

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, 26 February 2020, Wagga Wagga

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

- Improved Flow Management Works at the Murrumbidgee River – Yanco Creek Offtake
- Modernising Supply Systems for Effluent Creeks – Murrumbidgee River
- Computer Aided River Management (CARM) System for the Murrumbidgee River

The group acknowledged the land at Wagga Wagga where the meeting was held as the Traditional Homelands of the Wiradjuri people.

The meeting followed an informal field tour of the Yanco Creek Offtake Project for members of the Yanco Technical Advisory Group and Yanco Community Advisory Group that had not previously seen the site.

David Leslie from NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment chaired the meeting. In attendance: Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council (Tanya Thompson, Dale McNeil), the department's Environment, Energy and Science Division (James Maguire, Anthony Conallin), NSW Department of Primary Industries - Fisheries (Luke Pearce, David Hohnberg, Nathan Reynoldson), Coleambally Irrigation Co-operative Limited (Steve Oosthuysen), Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (Oliver Clark, Jake Smith), Murray–Darling Basin Authority (Leah Ross, Matt Woodward), Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (Luke Taylor, Michele Groat), National Parks and Wildlife Service (Tim O'Kelly) and other staff from the department (Rachel Blakers, Paul Weedon, Mark Rowe, David Clarke).

Meeting summary

The group:

- Welcomed new representatives.
- Workshopped the group's current and future vision for the Yanco Creek System from social, environmental, economic and cultural perspectives.
 - This information will support informed decision-making regarding project options to be assessed under an Options Evaluation Framework currently under development.
- The next meeting will focus on an updated draft of the Options Evaluation Framework.
- A presentation from Murray Darling Basin Authority regarding SDLAM modelling was provided to the group.
- A presentation from the department's Water Group on the development of a computer model for the Yanco Creek System was also provided. This will be an important tool to assess various project options.

The next meeting is scheduled for 25 March 2020.