

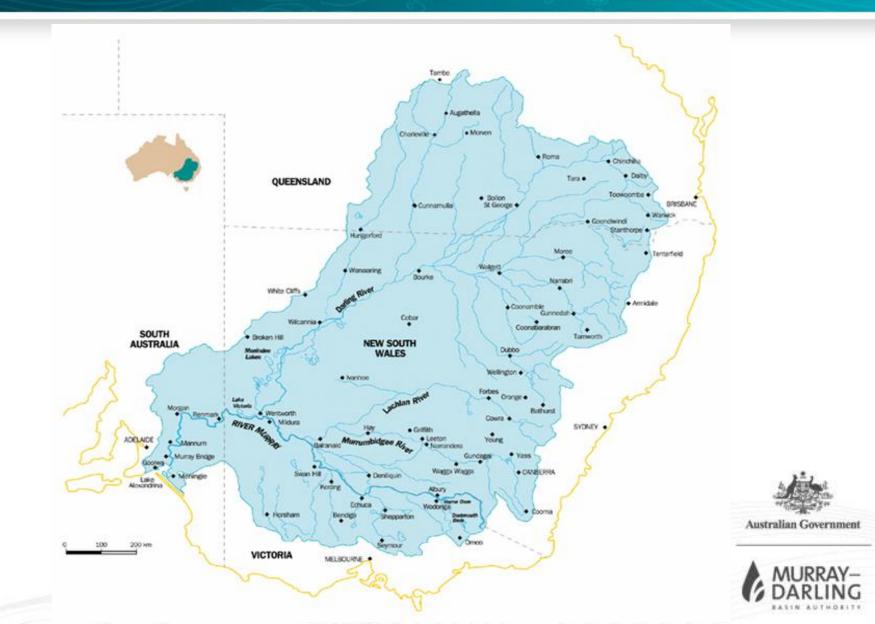




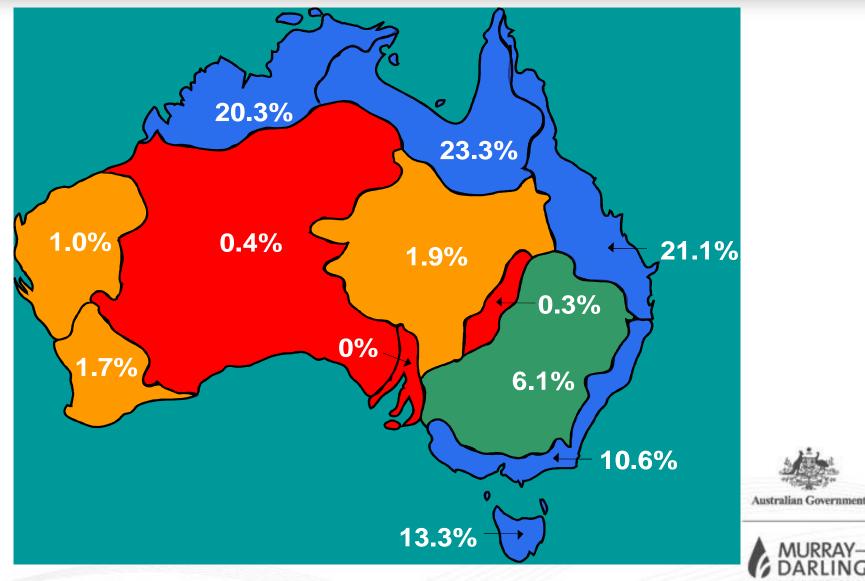
# **The River Murray System**

Presentation to Engineers Australia Southern Highlands & Tablelands Regional Group 28 April 2011 by Tony Morse (General Manager Assets, MDBA)

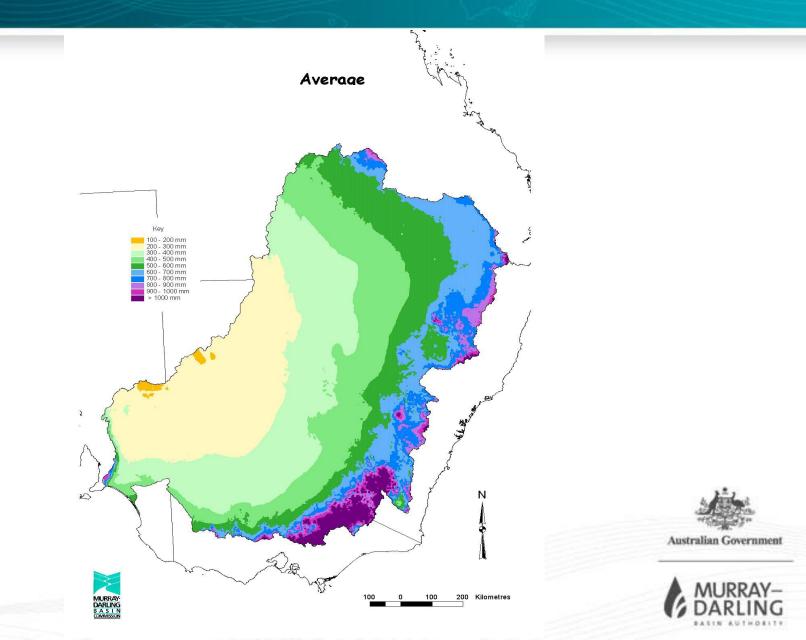
### **The Murray-Darling Basin**



### Distribution of Australia's surface run-off



### Average Yearly rainfall in the basin



### **Drivers to Construct Assets**

- Federation drought 1895 to 1903
- Tension between states
  - Demand for reliable water supply for irrigation
  - Impact of increasing irrigation on navigation
- "Nation Building"
- River Murray Agreement Act 1915 (led to River Murray Commission)





### RIVER MURRAY SYSTEM ASSETS SUMMARY

- Dartmouth Dam
- ≻Hume Dam
- ≻Yarrawonga Weir
- Menindee Lakes (leased from NSW)
- Lake Victoria
- ➤ 13 Weirs & Locks on River Murray
- ≻5 Barrages near Murray Mouth
- Salt Interception Schemes
- Environmental Works & Measures Assets (current program)





#### **Dartmouth Dam**

4000 GL reservoir
Completed 1979
180m high
Highest dam in Australia
Operated as a drought reserve

#### Hume Dam

3000 GL reservoir
50m high
Completed 1936 raised 1961

Main operating storage

### Yarrawonga Weir

118 GL weir
Completed 1939
Largest point of diversion from River Murray
Operating storage

#### Menindee Lakes

- Four main lakes
- Up to 1700 GL reservoir
- Natural depressions
- Completed 1968
- Used to help supply South Australia's entitlement

#### Lake Victoria

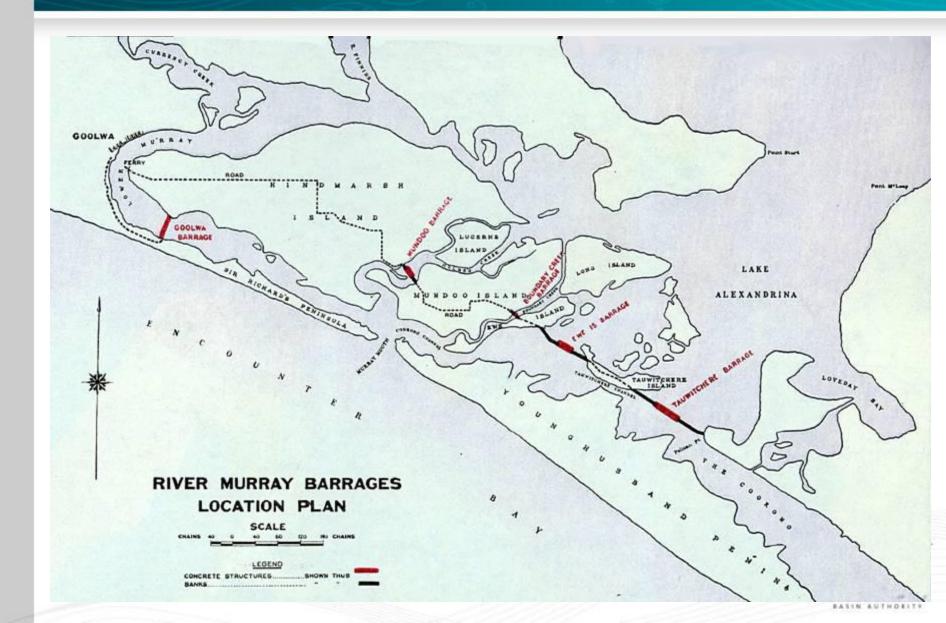
677 GL reservoir
Formerly natural lake
Constructed 1920's
Mid river storage used to help supply South Australia's entitlement
Gultural heritage

#### Locks and Weirs

Locks and weirs 1-11, 15 and 26
Murray navigable for 970 km (Mildura)
Each raises the water

 Each raises the water level by about 3.1m

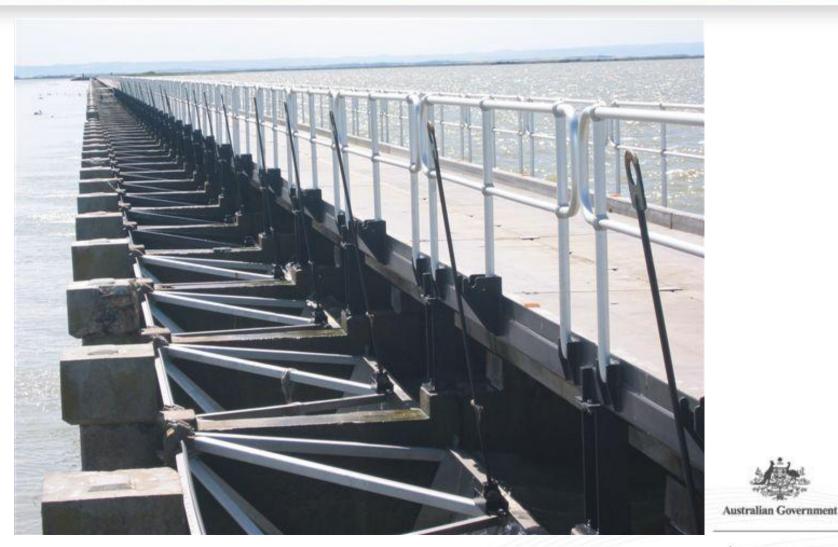
#### **Murray Mouth and Barrages**



#### Barrages

- Five barrages, two locks
- Upstream water level about 0.75m above sea level
  Completed 1940
  Used to supply reshwater locally

### **Tauwitchere Barrage**



## Asset Management

- Assets are "controlled" by the River Murray Operations Joint Venture comprising Australian Government and states of NSW, Victoria and South Australia
- The Authority is the agent of the Joint Venture, and funds and directs the Asset Management Program
- Each State has a Constructing Authority (SCA) which is responsible for design, construction, operation and maintenance



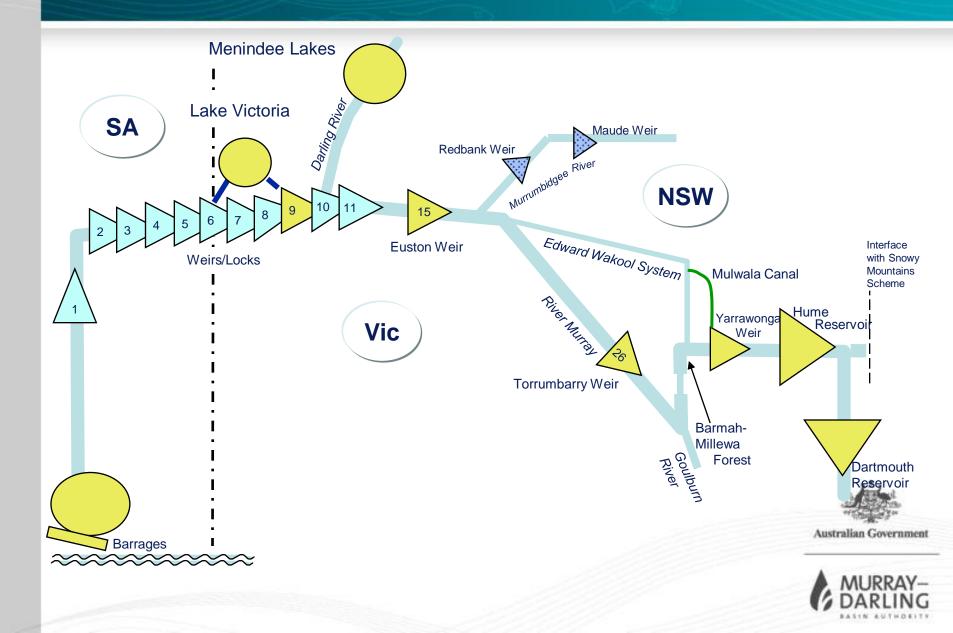


## Asset Management Ct'd

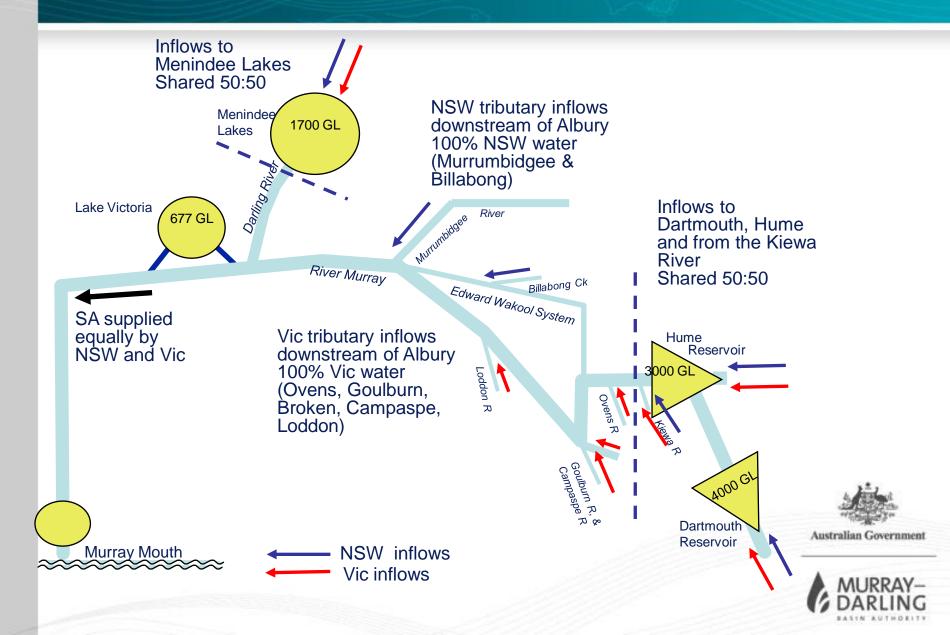
- The Authority is responsible for:
- setting priorities for the overall program
- ensuring uniformity of approach by the SCAs
- overseeing the standard of service delivery
- co-ordinating works programs
- high level technical review
- maintaining the infrastructure asset register
- budget preparation (in liaison with SCAs)
- risk management (including OH&S, dam safety management and public liability risks)



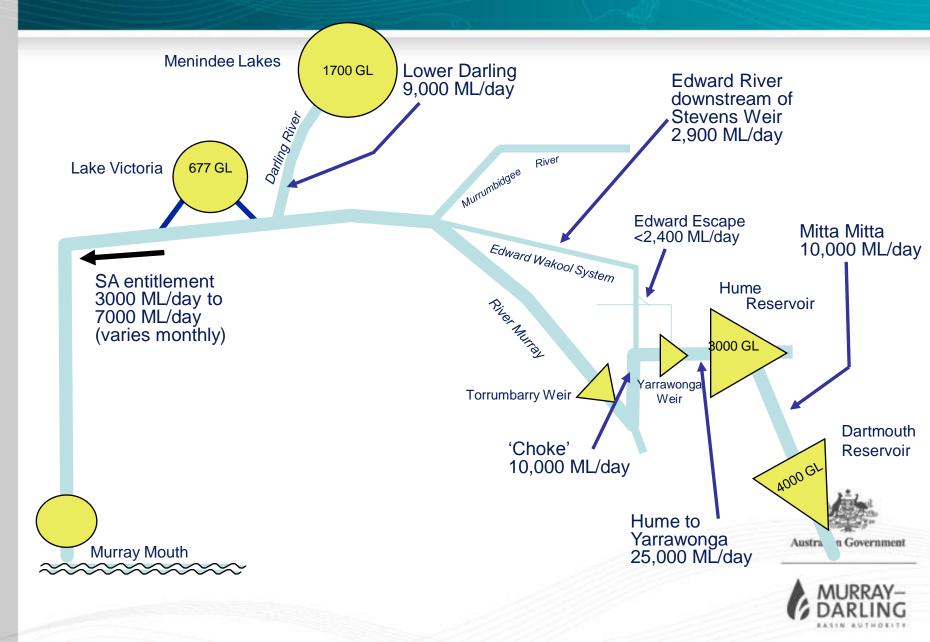
### **River Murray System in Schematic**



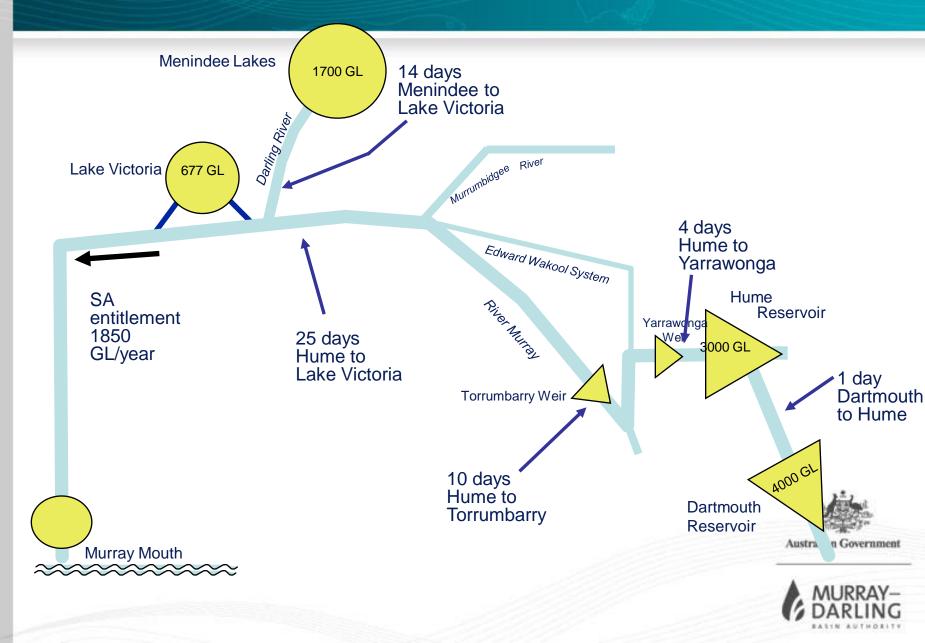
### Water Sharing



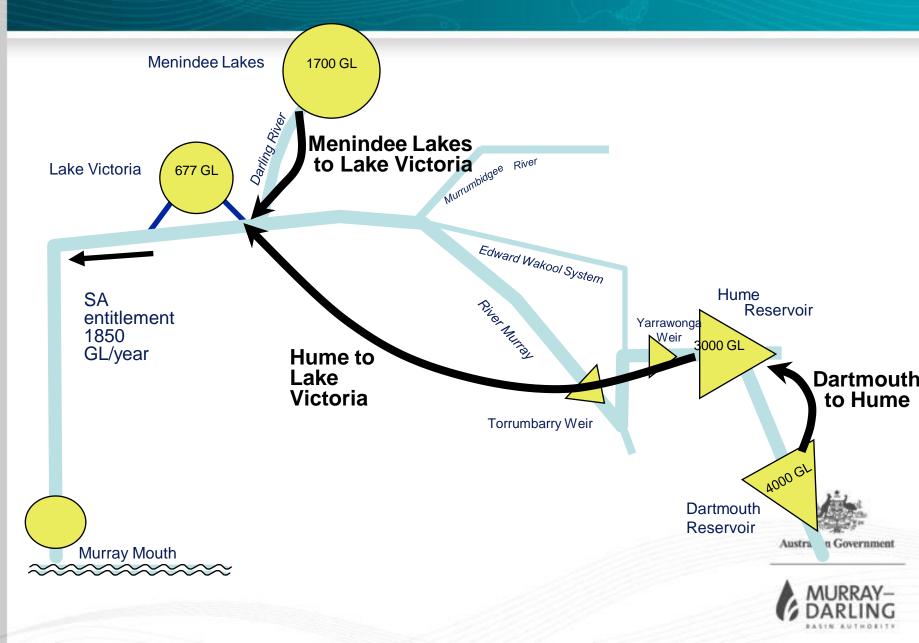
### System Constraints



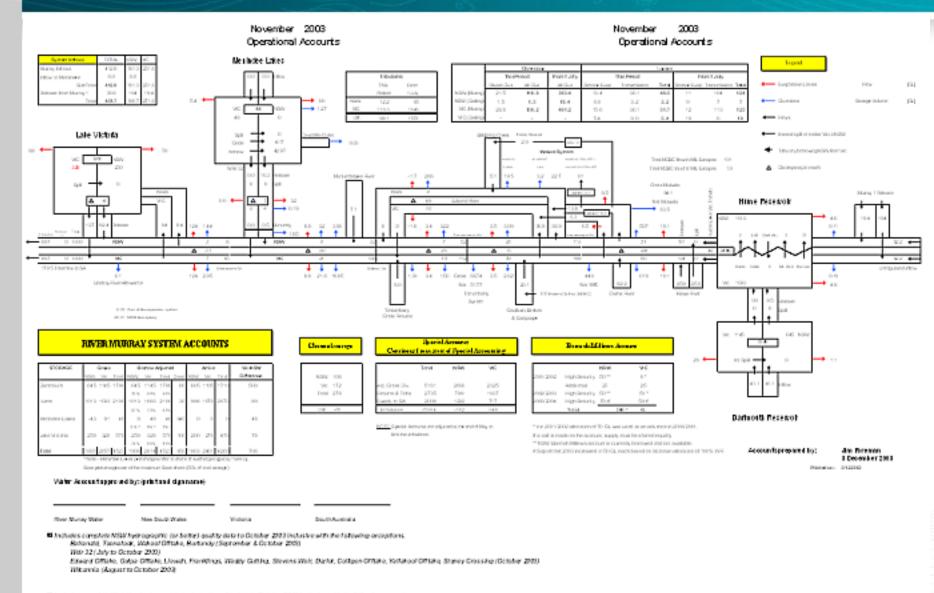
**Travel Times** 



### **Bulk Water Transfers**



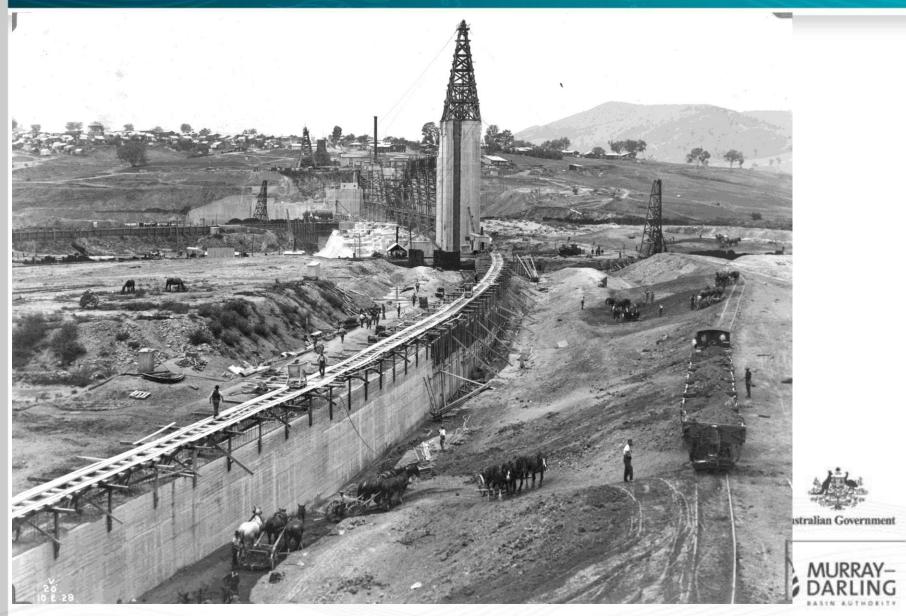
#### **RMW Accounts Diagram**

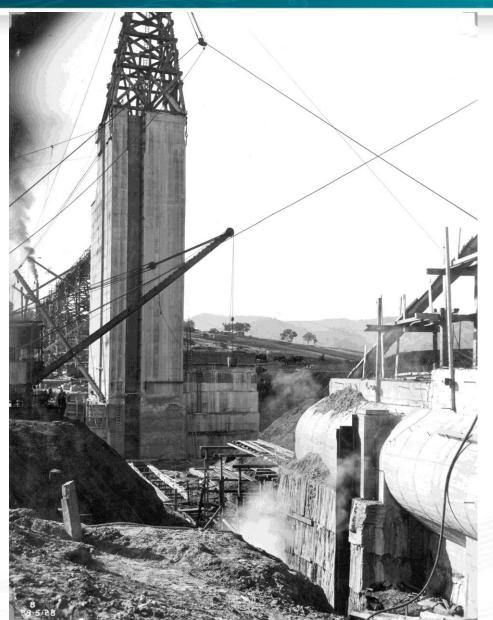


Includes camplets Waterlan hydrographic (ar better) quality data to October 2000 includive with the following esceptions.

McGoy's Bilder, Rochmiter, National Osamid, Rochdook Spillery, Karang Well, Capita Dousing, YMC, YMC Outlet, Apple South, Millione (October 2003) Rocks Well (September & Cataber 2003)

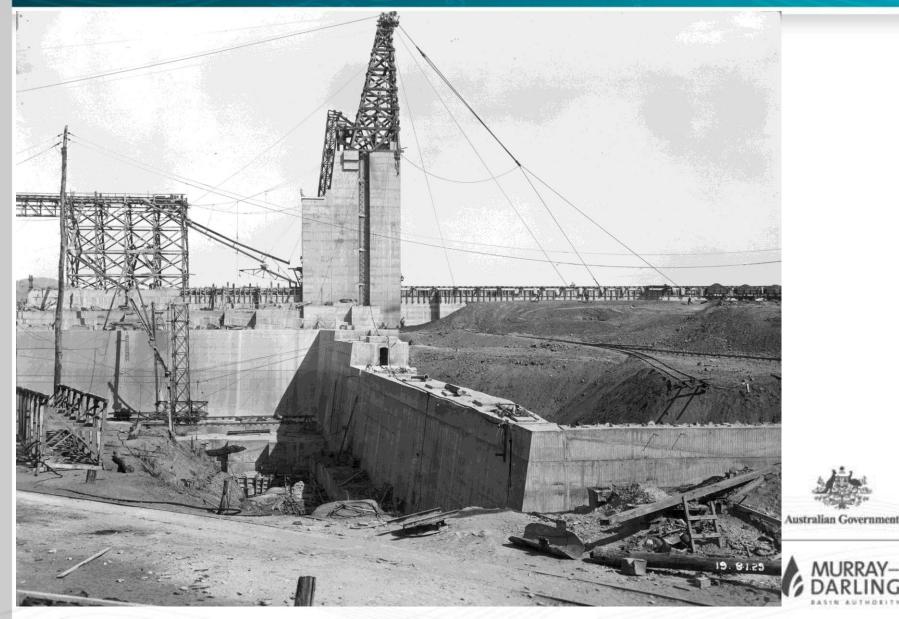


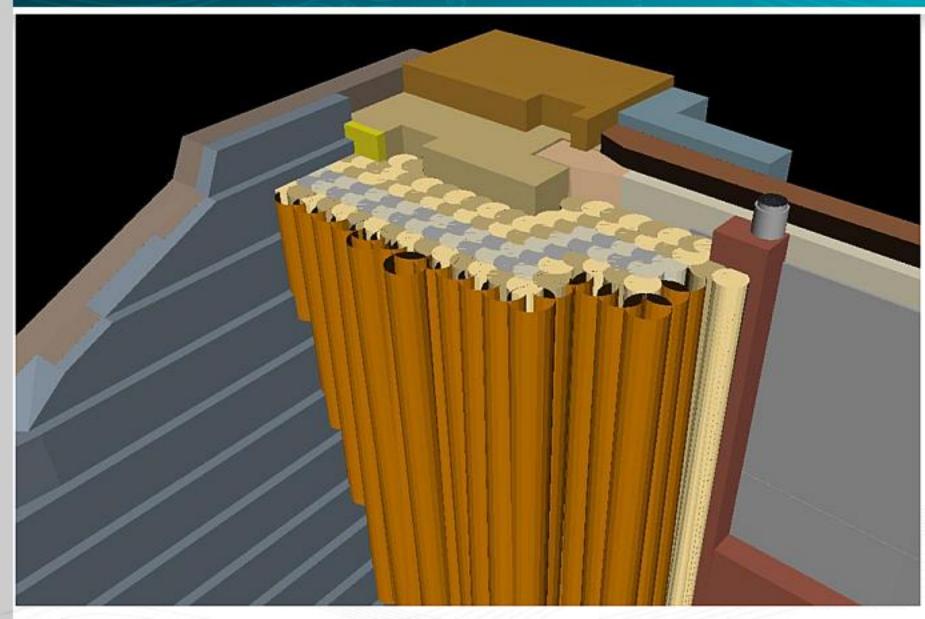


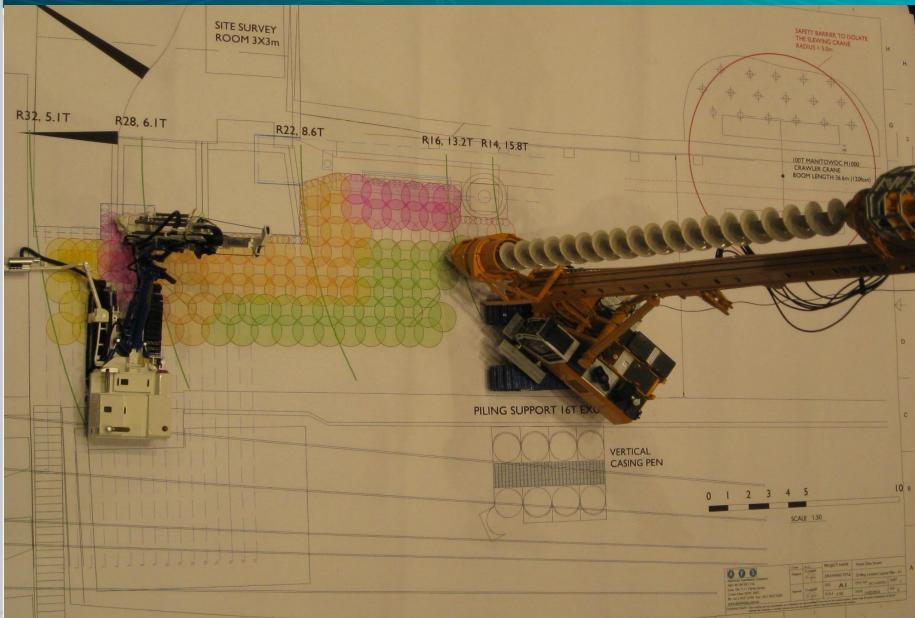


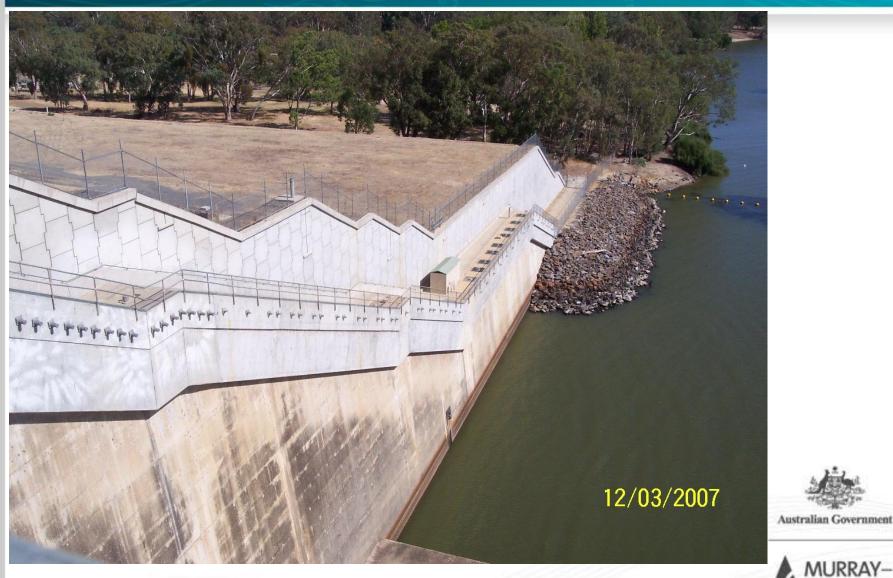


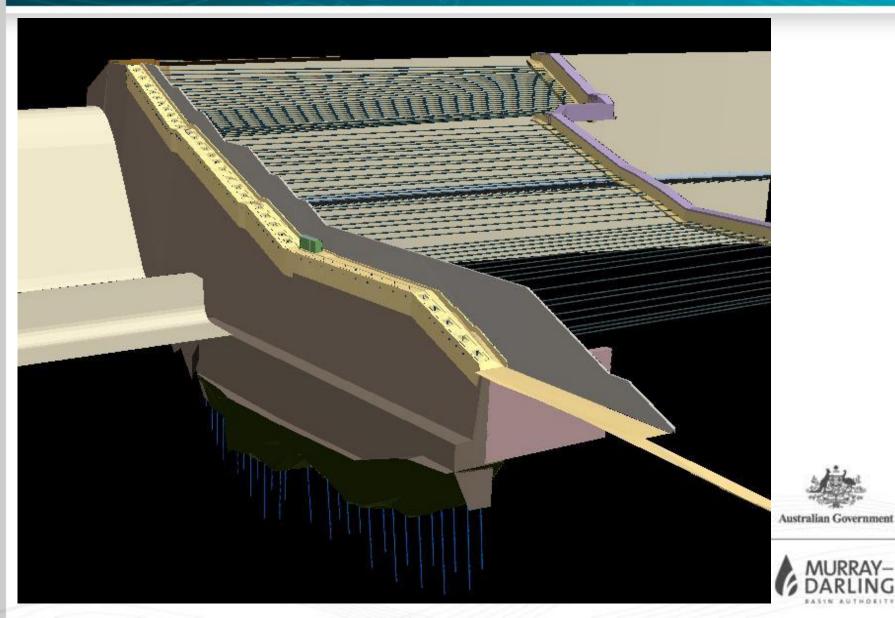


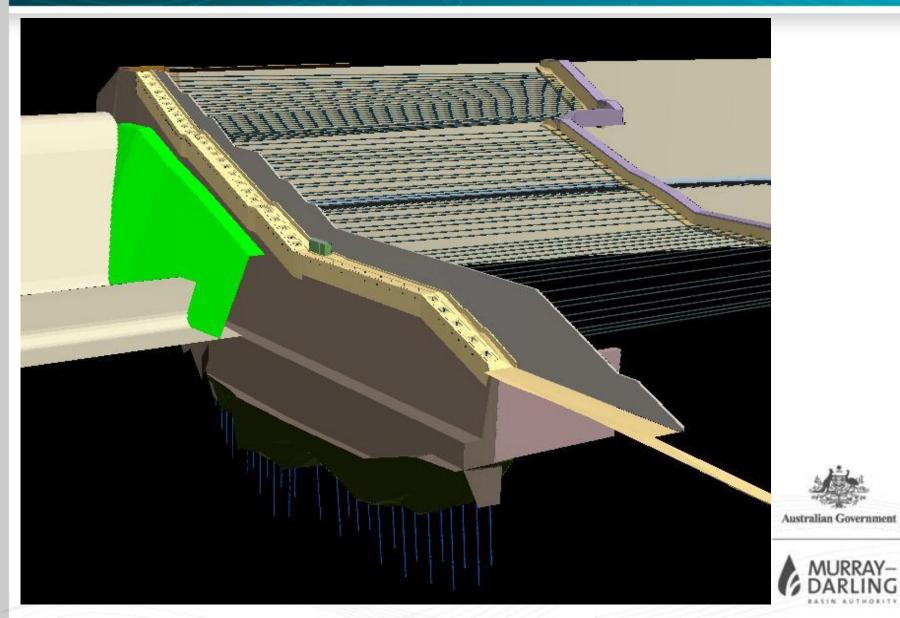
























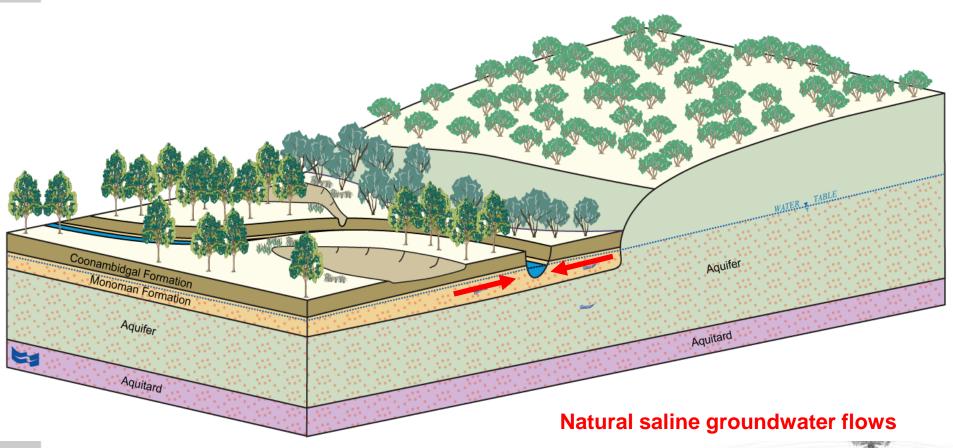






### **River SalinityCauses**

#### Pre – European Settlement



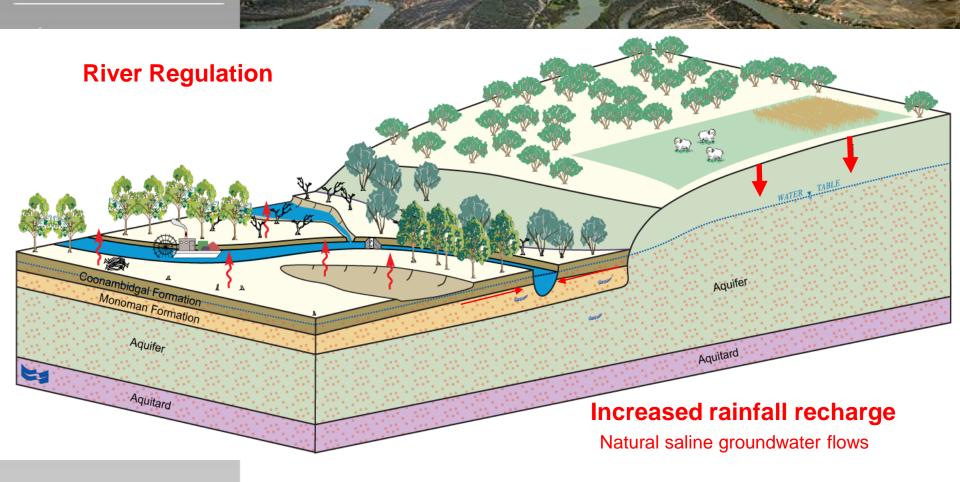
Australian Government





### **River Salinity - Causes**

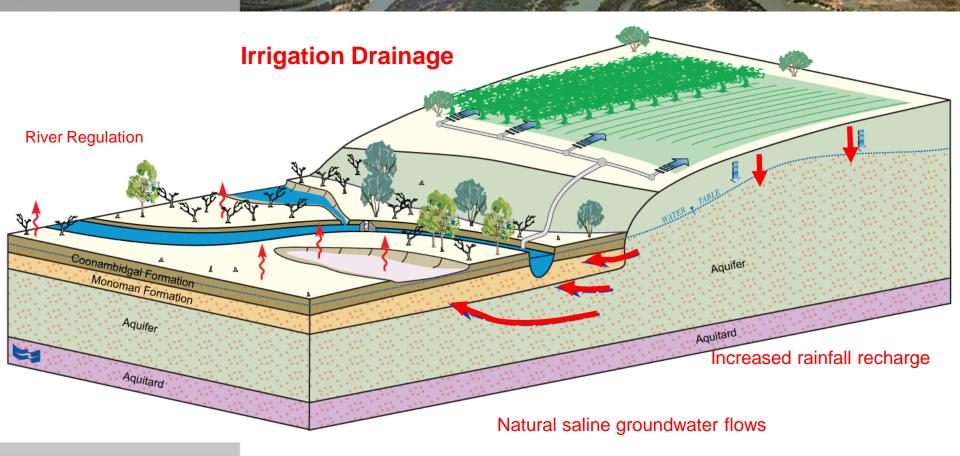
Post Lock Construction and Mallee Clearance





### **Causes of River Salinity**

Post Lock Construction and Mallee Clearance with Irrigation





# **Options for Salinity Control**

- River flow management
- Targeted revegetation
- Dryland farming practice changes
- Conservation of existing native vegetation
- Improved irrigation delivery and efficiency
- Direct new development to lower impact areas
- Salt Interception Schemes

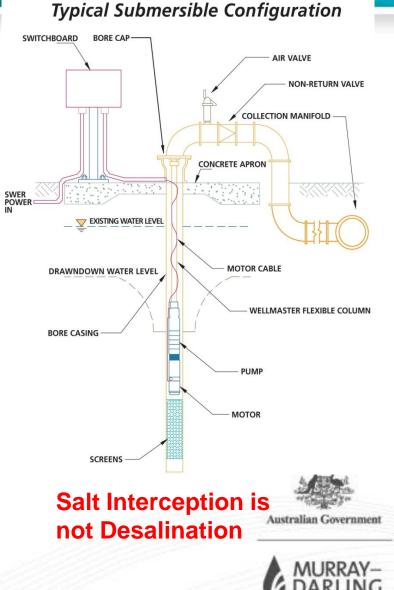




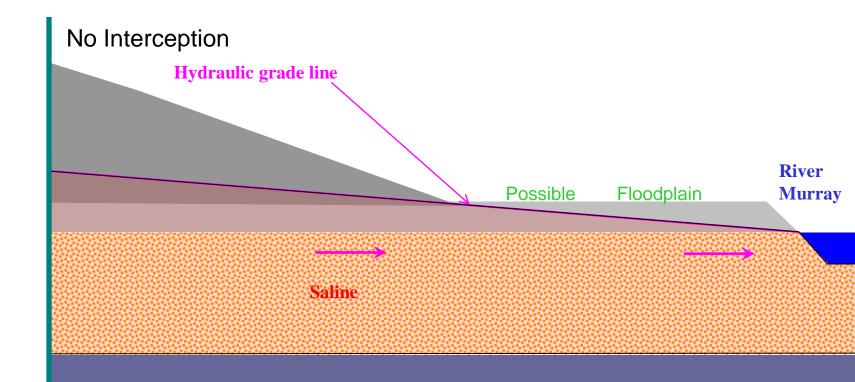
### Salt Interception What is it ?

Large scale
 Groundwater
 pumping &
 drainage schemes
 that intercept saline
 water flow before it
 enters the River
 Murray system





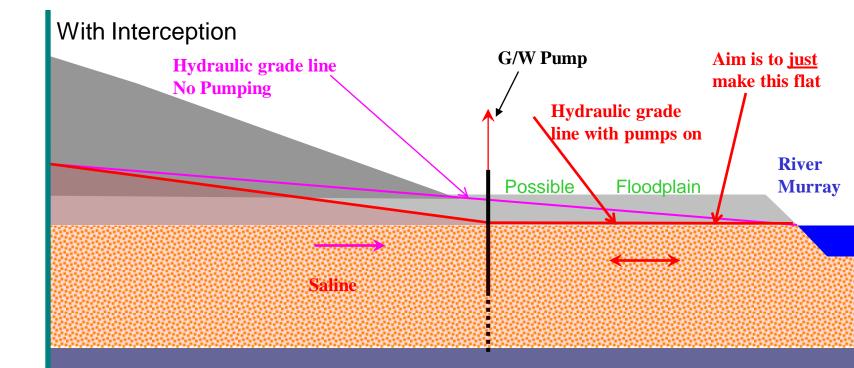
### Salt Interception – How Does it Work?







### Salt Interception – How does it Work?







### Salt Interception Schemes





Australian Government



### Salt Interception Schemes





### Salt Interception Schemes

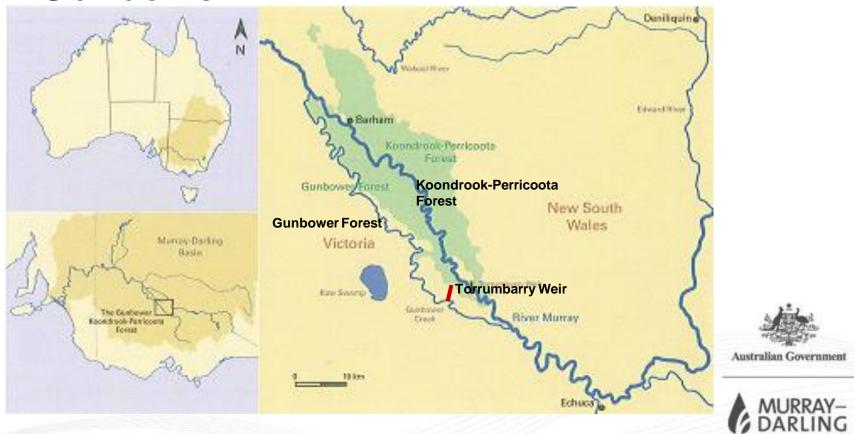


Australian Government

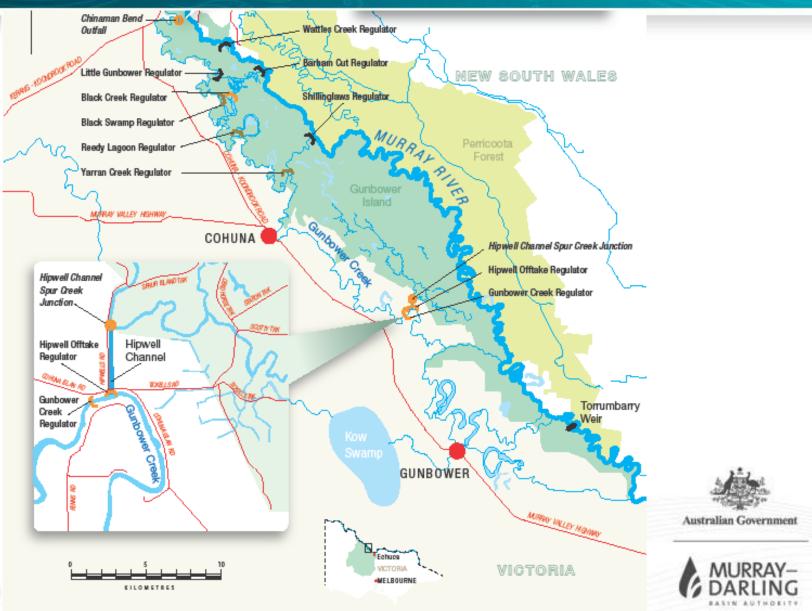


### **Environmental Works & Measures**

- Koondrook-Perricoota
- Gunbower



### **Gunbower Works**



# **KPF Works**

- Upstream Works
  - 3.8 Km inlet channel
  - Inlet regulator and fishway
  - 2 regulators at Swan Lagoon
- Downstream Works
  - 5 Stop Log regulators
  - 42km levee bank
  - Return channel and regulator
  - 3 By-washes



### Koondrook watering extent

