

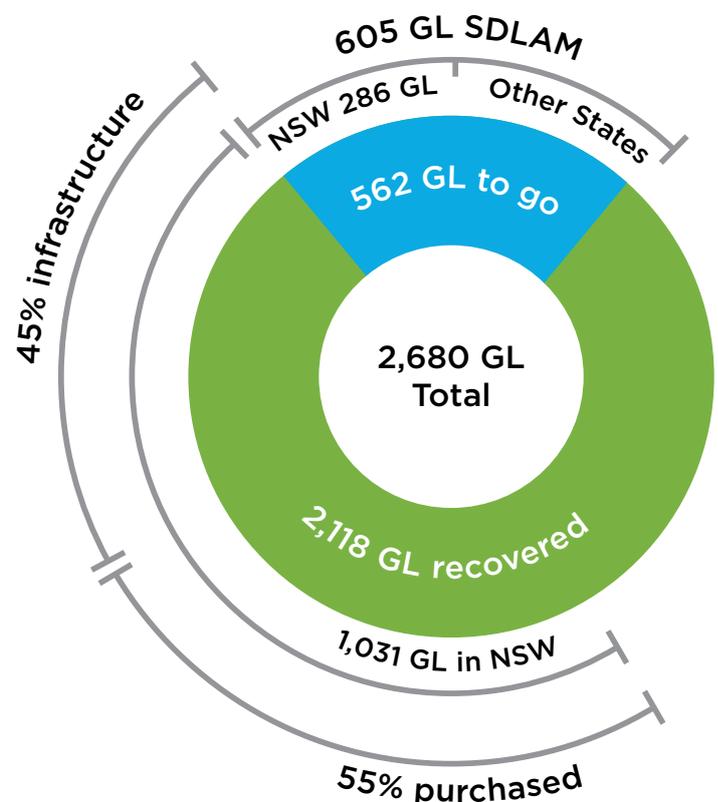
## Water recovery in the Murray–Darling Basin

The Basin Plan outlines how much water can be taken from the Murray–Darling Basin while leaving enough to maintain the health of rivers, lakes, and wetlands within the system.

In order to achieve this objective, the Basin Plan aims to return 2,680 gigalitres (GL) of water to the environment—the total recovery target.

### Key facts and progress to date

- The total recovery target is 2,680 GL
- 605 GL of the target can be offset through the SDLAM
- 2,118 GL has already been recovered
- 1,031 GL of this has been recovered from NSW
- NSW share of the total target is 1,276 GL
- 286 GL of the target can be offset in NSW through the SDLAM
- 45% of water recovery in NSW has been through infrastructure projects
- The other 55% of water recovered in NSW has been through water purchase



The 2,680 GL target was adjusted from 2,750 GL following the Northern Basin Review.

Through the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM), the Murray–Darling Basin Authority has determined that 605 GL can be offset through supply measure projects. These projects deliver equivalent environmental outcomes without requiring additional water to be removed from productive use.

Most of this infrastructure recovery in NSW has been in the Southern Basin. The latest figures indicate that there is a relatively small amount of local recovery remaining in the northern valleys of NSW. This is likely to be between 10 and 20 GL.

The department would like to acknowledge the significant and ongoing effort of NSW industry and our basin communities to support water recovery in the Murray-Darling Basin.