Southern Basin

Split session
Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs)

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Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs)

- Referred to as Unimplemented Policy Measures in the *Basin Plan 2012* (s7.15)
- Must be in place by 30 June 2019
- Maximises the benefits of supply measures projects under the SDL Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM)
- In NSW, PPMs must be in place in the regulated Murray-Lower Darling & Murrumbidgee River systems
Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs)

PPMs are two new methods for managing environmental water:

- **Environmental flow reuse** - the ability to credit environmental flows that are returned to the water source so that water can be used for downstream environmental use
PPM1: Piggybacking

- Allows the release of water from a nominated storage

- Piggy-backing has the potential to affect reliability in both positive and negative ways

- It is anticipated that ordering water in this way will require negotiation between the river operator and environmental users on an event-by-event basis.
PPM2: Environmental flow reuse (re-crediting)

• To recognise and credit the return flow of water to a river downstream of an environmental watering

• Protect these return flows from extraction and re-regulation

• “Combination debiting” provides a balance between guaranteeing deliveries and avoiding unacceptable impacts

• Where usage can be accurately measured, delivery losses will be socialised (as for all other water users)
PPM2: Environmental flow reuse (re-crediting)

- Where usage cannot be accurately measured, delivery losses will be assigned to the licence holder placing the order
- Recognises movement of environmental water between systems
Combination Debiting

Legend
- Flow of water
- Delivery path
- Socialised losses
- Unsocialised losses
- Debit point

End of system

Water order and debiting site (or delivery point further upstream)

Environmental site (inaccurate)

Environmental site (accurate)

Storage
NSW principles for implementing PPMs

1. NSW will implement PPMs to the extent that impacts on third party licensed access rights can be mitigated or offset, whilst aiming to optimise environmental outcomes

2. NSW will develop operational tools that are simple, practical to implement, and cost effective

3. The reliability and access characteristics of licensed entitlements held for environmental water purposes are the same as for other licensed entitlements

4. Adaptive management is required
Possible WSP provisions for PPMs

Piggybacking:

- Provisions to permit water users to request an order from a particular storage
- Rule to reflect approach to managing risks (effect on reliability, managing peak flows)
Possible WSP provisions for PPMs

Environmental flow reuse:

• Debiting rules for environmental flow reuse through combination debiting
• Define environmental sites with ‘accurate’ measurement
• Provisions to accommodate improvements in measurement during term of WSP (adaptive)
• New rules to recognise and protect HEW moving from one water source to another
PPM implementation in the River Murray

River Murray

Cwth legislat’n  Objectives & Outcomes document  Annual operating plan  Annual watering plan

NSW

NSW legislat’n

MLD WRP area

MLD WSP  PPM Procedure manual  Annual operating plan  Annual watering plan

River Murray PPM IP  SA PPM IP  Vic PPM IP  NSW PPM IP
Where to from here?

- Draft PPMIP deemed to have met the requirements of s7.15 of the Basin Plan
- Evaluate impacts and further identify mitigation measures
- Consultation
- Draft WSP rules
- PPM Implementation Procedure Procedure Manuals