

This project is delivered under the Murray–Darling Basin Plan by the NSW Government, through funding from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment.

Meeting 3, 12 March 2020, Jerilderie

The Yanco Community Advisory Group (YCAG) discussed planning for two Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) projects associated with the Yanco Creek System that aim to deliver equivalent environmental outcomes using less water.

- Yanco Creek Offtake Project
- Modernising Supply Systems For Effluent Creeks - Murrumbidgee River Project

Attended by an independent Chair (Norm McAllister) and representatives from the Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council (YACTAC) (Tanya Thompson, Bob Crawford), Leeton Shire Council (Jackie Kruger), Narrandera Shire Council (Deputy Mayor David Fahey), Federation Council (Mayor Patrick Bourke), Murrumbidgee Council (Mayor Ruth McRae), Edward River Council (Mayor Norm Brennan), Creek Country Alliance (Richard Sleight), Colombo Ski Club (Jim Morgan), Murrumbidgee Field Naturalists (Nella Smith) and NSW Farmers Association (Richard Coughlin).

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment staff present included David Leslie (Principal Project Officer), David Clarke (Senior Project Officer) and Rod Hardwick (Senior Project Officer).

Meeting summary

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Presentation and discussion on the Options Evaluation Framework (OEF). The OEF will identify a short list of options for detailed investigation considerate of project objectives, environmental, economic, social and cultural values. The categories, criteria and potential weightings of each was discussed.
- A visioning exercise was completed for environmental, economic, social and cultural values. This exercise is intended to help determine appropriate weightings and potential new sub-categories in the OEF.
- The group discussed how best to approach consultation so the community may propose new, and review existing, project options. Consultation to occur from May 2020. The project team will provide proposed consultation approach for discussion at next YCAG meeting.
- The group discussed the external review on group classification and membership remuneration which recommended:
 - a reduction in YACTAC membership from three to two;
 - a reduction in the number of council members from five to two;
 - the addition of two Aboriginal representatives;
 - the addition of a tourism representative; and
 - change the name of the advisory group to stakeholder advisory group.
- YCAG recognises the importance of local First Nations involvement and participation in Yanco SDLAM.
- The next meeting will be held at Jerilderie on the 9 April 2020.

Please contact Rod Hardwick on rod.hardwick@dpie.nsw.gov.au for further information

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