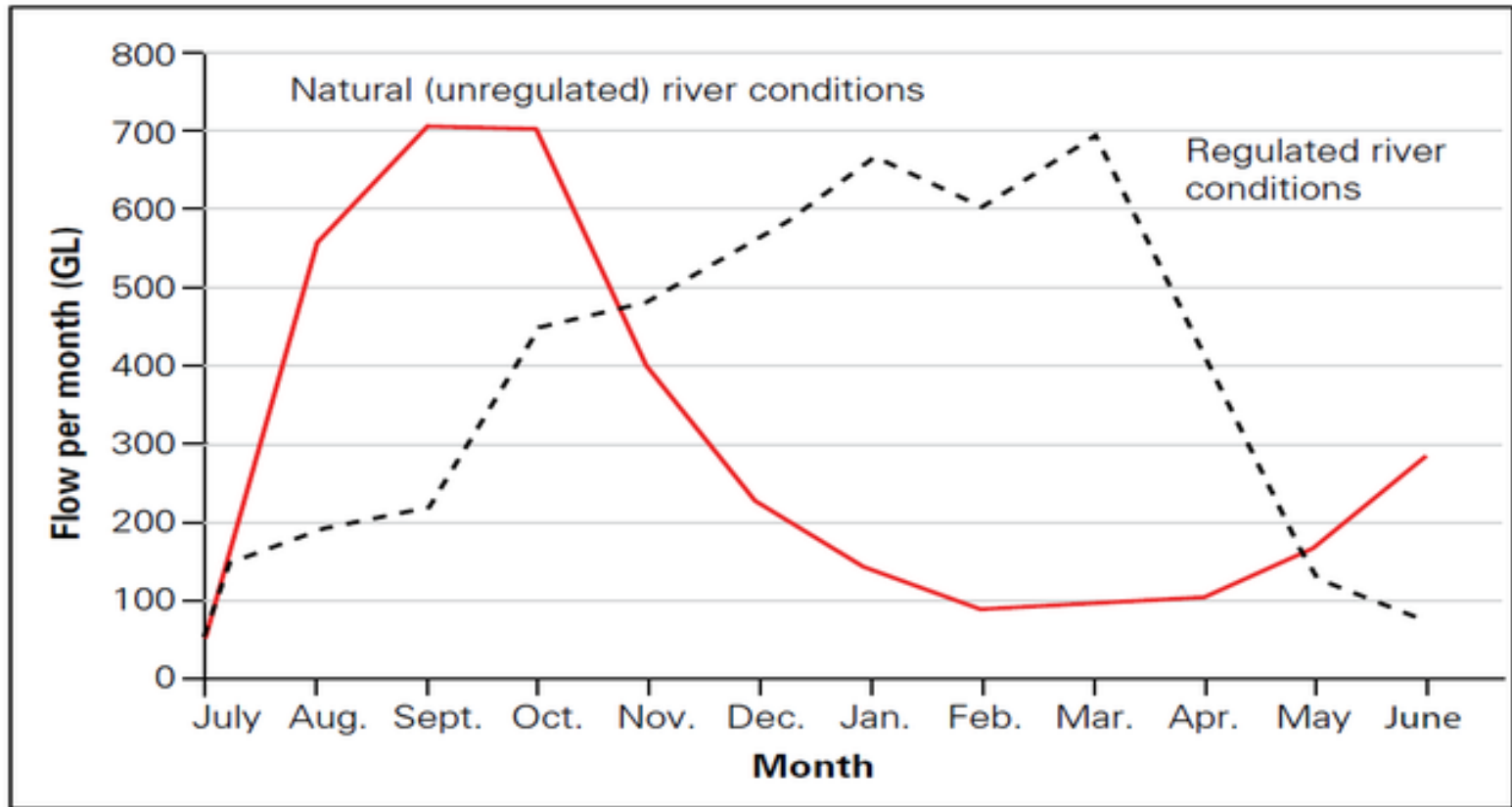


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Conservative River Regulation Reversed the Natural Hydrograph

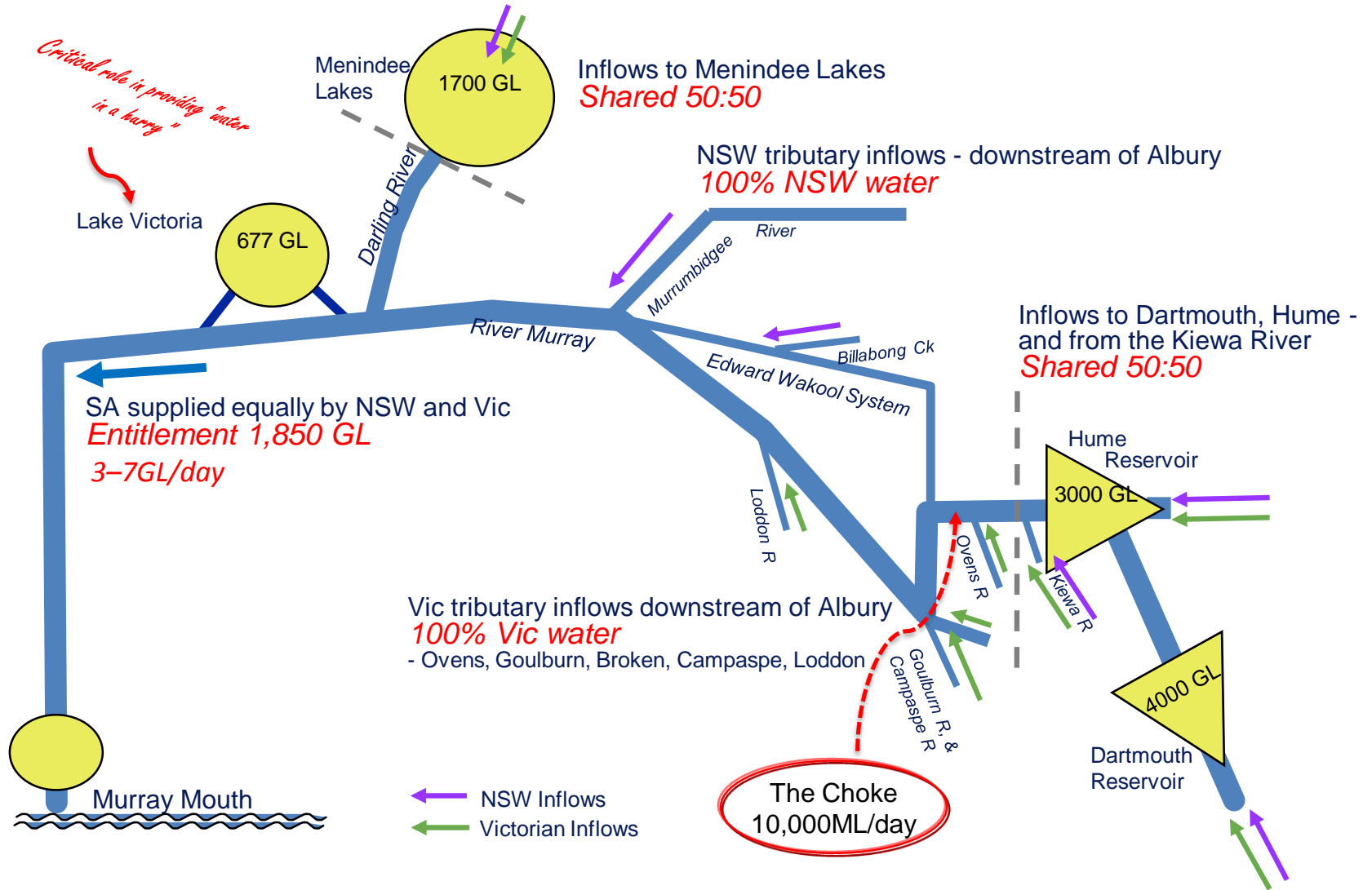


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Water - Who gets what? ...And where is it?





Australian Government

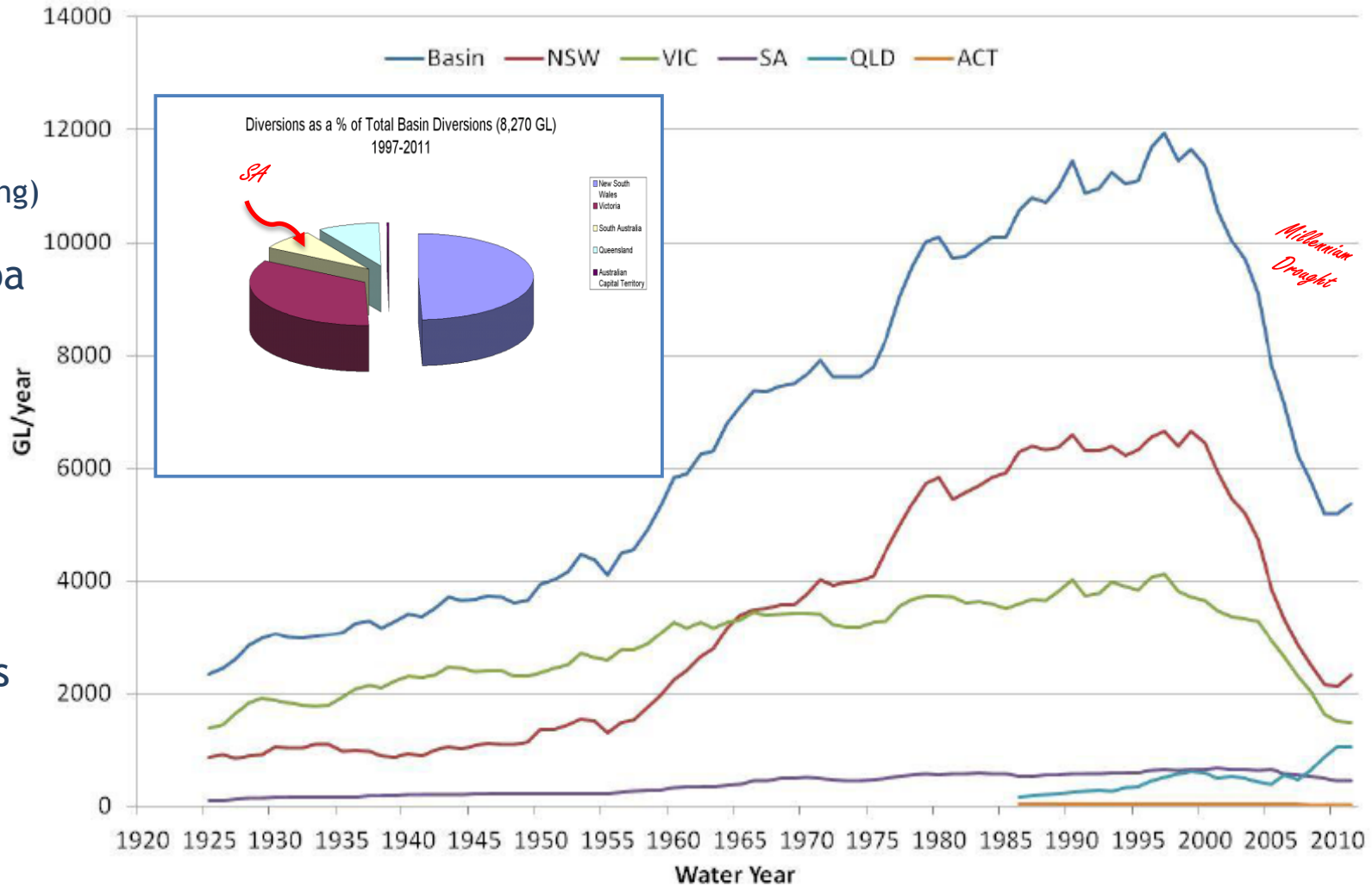


Basin Diversions Five Year Rolling Average

Long-term
Basin Inflow
(Murray & Darling)

~32,800GL pa

Total
Diversions
~25% of
Total Inflows



SA 'Bulk' Water Entitlement

Use	Class	Vol (GL)
Consumptive		
Irrigation	3	564.8
Urban (Adelaide)	6	130
Urban (Towns)	2	50
Stock & Domestic	1	8.7
Industrial	5	5.5
Recreation	4	4.4
Environment (TLM)	7	38.4
LM Swamps (ELMA)	8	22.2
Non-Consumptive		
Wetlands (Env-Allocated to specific wetlands)	9	33.4
Wetlands (Env-Unallocated – variable distribution)	9	166.6
Flow down the River		130
	Sub-Total	1,154
Dilution & Loss (*Evaporative Loss – Lower Lakes ~800GL)		696
	Total SA Entitlement Flow	1,850



What does SAMDB wetland management involve

- We make use of **natural high flow events**
- We have input into **Ewater planning/bids and flows**
- We exploit opportunities created by **weir pool manipulation**
- Were involved in the design, installation and extensively in the operation of **water management infrastructure – for watering and for drying**
- **We negotiate and deliver Ewater** on behalf of the Minister and CEWH to specific wetlands

Often the hydrological regimes are actually delivered by other collaborators. We influence - evolving plans, negotiations, operational decisions, and operational actions of others, as much as we implement our own.



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Natural Resources
SA Murray-Darling Basin

You guys do wetland monitoring ...right?

We do... but its not what we DO.

What we DO a lot of is acquire ecological and hydrological system knowledge and management expertise and share it to influence adaptive management processes...

...planning, negotiations, decision-making and coordinated activity



Adaptive Management – being a go-to collaborator

- **Plan it**
 - Individual wetland/Site management plans
 - SA River Murray Long Term and Annual Watering Plans
 - CEWH Annual Watering Schedule (SAMDB NRM Board)
 - Operational WGs – Barrage Operations, Variable Lakes
- **Do it**
 - Multi-annual 'pool connected' wetland drying/wetting
 - Annual temporary (floodplain) wetland pumping operations, etc
 - Partner engagement and capacity building
- **Measure it... but what?**
 - Stratified Monitoring Program
 - System 'report card' monitoring – operational trigger and validation monitoring – ecological response monitoring – targeted knowledge development investigations
- **Review it...** Planned experimentation and applied learning



What does real 'adaptive management' look like

- It takes many years to embed – but you just have to start
- It's *long game* not *short gain* (but gains start to come quite quickly)
- It requires discipline - but also the willingness to experiment, take considered risks, invest in learning, to monitor and critically evaluate responses and listen to feedback and to accept and work with uncertainty
- It involves a lot of people with different responsibilities, capabilities and knowledge sitting down in many forums to plan, negotiate, operationalise, share learnings, evaluate ...and then plan again – together
- It's enormously 'scaled' – environmental values, water resource availability, operational capabilities, stakeholders and politics – and requires scaled integration
- It requires a lot of mutual respect and good will





Natural Resources

SA Murray-Darling Basin

Darren Willis

Team Leader – SAMDB Floodplains & Wetlands



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