

Region 11 Ordinary Meeting

AGENDA

Location: Inverell Shire Council
144 Otho Street
INVERELL

Via ZOOM: Meeting ID 858 9508 0674 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85895080674>)

Time/date: 1:30pm – Friday 12 February (Immediately following the 10.00am BROC Meeting)

1. **WELCOME**
 - 1.1 Attendance and apologies
 - 1.2 Declaration of Interests
2. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the previous [meeting](#)
3. **REPORTS**
 - 3.1 CEO's reports [online](#)
 - 3.2 MDA Board Meeting (404 and 405) [Minutes](#)
4. **GENERAL BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 Regional Boundary Review - Engagement with local government regional peaks and RDs.
 - 4.2 [MDA Regional Water Security Position](#)
 - 4.3 Statements Change of name consultation update
5. **NATIONAL CONFERENCE**
 - 5.1 2020 Date and location confirmed – Wentworth 17 – 19 May 2021
 - 5.2 [Motions to National Conference](#)
 - 5.3 [Annual Report – R11 contribution Draft copy](#)
 - 5.4 [Speakers and Sponsors](#)
 - 5.5 [National Conference bid 2022](#)
6. **PRESENTATION**
 - 6.1 Annabelle Guest – MDBA - Update
 - 6.2 Jane Humphries – Local Engagement Officer, Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment
7. **NOTICES OF MOTION/QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**
8. **CLOSE**

The Murray Darling Association acknowledges and thanks Inverell Shire Council for its support in hosting this meeting of Region11.



Regional water strategies

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENT
SEPTEMBER 2020

Overview

- **Regional water strategy program**
- **Southern regional water strategies**
- **Engagement**
- **Vision, opportunities and challenges**
- **Next steps**

Background

- Developed in response to recommendations from the NSW State Infrastructure Strategy:
 - Catchment needs assessment for each region
 - Assessment of current drought impacts
- NSW Government election commitment to fast-track the development of all 12 regional water strategies.

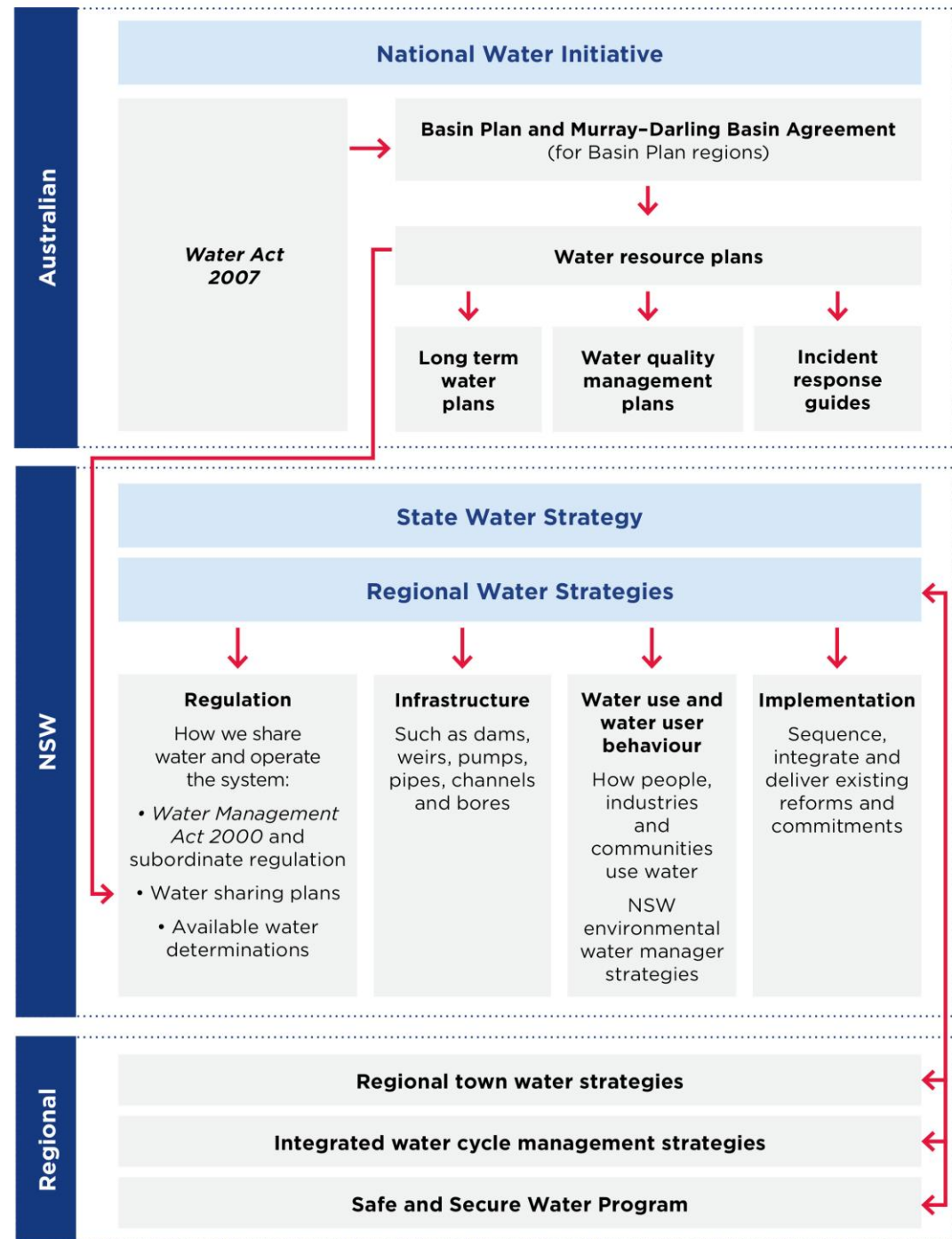
The strategies will:

- Be evidence based and provide a better understanding of current and future water needs, issues, and risks to water resources.
- Draw on recent water reform, water planning and water security work undertaken by the Department and WaterNSW.
- Chart a path for future water planning and management efforts in NSW.



Regulatory and policy context

Each regional water strategy sits within a broader policy and planning context. This includes a range of policies and plans that guide the management of water resources in NSW.



State Water Strategy will

- address the key challenges and opportunities at a state-wide scale, and set the strategic direction for water management in NSW
- set the high-level objectives and principles guiding water resource management across NSW
- clearly articulate the water management framework and policy context in NSW, including how Murray-Darling Basin, state-wide, regional, metropolitan and local strategic water policy and planning frameworks work together
- identify the key strategic priorities and actions at a state-wide level



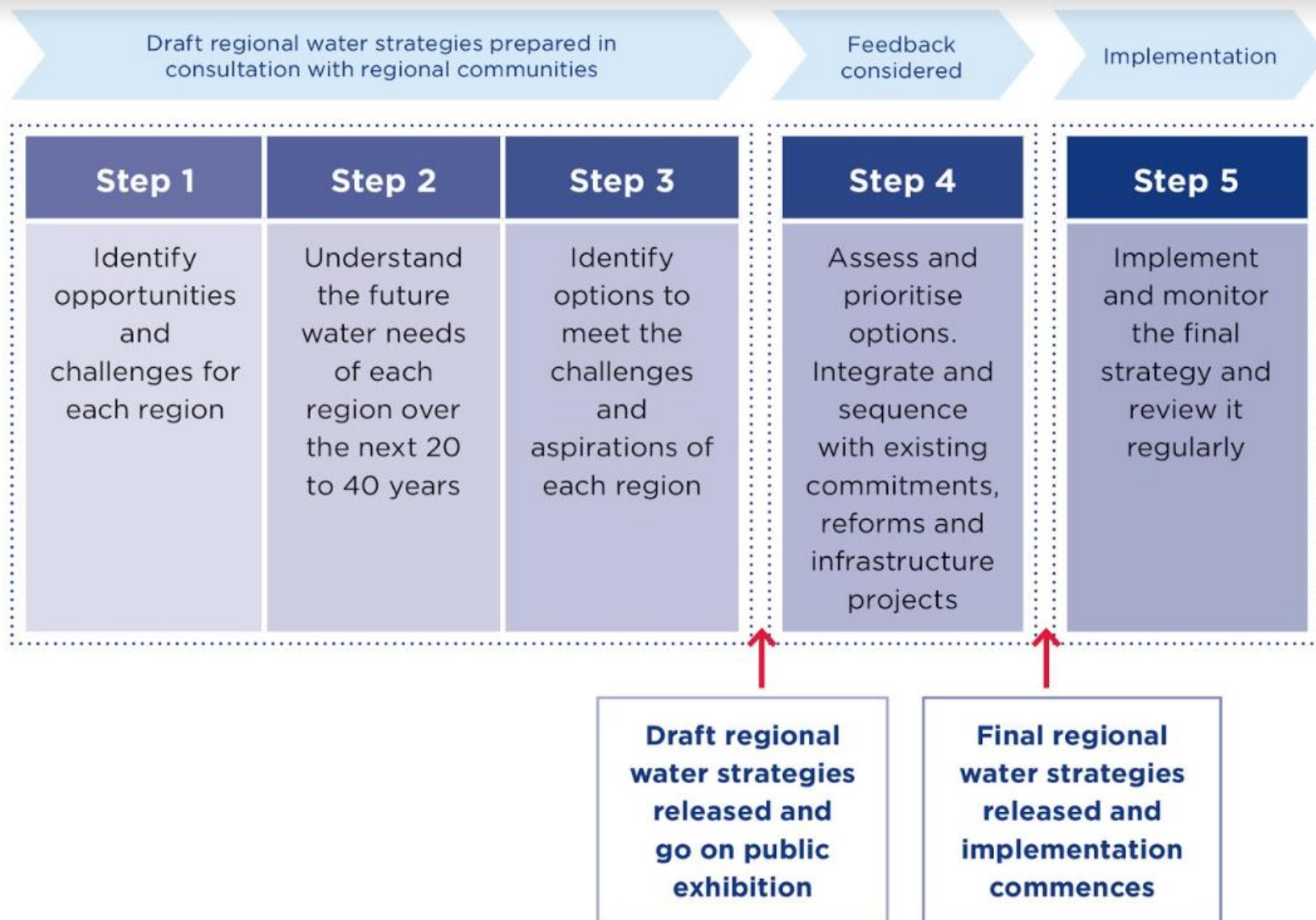
Why?

- NSW needs an integrated water strategy for the entire state to support:
- sustainable water resources
- efficient use of resources
- future water security for both regional and metropolitan NSW
- 20-year State Water Strategy for NSW will put water on the same footing as other key state resources and services, like transport

When?

- draft for public consultation in early 2021

Regional water strategy development



Better understanding climate risk

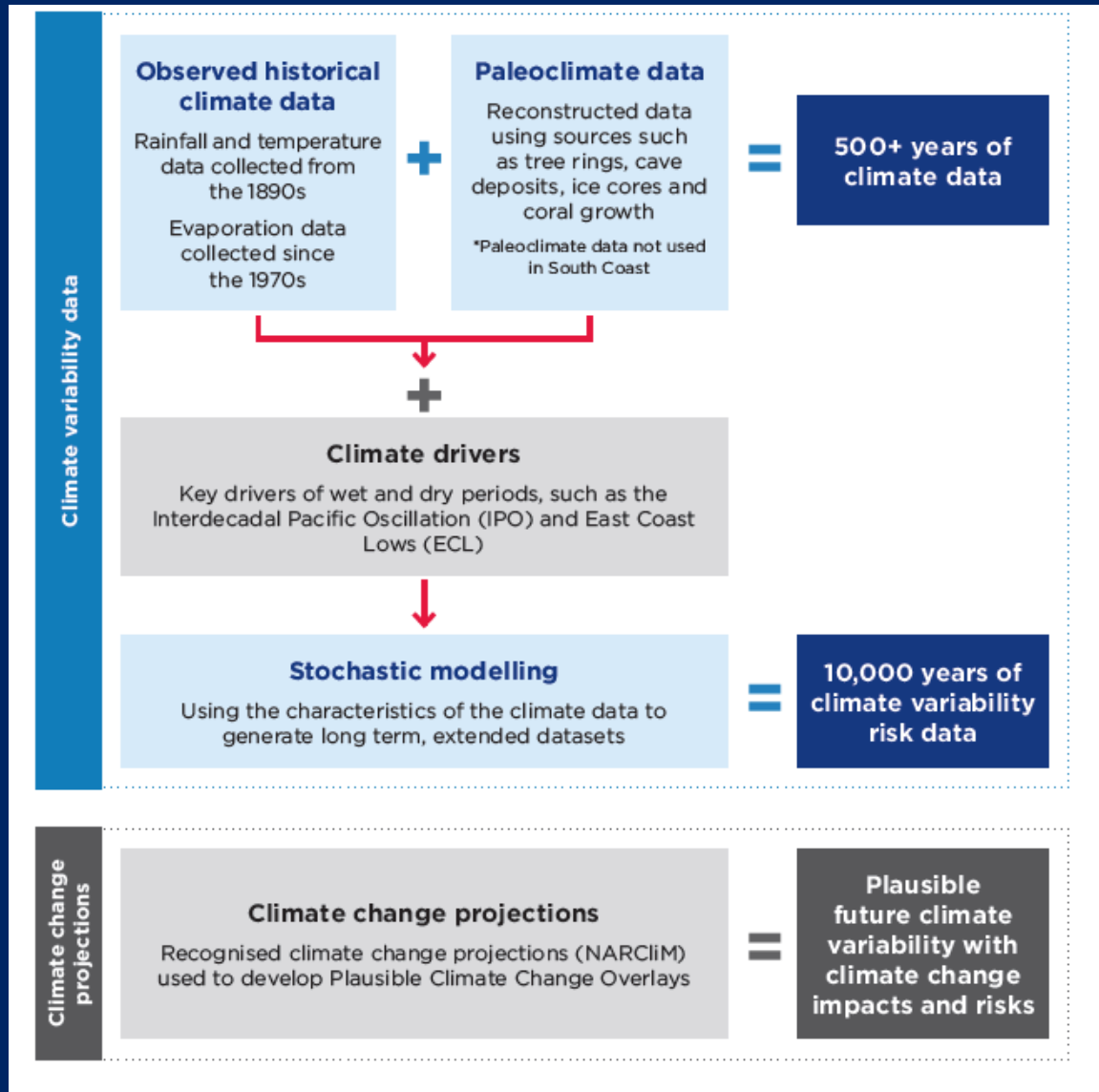
The regional water strategies will be based on improved data and knowledge about the risk from climate variability and change, improving our ability to deal with extreme events.

The method has been peer reviewed by the Deputy Chief Scientist convened expert panel.

Existing approach:

- Current water management planning is based on historic climate data which provides a limited understanding of risk and extreme event.
- We know from global and regional studies that there have been more extreme droughts and floods than what we have recorded since the 1890s.

Better understanding climate risk



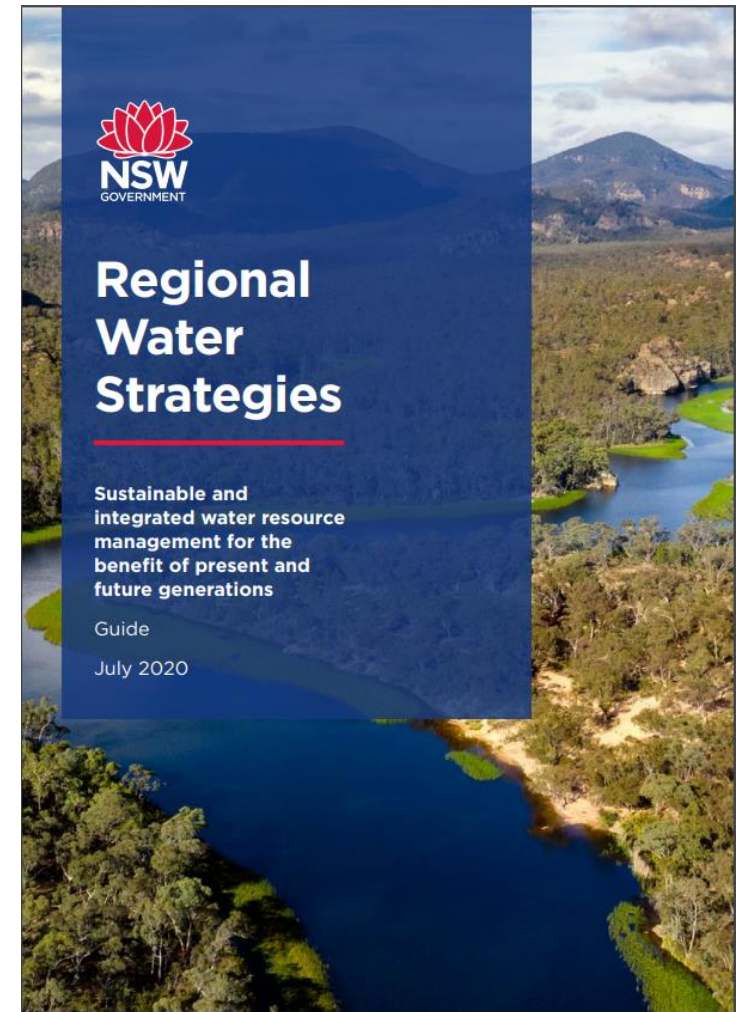
How we will improve our analysis?

- Examine historical variability from the observed record (**approximately 122 years**)
- Extend observed climate sequences using statistical techniques (**up to 10,000 years**)
- Use indirect measures of climate conditions going back several centuries (paleo-climate data) to calibrate data
- Superimpose climate change signals (NARCIIM)

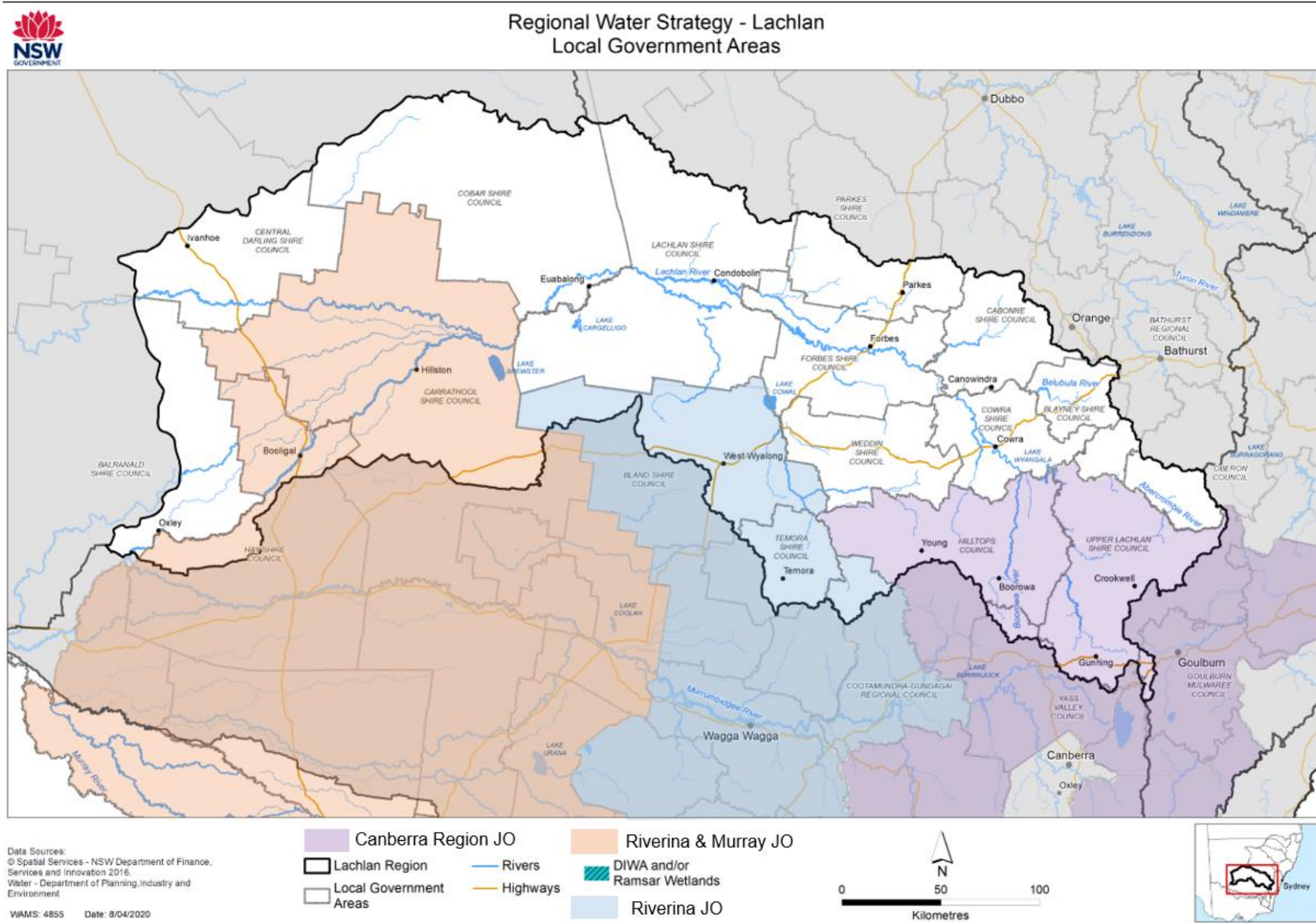
Draft regional water strategy documents

Each draft regional water strategy is divided into three different documents:

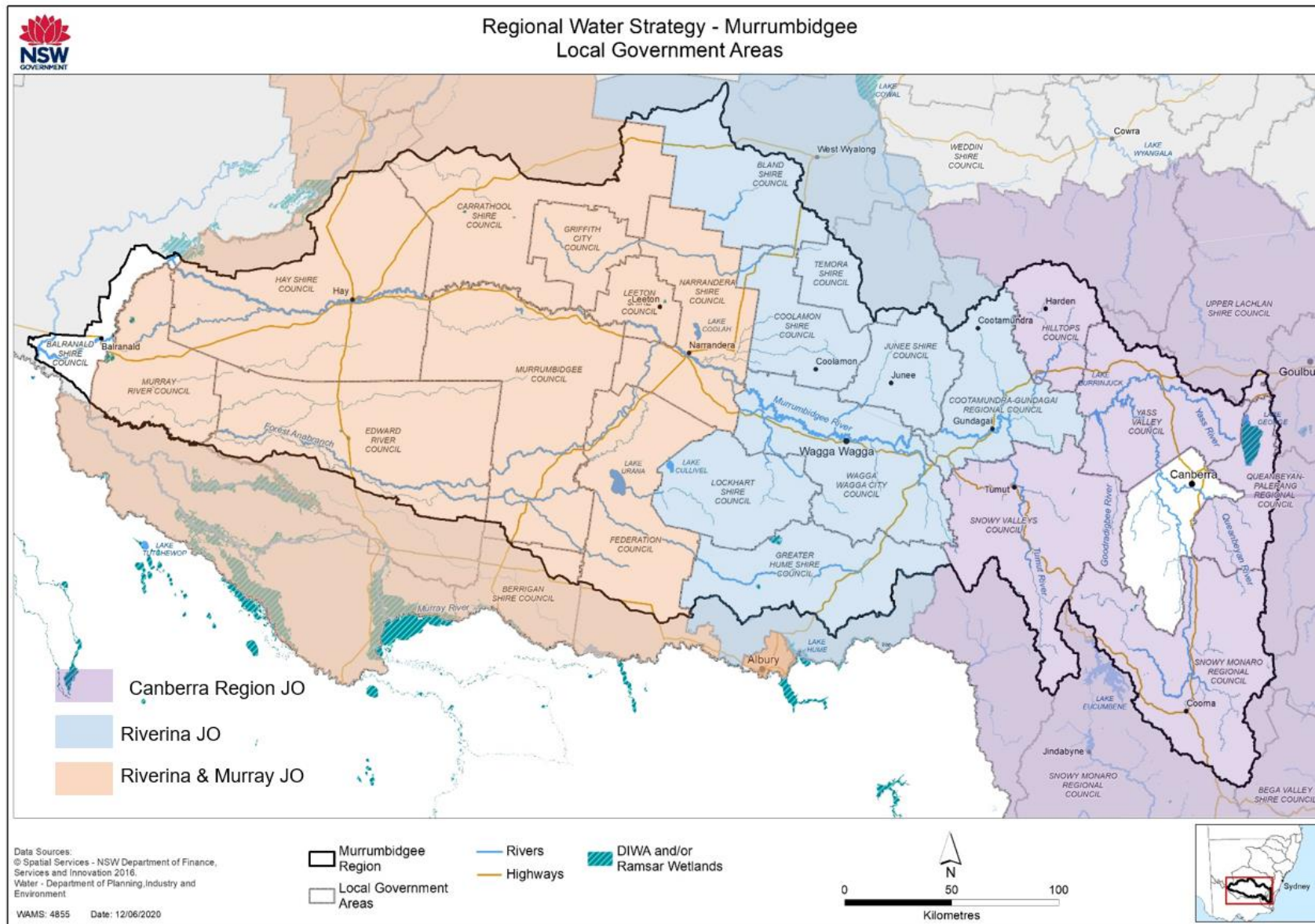
- **Guide:** Information about the regional water strategy program and key background information on hydrological modelling, option assessment process, water markets, licensing, water allocation frameworks and related reference material.
 - Reference document to the regional water strategies program and water management in NSW.
- **Draft strategy:** Information and analysis on the regions - water sources, challenges and opportunities as well as a summary of the draft options.
 - Reference document for the region.
- **Long list of options:** Detailed information about the long-list of possible options proposed for the regional water strategy, including alignment with the regional water strategy objectives, inter-dependencies and potential benefits.
 - Technical document for the regional water strategy options.



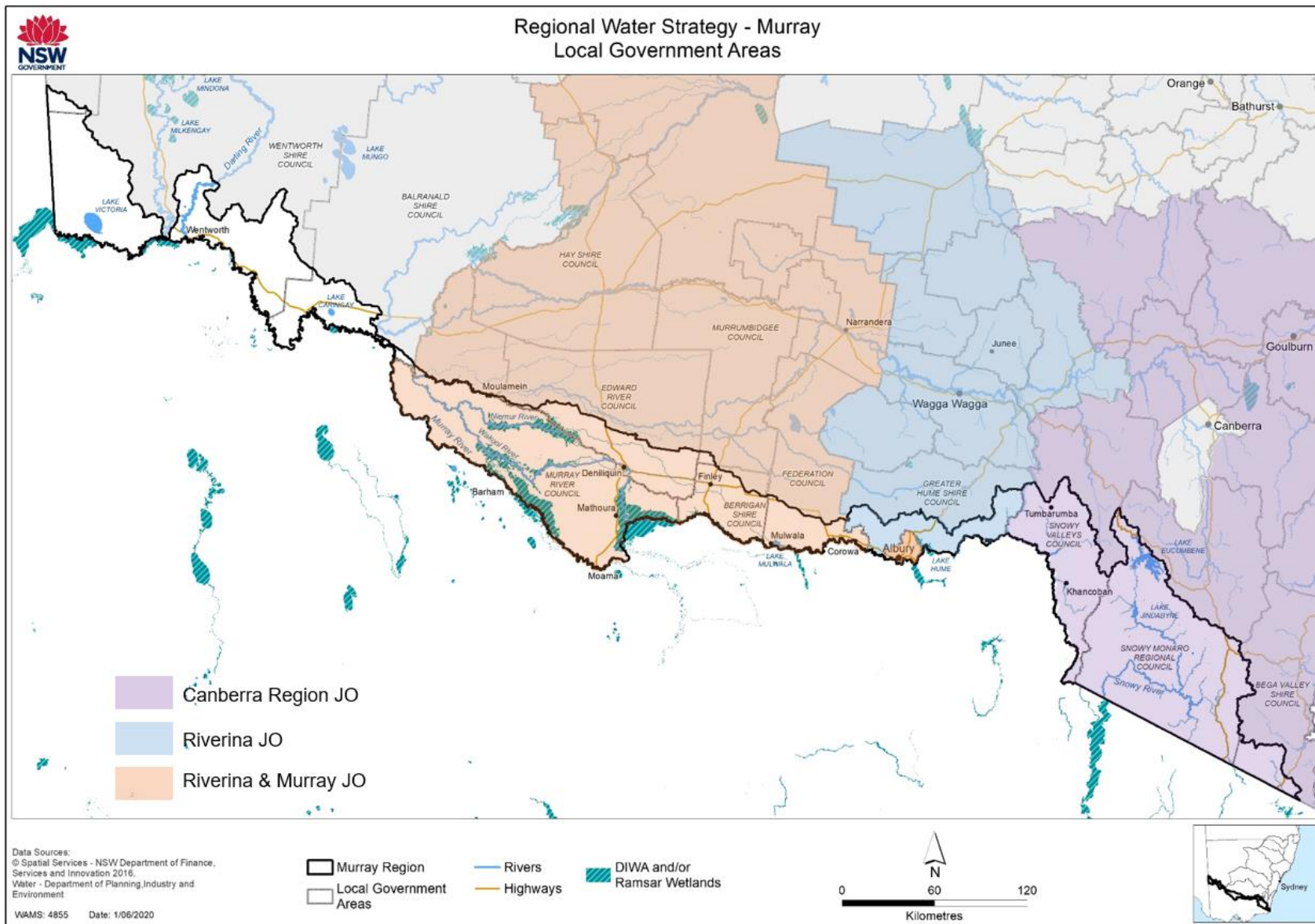
Lachlan Regional Water Strategy



Murrumbidgee Regional Water Strategy



Murray Regional Water Strategy



Engagement Approach

Stage 1

- **Collaborate across NSW Government** – New Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Cluster, Regional NSW and WaterNSW.

Stage 2

- **Collaborate with local councils and joint organisations** – develop regional outcomes and long list of options in partnership.
- **Engage with Aboriginal communities** – build on existing engagement, work with local communities, peak organisations and Aboriginal Affairs work on economic development.

Stage 3

- **Seek broader community feedback** – through existing Advisory Groups such as the Stakeholder Advisory Group, Environmental Water Advisory Groups; and also through the public exhibition process and engagement with peak stakeholder bodies.

Considerations for RWS development

A significant work program is underway in the southern NSW inland regions that the regional water strategies need to account for:

- **New climate data and modelling**
- **Existing strategies, plans, reviews and enquiries** – State Infrastructure Strategy, WaterNSW 20-year Infrastructure Options Study, Regional Plans, Regional Economic Development Strategies, Productivity Commission reviews, ACCC Water Market Inquiry, etc.
- **Learnings from recent engagements** – e.g. State Water Strategy and draft regional water strategies (Gwydir, Macquarie, Lachlan), Water Sharing Plan reviews, Water Resource Plan development, Water Reform Action Plan, Basin Plan, SDLAM, etc.
- **Studies and insights from joint organisations, local councils, water utilities, Aboriginal people** – Regional Town Water Strategies, IWCMS, network plans, etc.

What is your vision for the regions?

What are the challenges?

What are the opportunities?

Where do you want your region to head over the
next 20 years?



Planning,
Industry &
Environment



Next steps

Further information

About regional water strategies

<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/regional-water-strategies>

Development of regional water strategies

<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/regional-water-strategies/development>

Regional water strategies fact sheet -

https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/293134/Developing-Regional-Water-Strategies-fact-sheet.pdf

Guide for the submission of motions for the Murray Darling Association 2021 National Conference & AGM



The purpose of the MDA is to provide effective representation of local government and communities at state and federal level in the management of Basin resources by exchanging information; facilitating debate; and seeking to influence government policy.

Motions resolved at the National Conference and AGM form the foundations of the MDA's leadership and advocacy work for the year and years ahead.

We invite you to begin considering and consulting with your regions on prospective motions for the AGM. These motions are a unique opportunity to elevate your region's issues, challenges and opportunities.

You are encouraged to engage all member councils within your region in the development of your region's motions before submitting them to the MDA.

Motions should be supported by a resolution at a region meeting before being put to the Board for final approval before the AGM.

Where multiple motions are received that are similar in intent, the MDA executive will liaise with proposing regions to identify opportunities to integrate into single motions.

Key dates

Call for Motions open:
4 January 2021

Accepting of Motions closes:
12 April 2021

**MDA National Conference
and AGM:**
May 2021 (date TBA)



How to submit a motion

1. Consult with your region about the proposed motion at your next Region meeting.
2. Use the attached template to write your motion, adding any supporting information such as region meeting resolution.
3. Submit your motion to policy@mda.asn.au no later than 12 April 2021.

The final agenda and meeting paper for the 2021 National Conference and AGM will be distributed at least 14 days before the AGM.

Motion Template

Motion # **Region # – [Proposing Council]**

Motion: *Clear instruction / directive / call for action*

Objective:

- *What is your motion trying to achieve?*
- *Who would benefit from your motion?*

Key Arguments:

- *What is the current context/issue?*
- *What are the risks if this motion doesn't get up?*
- *What is the broader benefit to Basin communities if this motion is successful?*

Region 11 Annual Report 2021

Region 11 comprises a total of 15 councils, of which 6 are members of the MDA. The committee is made up of

Cr John Campbell (Chair)	Gunnedah Shire Council
Committee members	
Cr Jamie Chaffey	Gunnedah Shire Council
Cr Greg Sauer	Tenterfield Shire Council

..... meetings were held during the year.

Date	Location
Friday 13 November 2020	Gwydir Shire Council
Friday 14 August 2020	Gunnedah Shire Council
Thursday 11 June 2020	Gunnedah Shire Council

3 speakers addressed members at each meeting. Topics covered were an MDBA update and information on current projects, Who does what in the water space in the northern Basin; The role of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder; The water managed – licences previously used for irrigation; The example of water management in the last four years; Plans for the coming year for use of Commonwealth water for the environment; and Links between the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office and communities and councils, together with broader issues relating to the Murray Darling system itself.

Speakers were:

Name	Position	Organisation
Annabelle Guest	Regional Engagement Officer	MDBA
Sally Dickinson	Goondiwindi based stakeholder engagement officer	MDBA
Dr. Lindsay White	Director, Northern Basin Wetlands, Policy and Northern Water Use Branch,	Commonwealth Environmental Water Office

Member Councils	Other Eligible Councils	Members (Individuals/Organisations)
Brewarrina Shire Council	Coonamble Shire Council	
Gunnedah Shire Council	Armidale Dumaresq Council	
Gwydir Shire Council	Glen Innes Severn Council	
Tenterfield Shire Council	Inverell Shire Council	
Walgett Shire Council	Narrabri Shire Council	
Liverpool Plains Shire	Tamworth Regional Council	
	Uralla Shire Council	
	Walcha Council	
	Moree Plains Shire Council	

Please include a 200 word reflection on your region from April 1 2020 to March 31 2021.
Please also send a few photographs of your region and / or region meetings for inclusion in the annual report.

Cr
Chair, Region.



2021 National Conference and Annual General Meeting

17-19 May 2021, Wentworth NSW

CONNECTIVITY: CONNECTING COUNCILS AND CATCHMENTS



A POWERFUL SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

Proudly hosted by



Wentworth
Shire Council

JOIN THIS IMPORTANT CONVERSATION IN WENTWORTH WITH THE BASIN'S MOST INNOVATIVE LOCAL LEADERS

In a world forced to confront successive crises in 2020, the towns, regions and countries emerging quickest and strongest are those with innovative, connected local leadership.

It's no surprise then that local government and the communities of the Murray Darling Basin are well placed to adapt and forge ahead in 2021 - and beyond. Basin councils have, after all, spent years building connections across catchments and communities.

With our rivers, our borders and even our attitudes increasingly fragmented, clever councils recognise the importance of innovation to restore and build connectivity.

These councils from all over the Basin are coming together in **Wentworth** from 17-19 May for the **Murray Darling Association's 77th National Conference & AGM** to meet the challenges ahead with creative solutions and collaboration.

Through sponsorship, the MDA's 77th National Conference & AGM is **your opportunity** to be part of the solution – to join the conversation, to inform future policy, and to engage with local leaders from throughout the Basin.

Join us in **Wentworth**, where the mighty rivers connect; where local, technical and political leaders will come together to tackle the big issues of the Basin and forge a future of connected councils and catchments.

Who will attend?

Every year, Mayors, councillors, Chief Executive Officers, General Managers and executive staff from all over the Murray-Darling Basin attend the Murray Darling Association's National Conference & AGM. Additionally, delegates include key Commonwealth and State departmental staff as well as up-and-coming local leaders from all over the Basin.

Speakers of the highest calibre also actively participate in this significant event. Previous speakers have included Commonwealth and state Ministers, peak industry representative body leaders, university and CSIRO academics, the Productivity Commissioner, and the Deputy of the Office of the Inspector General.

Naturally, this event attracts state and national media coverage and is an excellent opportunity to engage with local, state, and federal governments and agencies to inform and influence the decisions that impact your industry.

This is a great sponsorship opportunity with exceptional levels of connectivity and coverage - don't miss out!

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLATINUM SPONSORSHIP - \$10,000 PLUS GST

The Platinum Sponsor offers

- > Opportunity for a company representative to give a 30-minute presentation including question & answer session
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials
- > Full-page company advertisement in 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Prominent positioning of logo on the Conference Program

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Four complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

GOLD SPONSORSHIP - \$7,500 PLUS GST

The Gold Sponsors offers

- > Opportunity for sponsor to provide short promotional video that will be played in between sessions
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Half-page company promotion included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Three complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

SILVER SPONSORSHIP - \$5000 PLUS GST

Silver Sponsors offers

- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship by facilitator during conference
- > Quarter-page company promotion included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials.

In-person opportunities:

- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > company banner displayed at the front of the conference venue
- > Two complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions

Digital/Virtual opportunities:

- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on all MDA social media platforms

BURSARY SPONSORSHIP - \$4000 PLUS GST

Offers:

- > the opportunity to present the award at Gala Dinner
- > complimentary exhibition booth
- > Two complimentary delegate registrations to attend the conference, including social functions
- > Company banner displayed on MDA website and conference portal
- > Company logo and short blurb included in the 2020/2021 Annual Report
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

GALA DINNER SPONSORSHIP - \$3000 PLUS GST

Offers:

- > four complimentary tickets to your sponsored event
- > opportunity for your representative to give a welcome/short presentation at the gala dinner
- > company logo on gala dinner menus
- > opportunity to place promotional material at the venue
- > Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the Murray Darling Association website and all promotional materials

EXHIBITION BOOTH SPONSORSHIP - \$1500 PLUS GST

Organisations have the opportunity to showcase resources, programs and initiatives, exhibit products and brochures and speak with delegates during tea and lunch breaks in the conference exhibition.

The exhibition area will be located in close proximity to the conference rooms. The exhibition will be open to the delegates on arrival each morning and during tea and lunch breaks.

Exhibitors receive:

- > one complimentary delegate registration to attend the conference
- > one exhibition booth, 3m by 2m
- > inclusion to the exhibitor listing on the conference website
- > contact details in the program

HOW TO APPLY FOR SPONSORSHIP AND/OR EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

Please complete and send the attached application form to the Murray Darling Association by e-mail to: admin@mda.asn.au

You will then be forwarded a confirmation letter, agreement, and tax invoice.

The MDA will also provide you with a Sponsorship pack that will include the details of your sponsorship entitlements, what information we require and an information pack from BAX Audio Visual who is delivery the virtual conference.

Should the opportunity be no longer available, you will be contacted by the Association.

For further information, please contact:

Ms Emma Bradbury (CEO)
Murray Darling Association
PO Box 1268 Echuca VIC 3564

Phone: (03) 5480 3805

Fax: (03) 5482 6097

Email: e.bradbury@mda.asn.au

Website: www.mda.asn.au

Murray Darling Association

Annual National Conference

Invitation to tender

Information Pack



Lodgement of responses

Please email your tender to admin@mda.asn.au

The closing date for tenders is 19th February 2020

If you have any questions about this document and our requirements please contact admin@mda.asn.au or (03) 5480 3805

SECTION 1 – INVITATION AND BACKGROUND

Invitation

The Murray Darling Association (MDA) now formally invites detailed submissions from eligible regions to cohost the upcoming 2022 National Conference.

About us

The Murray Darling Association is the peak body for local government in the Murray-Darling Basin, informing policy and contributing local knowledge and regional solutions since 1944. There are 167 councils that sit within the Basin and whose communities rely upon water from within the catchment.

The management of water and other Basin resources is a matter of significant interest to local government. Councils need certainty and reliability to support the communities they lead and serve; responsible for delivering core services, maintaining economic growth, resilience and community health and wellbeing.

About our conference

The MDA's National Conference is an annual event that attracts between 200 and 350 delegates. Delegates attend from all over the Basin. This National Conference brings together local government, industry, relevant agencies and leading technical experts to discuss the Basin's most salient and toughest issues.

Now more than ever, Australia is looking to the communities of the Murray-Darling Basin to lead the way in water management, agriculture, energy efficiency and innovation.

As you know, the MDA is tireless in seeking the right balance between valuing, sharing, and protecting our incredible natural assets, our infrastructure and our local economies.

Severe drought and bushfires, evolving water markets, climate change, innovations in energy, agriculture, water infrastructure and now COVID-19 all form the backdrop to these extraordinary times.

Local government has a critical role to play in the management of Basin resources if we are to ensure the sustainability, vibrancy, and prosperity of our local communities for future generations.

With bold thinking and ambitious planning, we can transform the great challenges of our time into the opportunities of tomorrow. Basin governments already have some extraordinary plans on the national agenda for 2020 and for a generation beyond.

In addition to the two-day conference, a study tour exploring the region's highlights and strengths will also take part. There are two social events – the Civic Reception on the first evening of the conference, and the Annual Gala Dinner on the second day of the conference.

The MDA National Conference is held in a different region every year. It is co-hosted as a collaboration between the MDA the selected Region. The Conference theme changes each year, highlighting a salient topic within the region and the Basin footprint.

The National Conference has evolved into a hybrid event allowing face to face attendance and virtual attendance. This provides a greater opportunity for participants to attend in a way that suits them and enables the conference to reach a broader audience.



The 2022 conference

The 2022 Conference will be our 78th annual conference. It must be held between the months of April and the end of September. The location is to be decided and this will be determined by the tender process.

The date selection of the conference will take into consideration:

- Federal Elections
- Parliamentary sitting dates
- State elections
- Local government elections
- School holidays
- Regional Council Meetings
- LGAQ Conference
- MAV Conference
- LGNSW Conference
- LGA SA Conference
- ALGA General Assembly
- Major local and regional social and sporting events

SECTION 2 – TENDER DETAILS

To apply to become the 2022 National Conference hosting council please complete a tender proposal using the following guidelines. At the close of submissions, all submitted proposals will be considered, assessed and decided on by the MDA board.

Selection Criteria

We recommend that applicants formalize their commitment through resolution at their regional meeting as well as potential hosting council meeting. Collaborations of councils will be considered favourably.

Applicants should address the following selection criteria in their tender proposal:

1. Region Profile:
 - a) Region abstract
 - b) Key issues for the conference to focus on, and including relevance to councils across the Basin
 - c) Host council commitment
 - d) Proposed theme
2. Planning and Logistics:
 - a) Planning committee delegates
 - b) Transport and accommodation options
 - c) Options for study tour
 - d) Proposed venue options – with capabilities to facilitate face to face and virtual delivery
 - e) Potential sponsors/regional partners
 - f) Councils contribution to the event



Conference Requirements

- The MDA requires provisions for a 3-day event and should include the following:
 - Study tour
 - Gala dinner
 - Civic reception
- The selected council's Planning Committee will work closely with the MDA executive team in preparation for the conference including managing logistics and programming.

Lodgement of tender

Please email your proposal to admin@mda.asn.au. We welcome individual and regional specific presentation in any format. We look forward to your creative, innovative and informative showcases of your region and what it can offer from hosting the National Conference.

The closing date is 19th of February 2021. We will send an acknowledgement receipt of your tender.

Decision process

All submitted hosting nominations will be presented to the MDA Board for consideration.

Once the invitation to tender has closed, the MDA Board will consider all applications at the following Board meeting.

Regional Chairs from nominating councils will be excused from the deliberations.

Determination of successful host region will be conducted openly and transparently with the successful and non-successful councils being notified in writing by the MDA executive.

Expected Timetable

Invitation to tender opens	1 December 2020
Opportunity to seek feedback from executive	1 December 2020 – 19 February 2021
Invitation to tender closes	19 February 2021
Board meeting – applications reviewed by Board	March Board meeting
Results of tender advised to all applicants	29 March 2021
Conference planning committee assembled and first meeting	29 April 2021
2022 Conference	To be determined

Enquiries

If you have any questions about this invitation and our requirements, you are welcome to contact the MDA Executive at c.keegan@mda.asn.au or (03) 5480 3805

