

Koondrook-Perricoota Flow Enabling Works Project

The Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism

The Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) is a program designed to achieve similar or improved environmental outcomes for rivers, wetlands and wildlife using less water. Part of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan (Basin Plan), SDLAM can be achieved through supply measures, including constraints, or efficiency measures.

In 2017, the Basin states and the Australian Government agreed a package of 36 SDLAM projects across the southern connected Murray-Darling Basin, which aim to recover 605 GL of water each year for the river system.

Of these, the NSW Government is the lead or co-proponent for 21 projects. These projects are being delivered in collaboration with local communities and key stakeholders, including other Basin states, with funding from the Australian Government.

The SDLAM Acceleration Program

To date, 12 of NSW Government's SDLAM projects are complete or nearly complete and are delivering Basin Plan outcomes. The water recovered through these projects is already having positive impacts for Basin communities.

Building on this progress, the NSW Government is proposing to bring forward \$320 million worth of its remaining SDLAM projects through the NSW SDLAM Acceleration Program (the Acceleration Program). This program will remove barriers and streamline construction funding to allow the delivery of five projects by June 2024.

The projects being proposed for accelerated include the:

- Sustainable Diversion Limit offsets in the Lower Murray: Locks 8 & 9 Project
- Yanco Creek Modernisation Project (Modernising Supply Systems for Effluent Creeks Project)
- Murrumbidgee & Murray National Park Project
- Koondrook-Perricoota Flow Enabling Works Project
- Mid-Murray Anabranes Constraints Demonstration Reach Project.

This Acceleration Program will deliver up to 45 GL of the outstanding amount needed to reach the 605 GL target required by the Basin Plan each year, delivering strong ecological outcomes for the Murray-Darling Basin.

These proposed projects will also play a key role in creating jobs in regional areas, generating an estimated 450 direct and 850 indirect regional jobs, and will provide a much-needed boost to the regional economies where the projects are being delivered.

About the Koondrook-Perricoota Flow Enabling Works Project

The Koondrook-Perricoota Flow Enabling Works Project (the Koondrook-Perricoota Project) is one of the projects to be brought forward through the proposed SDLAM Acceleration Program.

It aims to reinstate flows to the Koondrook-Perricoota Forest, which is next to the Murray River. It will improve and protect forest health by working collaboratively with the community to develop an

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adaptive flow management regime and plan to increase flows through the forest. A constraint is any physical, policy or operational barrier limiting water flows in river systems.

While the majority of works are already in place as a result of The Living Murray program, further work is required to establish a flow regime plan and deliver appropriate infrastructure to divert and control flows from the Murray River through the forest.

The project will include:

- constructing of 6.2km of critical levee enabling higher flows to be delivered via existing TLM offtake channel
- removing and replacing of Sandy Bridge (over Barbers Creek) to allow increased load limit and subsequent removal of upstream block bank crossing
- removing and replacing of Woodara and Widderin block banks with structures enabling higher passing flows
- replacing the Bookit and Merribit regulators enabling the passing of increased flows with additional operational flexibility
- replacing Little Barbers Creek offtake regulator (Culvert) to increase capacity and enable higher passing flows
- replacing the Thule Lagoon Regulator to protect private property and increase efficiency of water delivery.

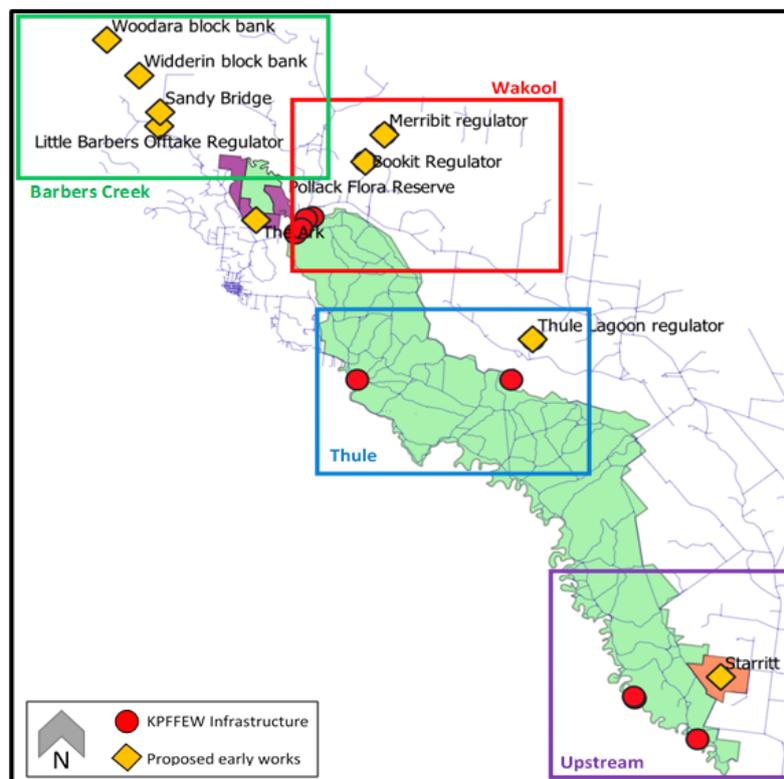


Figure 1 - Map of proposed works for Koondrook-Perricoota project

For more information on the Koondrook-Perricoota Flow Enabling Project, and to view a map of the project area, visit dpie.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/koondrook-perricoota-forest-project

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Project timelines

The project is currently in the strategic assessment phase. By accelerating this package of works it is anticipated the project will be complete by March 2024.

Benefits

The project will complement and complete the existing infrastructure investment within the Koondrook- Perricoota Forest, creating significant benefits, including:

- large environmental benefits for the forest
- improved habitat for native fish
- enhanced cultural learning opportunities
- enhanced tourism opportunities
- enhanced recreational opportunities.

Consultation

The NSW Government will work collaboratively with local landholders and communities to:

- progress several smaller infrastructure projects including replacing Sandy Creek bridge, addressing inundation extent, and resolving issues around several instream structures
- meet the engagement and information needs of stakeholders
- develop opportunities for ongoing local involvement through citizen science projects
- develop a pathway forward through collaboration to achieve enhanced ecological outcomes.

More information

For more information on the SDLAM Acceleration Program call 1300 081 047 or visit dpie.nsw.gov.au/sdlam

[Subscribe for updates](#) on the SDLAM program

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