



MURRUMBIDGEE SURFACE WATER RESOURCE PLAN

Murrumbidgee water resource plan consultation report

Schedule C

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Murrumbidgee water resource plan consultation report

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More information

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Aboriginal acknowledgement

The New South Wales Government proudly acknowledges the Aboriginal community of NSW and their rich and diverse culture and pays respect to their Elders past, present and future.

NSW acknowledges Aboriginal people as Australia's First Peoples, practising the oldest living culture on earth and as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters.

We acknowledge that the people of the Barapa Barapa, Muthi Muthi, Nari Nari, Nyeri Nyeri, Wadi Wadi, Walgalul, Wamba Wamba, Weki Weki and Wiradjuri Nations hold a significant connection to the lands in the Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan Area.

The Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan Area holds great areas of spiritual, cultural and economic importance to First Nations people and NSW recognises the connection of the water to the people of these nations.

We recognise the intrinsic connection of Traditional Owners to country and acknowledge their contribution to the management of the Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan Area's landscape and natural resources.

NSW Department of Industry understands the need for consultation and inclusion of Traditional Owner knowledge, values and uses in water quality planning to ensure we are working towards equality in objectives and outcomes.

NSW Department of Industry is committed to continued relationships and building strong partnerships with our First Nation People.

We thank the Elders and representatives of the Barapa Barapa, Muthi Muthi, Nari Nari, Nyeri Nyeri, Wadi Wadi, Walgalul, Wamba Wamba, Weki Weki and Wiradjuri Nations and Aboriginal community members who provided their knowledge throughout the planning process.

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1 Introduction

1.1 The role of the consultation report

Consultation with stakeholders and the community is at the forefront of the development of NSW water resource plans (WRPs). Consultation has been undertaken for each of the 20 surface water and groundwater WRPs being developed by NSW. The purpose of this report is to describe the consultation that was undertaken. Specifically, this report will detail the public consultation, both broad and targeted, that took place to further the development of the Murrumbidgee WRP and inform changes to the Murrumbidgee regulated and unregulated river Water Sharing Plans (WSPs).

1.2 The *Basin Plan 2012 (Water Act 2007 (Cwlth))*

The Murray–Darling *Basin Plan 2012* (the Basin Plan) provides a coordinated approach to managing water within the Murray–Darling Basin across Queensland, NSW, Australian Capital Territory, Victoria and South Australia. In NSW, the Basin Plan came into effect following the signing of Inter-governmental and National Partnership Agreements in 2014. As lead agency, NSW Department of Industry is working with the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) and NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI Fisheries) to implement the Basin Plan. It requires NSW to develop WRPs for each water resource area of the Murray–Darling Basin. The development of each WRP is guided by the requirements set out in Chapter 10 of the Basin Plan. Consultation and the views of local communities are an integral part of the preparation and development of WRPs. The following requirements of the Basin Plan are assessed in relation to consultation.

10.07 Consultation to be demonstrated

(1) A water resource plan prepared by a Basin State must contain a description of the consultation in relation to the plan (including in relation to any part of the plan), if any, that was undertaken before the State gave the plan to the Authority under subsection 63(1) of the Act.

10.26 Planning for environmental watering

(1) A water resource plan must provide for environmental watering to occur...
 (2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the water resource plan must be prepared having regard to:
 (b) the views of local communities, including bodies established by a Basin State that express community views in relation to environmental watering.

10.53 Consultation and preparation of water resource plan

(1) A water resource plan must be prepared having regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the matters identified under section 10.52.

1.3 Murrumbidgee WRP area

The Murrumbidgee WRP area is located in southern NSW and is based around the Murrumbidgee and Tumut Rivers, and a series of effluent creeks that comprise the Yanco Creek and Billabong Creek systems. The Tumut River is the major tributary of the Murrumbidgee River and it begins in the alpine landscape of Kosciusko National Park. The system’s watercourses flow west across south-west NSW to meet the Murray River. The catchment is bounded by the Great Dividing Range to the east, the Lower Darling region to the west, the Lachlan region to the north and the NSW Murray region to the south. The Murrumbidgee WRP covers all of the surface water resources of the Murrumbidgee River Valley (Figure 1). It includes the regulated river system; unregulated rivers flowing into the regulated river system; unregulated effluent rivers flowing out of the regulated river system on the plains and water captured by farm dams.

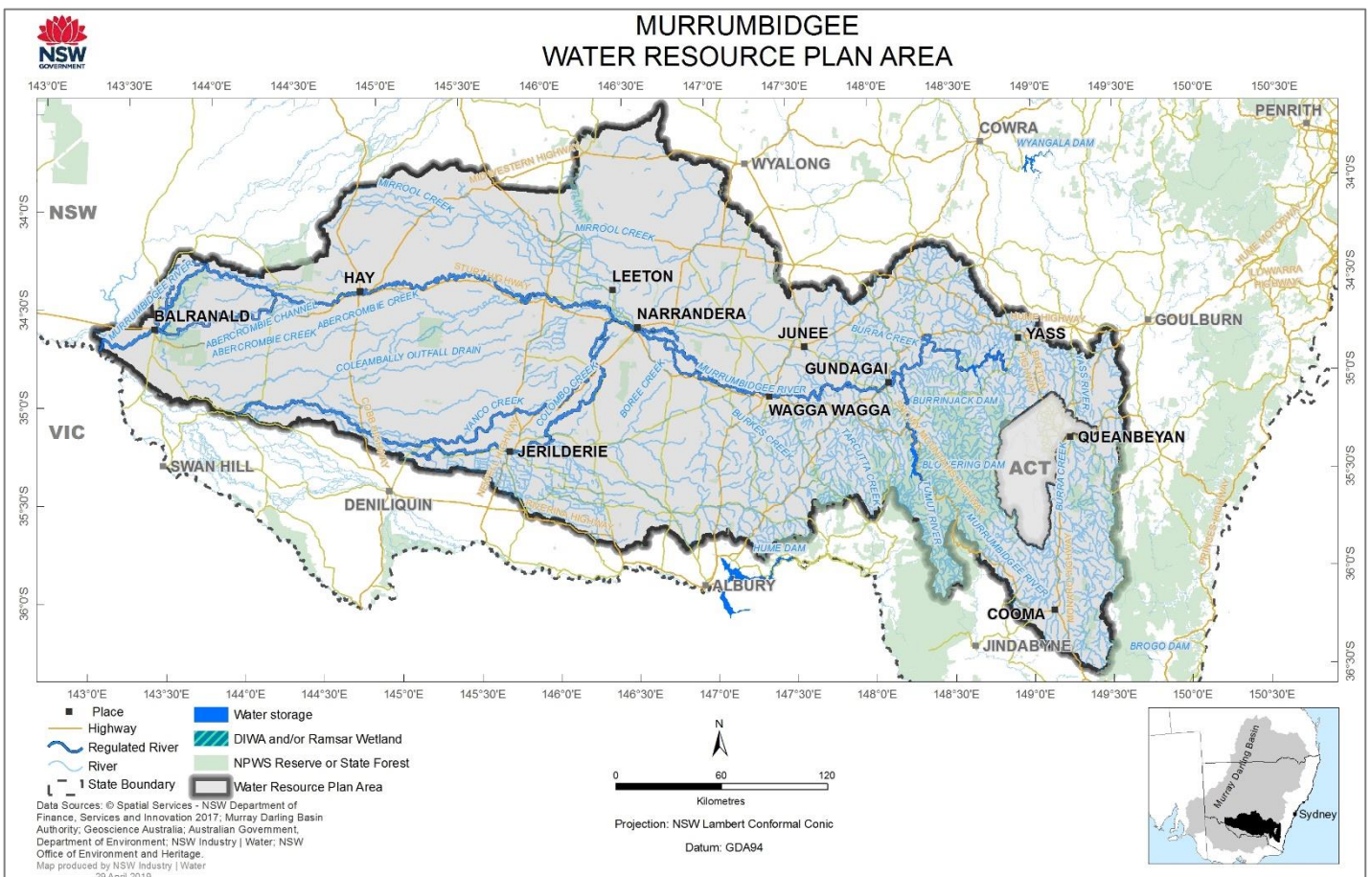


Figure 1 – SW9 Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan Area

2 Consultation

Stakeholder consultation is an essential part of the development of NSW WRPs and was undertaken throughout the development of the Murrumbidgee WRP. The general public and stakeholders had opportunity to provide comment during the early part of WRP development through the Status and issues phase (Section 2.1.1) and will again in the later stages of WRP development during the public exhibition phase (Section 2.1.2).

2.1 Broad public consultation

2.1.1 Status and issues phase

The *Murrumbidgee Water Resource Plan - Status and Issues Paper* (NSW Department of Industry, 2017) was released for public comment on 17 February 2017. The paper compiled the issues raised as part of the WSP replacement process in 2012-2014 and provided an opportunity for stakeholders to raise additional issues to be considered during the development of each WRP. The paper is available on the NSW Department of Industry website: www.industry.nsw.gov.au

Twenty four public submissions on this paper were received and within these submissions 214 issues were raised. Further examination and discussion was undertaken by NSW Department of Industry in order to prepare an Issues Assessment Report. The Issues Assessment Report presented issues raised as part of WSP replacement, as well as those raised through public exhibition of the Status and Issues Document. The report indicated whether an issue was to be considered further during the water resource planning process along with those not to be progressed and the reasons why. This information was presented to the Murrumbidgee WRP Stakeholder Advisory Panel (see Section 2.2.1) and informed decisions for option prioritisation, leading into the Strategy and Rule development phase of the WRP.

Key issues identified for consideration included:

- inclusion of measures and cease to pump rules to protect environmental and town water supply releases
- review the carryover rule for General Security to improve opportunity for trade.
- review of the maximum volume of water that can be credited to an access licence during a water year.
- review the taking of water without debit rule in clause 71.
- review planned environmental water (PEW) rules to provide simplicity.
- review priority of access rules to include consideration of environmental water allowances, with clear and equitable channel sharing arrangements.
- review EOS flow targets as well as the setting of flow targets along the Murrumbidgee system, to reflect more natural flows and seasonal timing.
- review supplementary access in the Lowbidgee area.
- re-establish access rights for supplementary water access licences arising from former Special Additional Licences.
- review rules relating to constraints management.
- review the existing channel capacity constraint at the Yanco Creek offtake for environmental purposes to allow for higher environmental flows.
- review the 5 km rule restricting dealings between supplementary water access zone boundaries.
- review the basis of the Yanco system trade limit.

2.1.2 Public exhibition phase

The amended WSPs for the Murrumbidgee regulated river water source and Murrumbidgee unregulated river water sources and the draft Murrumbidgee WRP are available for public comment as part of the public exhibition phase.

During this phase NSW Department of Industry will communicate with stakeholders in a number of ways:

- community meetings
- targeted consultation with specific groups directly affected by significant rule changes
- print and virtual media campaign.

NSW Department of Industry is seeking submissions on the draft WRP and amended WSPs. Supporting documents are available to provide context and background information.

Public submissions received on the draft WRP and amended WSPs will be uploaded to a submissions database system and will be considered when finalising the WRP. NSW Department of Industry will focus

on issues that are raised during public exhibition that have a material effect on the proposed changes.

2.2 Targeted consultation

Targeted consultation was undertaken for each surface water WRP, primarily through a stakeholder advisory panel (SAP). The SAP is the main mechanism to involve key stakeholders in the planning process for the regulated rivers. The SAPs provide a forum where competing interests can be aired and discussed to promote common understanding. Where further consultation was required, NSW Department of Industry also liaised directly with other representative groups or individuals such as identified experts, Aboriginal communities, local councils, local water users and other interest groups.

All aspects of WRP development, including the review of relevant water sharing arrangements, have been prepared with regard to the views of local communities on environmental watering. This has been achieved primarily through the SAP, where key components and proposed changes to water sharing rules have been considered and discussed in detail.

Proposals to change planned environmental water (PEW) rules were considered in close consultation with OEH and DPI Fisheries; consistent with WSP objectives and where possible using environmental water requirements in the draft long term watering plans (LTWPs) to ensure the best environmental outcomes using PEW.

2.2.1 Murrumbidgee WRP SAP

The main role of the SAP has been to help identify issues, examine options and provide NSW Department of Industry with feedback and advice throughout the development of WRPs. The Murrumbidgee SAP, established in April 2017, takes membership from the following stakeholder groups or interests:

- NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH)
- NSW Department of Primary Industries—Fisheries (DPI Fisheries)
- NSW Department of Industry
- WaterNSW
- Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)
- Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO)
- Riverina Eastern Regional Organisation of Councils (REROC)
- Indigenous representatives nominated by Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN).
- Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO)
- Environmental Water Advisory Group (EWAG)
- Ricegrowers Association of Australia (RGA)
- Murrumbidgee Irrigation Ltd (MI)
- Coleambally Irrigation Cooperative Ltd (CICL)
- Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Committee (YACTAC)
- Murrumbidgee Private Irrigators (MPI)

The SAP terms of reference can be viewed on the department's website at: industry.nsw.gov.au/water/plans-programs/water-resource-plans/stakeholder

Information and technical reports have been discussed with the SAP throughout WRP development. SAP meetings held as part of the Murrumbidgee WRP development and the key agenda items that were discussed at these meetings can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1 - Murrumbidgee WRP SAP Meetings

SAP Meeting	SAP Meeting Description	Location	Date
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WRP roadmap and timelines Revised SAP Terms of Reference (ToRs) Scope, roles and responsibilities Status and Issues document Issues assessment and multi-criteria analysis of options Strategy and rules development 	Griffith, NSW	10 April 2017
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource description WSP evaluation report Risk Assessment Issues Assessment report 	Griffith, NSW	19 July 2017
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues Assessment report Prioritisation methodology Baseline diversion limit (BDL) and pre basin plan (PBP) modelling reports 	Griffith, NSW	25-26 September 2017
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental flow rules in the Murrumbidgee regulated river Taking of water without debit under regulated river (General Security) access licences – Clause 71 Yanco Creek channel capacity constraints Progress update: PEW review proposal for MDBA WaterNSW review of Murrumbidgee Supplementary Access Trade Report Draft water quality technical report Draft salinity technical report Introduction to the Long term water plan (LTWP) Draft Incident Response Guide (IRG). 	Griffith, NSW	1-2 February 2018
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SDLAM Projects status report Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs) – principles, operational details, environmental watering trials Murrumbidgee LTWP Developing flows for fish Murrumbidgee inter-valley trade (IVT) account Supplementary trading zones Delivery rights in the Yanco Creek system Capacity and demand in the River Murray Long Term Diversion Limit Equivalence Progress against SAP's priority issues (at October 2017) 	Griffith, NSW	8-9 August 2018
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revised IRG and Extreme Events policy Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs) – enabling provisions, draft PPM procedures manual Proposed amendments to the WSP Aboriginal engagement for WRPs WRP packages and public exhibition Ecological objectives and Monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) plan for WRPs 	Griffith, NSW	14-15 November 2018

7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed WSP changes • Update to the BDL model, permitted take modelling • Water Quality Management Plan • Status of native fish in the Murrumbidgee • SDL Compliance • Pre-requisite Policy Measures (PPMs) • Socio-economic objectives • Long Term Watering Plan 	Griffith, NSW	10 -11 April 2019
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2.2.2 Workshops for all stakeholder advisory panels

NSW Department of Industry convened two ‘all stakeholder advisory panel’ workshops during the course of WRP development. Both workshops were held in Sydney, the first on 11 and 12 December 2017 and the second on 5 and 6 June 2018. Attendees included representatives from all stakeholder advisory panels involved in WRP development. Key NSW government agencies included OEH and DPI Fisheries. The MDBA and CEWO were also represented.

The first workshop covered the following topics:

- NSW Government’s response to recent reviews and how NSW Department of Industry will approach its responsibilities within the Murray–Darling Basin
- key NSW policy issues requiring resolution in order to progress WRP development
- role of modelling and planning assumptions in NSW’s water resource planning
- management of environmental water
- how SAPs and agencies can work together to deliver the water resource plans over the next 12–18 months.

The second workshop addressed unresolved matters identified as part of the first meeting. NSW Department of Industry provided an update on key reforms and shared information on the water resource planning process. The workshop provided an opportunity to seek stakeholder input and collaborate on critical issues.

Sessions focused on the following topics:

- revised state-wide planning assumptions (long term diversion equivalence factors)
- the WRP, including the LTWP, risk assessment and water quality management plan
- MDBA compliance framework
- Water Renewal Taskforce update
- First Nations engagement and Aboriginal cultural water
- Northern Basin floodplain harvesting, the northern watering event, Southern Basin sustainable diversion limit adjustment mechanism (SDLAM) projects and Pre-requisite policy measures (PPMs)
- groundwater policy update.

2.3 Long-term watering plan

OEH is developing long-term water plans (LTWPs) across all nine NSW Murray–Darling Basin catchments. These plans link to the basin-scale plans developed by the MDBA, and include detailed objectives, targets and watering requirements for priority species and processes within, and between, catchments.

A key element in the development of the LTWPs was consultation with Environmental Water Advisory Groups (EWAGs). These groups are established by OEH in the majority of NSW’s regulated catchments and are made up of riparian landholders, representatives of Aboriginal organisations, irrigators and relevant government agencies. They meet to discuss watering options and test scenarios - to ensure river and wetland health outcomes are maximised through the use of environmental water.

The development of the LTWP involved incorporating the best available information and scientific advice. In addition to the consultation undertaken with EWAGs, OEH has sought feedback from other various stakeholders, including:

- Stakeholder Advisory Panels established to input into Water Resource Plan development
- Interagency Consultation Groups, established in each LTWP catchment, that include relevant agency staff and scientists with expertise in the area
- Other key regional stakeholder groups.

Consultation undertaken by OEH is guided by a communications and engagement strategy. This ensures that OEH meets the community's expectations surrounding information on environmental water and its management.

The draft Murrumbidgee LTWP will be placed on public exhibition at the same time as the draft Murrumbidgee WRP to ensure efficient stakeholder engagement. OEH will consider all feedback when finalising the Murrumbidgee LTWP.

3 First Nations consultation

The Murrumbidgee WRP area is located within the traditional lands of, and is significant to, the Barapa Barapa, Muthi Muthi, Nari Nari, Nyeri Nyeri, Wadi Wadi, Walgalul, Wamba Wamba, Weki Weki and Wiradjuri Nations and traditional owners. NSW Department of Industry has committed to engaging and consulting with various nations to identify and record objectives and outcomes in regard to Aboriginal spiritual and cultural values and uses within the Murrumbidgee WRP area. Consultation undertaken followed a nation-based model, which allows individual Nations to contribute to WRPs and assist the government to make better decisions in water planning.

NSW Department of Industry engaged the services of a number of consultancy firms to facilitate the gathering of cultural information from traditional owners. The consultation and report status, and the consultant engaged, is listed in Table 2. The consultation reports will become available as appendices to this report as they are finalised.

The NSW Department of Industry acknowledges that we are yet to complete consultation with all the First Nations in the Murrumbidgee WRP area. The WRP will not be provided to the Commonwealth Minister for accreditation until we have completed consultation with all the First Nations in Murrumbidgee WRP area or exhausted all avenues to complete the consultation.

Table 2 - Status of Nation consultations and reports

Nation	Consultant	Consultation Status	Consultation Report Status	Appendix
Wadi Wadi	SSBS	Complete	Complete	A
Nari Nari	Eurah	Complete	Complete	B
Muthi Muthi	ORC-Sevenseas	In progress	In progress	C
Barapa Barapa	ORC-Sevenseas	In progress	Not started	D
Wiradjuri	WSP	In progress	In progress	E
Nyeri Nyeri	TBC	In progress	Not started	F
Walgalul	TBC	In progress	Not started	G
Wamba Wamba	TBC	In progress	Not started	H
Weki Weki	SSBS	In progress	Not started	I

3.1 Wadi Wadi Nation

Wadi Wadi Nation boundaries cross over three surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to the Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process was underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration

- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.1.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews were undertaken with senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Wadi Wadi Nation in October and November 2018. Senior TOs who participated in the face-to-face interviews were drawn from three different categories: grassroots, native title, and suggestions from interview participants. Nine TOs participated in these interviews. In total, these Traditional Owners represented seven different family groups, represented over 5,000 people and spoke for a broad range of communities and different areas of Wadi Wadi Nation Country. The Nation Organisers are included as participants. These interviews assisted in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops held in October 2018.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix A.

3.1.2 Workshops

Following the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops were held in Swan Hill in October 2018. These workshops gave NSW Department of Industry the opportunity to engage with the wider Wadi Wadi community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Murrumbidgee WRP area. Common themes were used to guide discussion in the workshops. These were established during the face-to-face interviews and included:

- Water is Life
- Care of Waterways
- Cultural Connections
- Accessibility
- First Nations Management
- Stewardship

A total of 64 people representing the Nation attended the workshops. Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix A (Table 2). In addition to Wadi Wadi participants, representatives from Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations, NSW Department of Industry and OEH also attended the workshops.

As a result of this two-step consultation process Wadi Wadi Nation's values and uses were identified. The risks to those values and uses were acknowledged and these were further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix A).

3.1.3 Consultation outcomes

Successful outcomes included a total of 36 Wadi Wadi people consulted, representing a broad set of families; the use of data agreements to safeguard First Nations' Cultural Knowledge; engagement with a nation-based traditional governance model; and comprehensive findings. Participants gave positive feedback about new Nation-based consultation processes. A series of recommendations suggest improvements for future consultations to make them more culturally appropriate.

The consultation with the Wadi Wadi Nation satisfied the Basin-Plan outcomes as demonstrated in Table 3 and described throughout Section 1 of the *Murrumbidgee Surface WRP* and Appendix A.

Table 3 - Wadi Wadi Nation consultation outcomes

Requirement	Outcome
Demonstrate that the WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Aboriginal people.	<p>NSW Department of Industry completed Nations consultation in conjunction with MLDRIN. The process developed objectives and outcomes that have respect for social, spiritual and cultural values and uses for water resources.</p> <p>An overview of the objectives and values are in Chapter 1 Section 1.2.3 Table 1.2 of the Murrumbidgee WRP. Detailed information on the objectives and outcomes considered in respect of values and uses can be found in Section 6 of Appendix A.</p>
That consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN)	<p>Consultation was undertaken with relevant Indigenous organisations such as MLDRIN and LALCs. MLDRIN played a key role in the consultation and were brought on-board to be nation organisers and had an important role in phases 3 and 4 of the process. NSW Department of Industry worked with MLDRIN to appoint a Nation Organiser to suggest appropriate Traditional Owners to engage with. The engagement approach taken was guided by MLDRIN and accepted cultural protocols, and relied heavily on the Wadi Wadi Nation Organisers. MLDRIN representatives were present at all workshops. Development of the stakeholder list also involved a desktop analysis of external and internal governance structures, including Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs), Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS), committees and social media groups. Further information on this is described throughout Appendix A.</p>
That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements provided for by the Native Title Act 1993 in relation to the waterresources of the WRPA	<p>Discussions on native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements and the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> in relation to the water resources of the Murrumbidgee area were held throughout the consultation.</p> <p>A letter was sent out to NTS Corp to advise on further consultations on country and how they would like to be engaged.</p> <p>Community WRP workshops were held (Appendix A) and invitations were emailed to a wide range of people and organisations including Native Title applicants and claimants.</p>
That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to registered Aboriginal heritage relating to the water resources of the WRPA	<p>Local Aboriginal Lands Councils were invited via email, opportunities arose for them to speak of any listed sites on the heritage register throughout the workshop sessions.</p>
That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan	<p>NSW Department of Industry directly engaged with MLDRIN to engage a Nation Organiser to suggest appropriate Traditional Owners to engage with. The consultation process utilised a representative from MLDRIN for the Wadi Wadi Nation.</p> <p>Refer to Chapter 1, Section 1.7.1 of the Murrumbidgee Surface Water WRP and Appendix A.</p>

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives

Appendix A in Section 8 details the various objectives that were identified with the desired outcomes and also outlines strategies to achieve these outcomes. Objectives and values are summarised in Table 1.2 of the WRP.

It was of high importance that the consultation process was culturally appropriate. Traditional Owners that were interviewed gave guidance on culturally appropriate venues within towns, cultural protocols to be followed and culturally appropriate communication techniques. Eight principles were developed to assist with this:

- respect for contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty

These principles can be mapped against the MDBA Part 14 Guidelines and Best Practice Methods employed are outlined in Appendix A (Table 3).

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people

NSW Department of Industry followed cultural protocols to ensure active and informed participation of Indigenous people.

In the First Nations Consultation, the Gomeroi people were encouraged to attend three workshops in one location. Culturally appropriate consultation required Senior Traditional Owners to be appointed through a Nation Organiser (MLDRIN) and be interviewed prior to other stakeholders. In this interview they were encouraged to provide the department with guidance about how they would like the interview conducted, including choice of venue, food, recording options and a walk 'On Country'. A stakeholder list was developed and the wider Wadi Wadi community were invited to participate in workshops, where Traditional Owners were invited to provide input on the identified risks, objectives and outcomes based on their water-dependent values and uses. These workshops were also a platform to give information about the water planning process and build a relationship for future consultation.

More detail on the engagement process is Chapter 1, Section 1.7.1 of the WRP and Appendix A.

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area?

The First Nation consultation determined that the Wadi Wadi Nation see the following as their main risks to water-dependent values and uses:

- Connectivity-physical, spiritual and respect for all lifeforms including the land and water itself
- Animals
- Plants
- Physical and emotional well-being
- Inadequate, ineffective and poorly managed

waterways

- Restricted and problematic access to waterways
- Custodial First Nations Ownership
- Problem solving for water ways

The risks to Indigenous Values and Uses are outlined in Table 1.3 of the WRP and Section 7 of Appendix A.

That the consultation have regard to the views of Indigenous people with respect to cultural flows

Throughout the First Nations consultation, cultural flows and access to flows was a key theme as the culture and identity of Wadi Wadi people is strongly connected to water. Cultural practices and events such as community gatherings and corroborees, healing properties are supported by cultural flows. The Wadi Wadi people have a strong spiritual connection to water and it is integral to their physical and emotional wellbeing. Workshop participants reported strong feelings of water bodies acting as calmatives, relaxing and de-stressing them when feeling low or anxious. Older Wadi Wadi nation members recalled physical well-being when they were able to access waterways and maintain physical activity on a regular basis, for food gathering and recreational purposes.

The consultation determined that the Wadi Wadi people would like to see flows return naturally to the river to improve water quality, river health and biodiversity. A participant mentioned that they drank the water until the 1980s, and used to be able to catch great fish to eat, however now all they can catch is carp. They would like to have input into the management of the waterways. It was mentioned that they had restored, through funding, Perricoota, a dried out wetland which saw a revival of bird life, however now there is no one on ground to protect it.

The Wadi Wadi people would like to have a water allocation specifically for their Nation and its cultural needs. NSW Department of Industry is working with MDBA and MLDRIN regarding this, and consultations to codify cultural flows into the relevant WSPs will be continued. Additional consultation is underway as part of the Basin Plan commitments package following the Basin Plan Amendment deal. This is discussed in section 1.7.1 of the WRP and Appendix A.

3.2 Nari Nari Nation

The Nari Nari Nation boundaries cross over two surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process was underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes

- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.2.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews was undertaken with senior Traditional Owners from the Nari Nari Nation in October 2018. Participants were drawn from four categories – grassroots, Local Aboriginal Land Council, Nari Nari Tribal council and suggestions from other interview participants. Four Traditional Owners participated in these interviews in Hay and Nimmie-Caira. They represented their own family groups and spoke for a broad range of communities and different areas of the Nari Nari Nation. The interviews assisted in formulating the discussion undertaken and cultural protocols to follow in the workshops held in November 2018.

The process involved in identifying senior Traditional Owners, the questions they were asked and the feedback they provided can be reviewed in detail in Appendix B.

3.2.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, a First Nation consultation workshop was held in Hay in November 2018. This workshop gave NSW Department of Industry the opportunity to engage with the wider Nari Nari community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Murrumbidgee WRP area. Common themes were used to guide discussion in the workshops. These were established during the face-to-face interviews and included:

- connection to country – water
- cultural continuity and cultural renewal
- control of destiny
- floodplain management

A total of eight (8) people representing three (3) family groups participated in the workshop, including three (3) Nari Nari Traditional Owners. Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Table 2 of Appendix B. In addition to Nari Nari participants, representatives from Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations, NSW Department of Industry and OEH also attended the workshops.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Nari Nari Nation's values and uses were identified. The risks to those values and uses were acknowledged and these were further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management—see Appendix B.

3.2.3 Consultation outcomes

Successful consultation outcomes included a total of twelve (12) Ngiyampaa people consulted, representing a broad set of families; the use of data agreements to safeguard First Nations' Cultural Knowledge; engagement with a nation-based traditional governance model; and comprehensive findings.

Participants gave positive feedback about new nation-based consultation processes. Recommendations for each phase suggest improvements for future consultations. The consultation with the Nari Nari Nation satisfied Basin-Plan outcomes as demonstrated in Table 4 and described throughout Section 1 of the *Murrumbidgee Surface Water WRP* and Appendix B of this Schedule.

Table 4 - Nari Nari Nation consultation outcomes

Requirement	Outcome
<p>Demonstrate that the WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Aboriginal people.</p>	<p>NSW Department of Industry completed Nations' consultation in conjunction with MLDRIN. The process developed objectives and outcomes that have respect for social, spiritual and cultural values and uses for water resources.</p> <p>An overview of the objectives and values are in Chapter 1 Section 1.3.2 Table 1.4 of the Murrumbidgee WRP. Detailed information about values and uses, and objectives and outcomes in relation to the key themes can be found in Appendix B in Section 6.</p>
<p>That consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations (MLDRIN)</p>	<p>Consultation was undertaken with relevant Indigenous organisations such as MLDRIN and LALC's. MLDRIN played a key role in the consultation and were brought on-board to be nation organisers and had an important role in phases 3 and 4 of the process. NSW Department of Industry worked with MLDRIN to appoint a Nation Organiser to suggest appropriate Traditional Owners to engage with. The engagement approach taken was guided by MLDRIN and accepted cultural protocols, and relied heavily on the Wadi Wadi Nation Organisers. MLDRIN representatives were present at all workshops. Development of the stakeholder list also involved a desktop analysis of external and internal governance structures, including Nari Nari Tribal Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs), Aboriginal Medical Services (AMS), committees and social media groups. Further information on this is described throughout Appendix B.</p>
<p>That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements provided for by the Native Title Act 1993 in relation to the water resources of the WRPA</p>	<p>Discussions on native title rights, native title claims and Indigenous Land Use Agreements and the Native Title Act 1993 in relation to the water resources of the Murrumbidgee were held throughout the consultation.</p> <p>A letter was sent out to NTS Corp to advise on further consultations on country and how they would like to be engaged.</p> <p>Community WRP workshops were held (Table 2, Appendix B), and invitations were emailed to a wide range of people and organisations including Native Title applicants and claimants.</p>
<p>That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to registered Aboriginal heritage relating to the water resources of the WRPA</p>	<p>Local Aboriginal Lands Councils were invited via email, opportunities arose for them to speak of any listed sites on the heritage register throughout the workshop sessions.</p>
<p>That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan</p>	<p>NSW Department of Industry directly engaged with MLDRIN to engage a Nation Organiser to suggest appropriate Traditional Owners to engage with. The consultation process utilised a representative from MLDRIN for the Murrumbidgee Nation. Refer to Chapter 1, Section 1.7.1 of the Murrumbidgee Surface Water WRP</p>

and Appendix B.

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives

Appendix B in Section 6.3 details the various objectives that were identified with the suggested outcomes and also outlines strategies to achieve these outcomes. Objectives and values are summarised in Table 1.4 of the WRP.

It was of high importance that the various phases of the consultation process was culturally appropriate. Traditional Owners that were interviewed gave guidance on culturally appropriate venues within towns, cultural protocols to be followed and culturally appropriate communication techniques. Eight principles were developed to assist with this:

- respect for contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty

These principles can be mapped against the MDBA Part 14 Guidelines and Best Practice Methods employed are outlined in Appendix B.

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people

NSW Department of Industry followed cultural protocols to ensure active and informed participation of Indigenous people.

In the First Nations Consultation, the Nari Nari people were encouraged to attend workshops in one location. Culturally appropriate consultation required Senior Traditional Owners to be appointed through a Nation Organiser (MLDRIN) and be interviewed prior to other stakeholders. In this interview they were encouraged to provide the department with guidance about how they would like the interview conducted, including choice of venue, food, recording options and a walk 'On Country'. A stakeholder list was developed and the wider Nari Nari community were invited to participate in workshops, where Traditional Owners were invited to give input on the identified risks, objectives and outcomes based on their water-dependent values and uses. These workshops were also a platform to give information about the water planning process and build a relationship for future consultation.

More detail on the engagement process is Chapter 1, Section 1.7.1 of the WRP and throughout Appendix B.

That the consultation had regard to the views of relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area

The First Nation consultation determined that the Ngiyampaa Nation see the following as their main risks to water-dependent values and uses:

- Insufficient water for cultural purposes and the environment
- Poor water quality
- Limited opportunities for participation
- Lack of Cultural input into Government e-flow

events

- Poor consultation
- Policy framework not culturally inclusive
- Altered flow patterns disconnecting cultural assets from the river
- Limited water literacy

These are outlined in Section 6.2 of Appendix B along with the key impacts identified by the Ngiyampaa Nation. The risks to Indigenous Values and Uses are outlined in Table 1.5 of the WRP.

That the consultation have regard to the views of Indigenous people with respect to cultural flows

Throughout the First Nations consultation, cultural flows was a key theme. Nari Nari has lost a previously owned cultural flow entitlement, and their aim to own and manage their own cultural flow entitlement with dedicated cultural flow entitlements to ensure cultural continuity and revival. Insufficient flows into cultural sites, altered flow patterns and inferior water quality place Nari Nari country at risk, with flow on impacts to social, spiritual and commercial outcomes. There are concerns that there is little appetite from Government e-water managers to consider cultural outcomes. The Nari Nari people don't feel that they are an integral part of water management on Nari Nari country.

NSW Department of Industry is working with MDBA and MLDRIN regarding this, and consultations to codify cultural flows into the relevant WSPs will be continued. Additional consultation is underway as part of the Basin Plan commitments package following the Basin Plan Amendment deal. This is discussed in section 1.7.1 of the WRP and Appendix A.

3.3 Muthi Muthi Nation

Muthi Muthi Nation boundaries cross over two surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.3.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews were undertaken with Senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Muthi Muthi Nation. Senior TOs who participated in the face-to-face interviews were drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs represented

their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of the Muthi Muthi Nation. These interviews assisted in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops held.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix C once the report has been finalised.

3.3.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews First Nation consultation, workshops were held in Balranald in February 2019. These workshops provided NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Muthi Muthi community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Murrumbidgee and Murray Lower Darling WRP areas. Common themes were used to guide discussion in the workshops and were established during the face-to-face interviews.

Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix C once the consultation report is finalised.

As a result of this two-step consultation process Muthi Muthi Nation's values and uses have been identified. The risks to those values and uses will also be acknowledged and will be further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix C).

3.3.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW has completed this consultation and is awaiting the consultation report. A more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Muthi Muthi Nation Consultation Report as Appendix C of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations have been consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Muthi Muthi consultation report is completed.

3.4 Barapa Barapa Nation

Barapa Barapa Nation boundaries cross over three surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process was underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.4.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews will be undertaken with Senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Barapa Barapa Nation in early 2019. Senior TOs who participate in the face-to-face interviews will be drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. They will represent their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Barapa Barapa Nation. These interviews will assist in formulating the discussion undertaken in the subsequent workshops.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix D once the consultation report is complete.

3.4.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops will be held in mid-2019. These workshops will provide NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Barapa Barapa community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Murrumbidgee WRP area. Common themes established during the face to face interviews will be used to guide discussion in the workshops.

Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix D when the consultation report is finalised. In addition to Barapa Barapa participants, representatives from MLDRIN, NSW Department of Industry and OEH will also attend the workshops.

This two-step consultation process will identify the Barapa Barapa Nation's values and uses, along with the risks and barriers. These will be further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix D).

3.4.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to engage with senior TOs to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Barapa Barapa Nation Consultation Report as Appendix D of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will also be consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs), Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and

customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

3.5 Wiradjuri Nation

Wiradjuri Nation boundaries cross over four surface water and seven groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.5.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews were undertaken with Senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Wiradjuri Nation in October 2018. Senior TOs who participated in the face-to-face interviews were drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs who participated in these interviews represented their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Wiradjuri Nation. These interviews assisted in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops in November and December 2018 and January 2019.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix E once the report becomes available.

3.5.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops were held in Bathurst, Wellington, Dubbo, Cowra, Forbes, Condobolin, Euabalong, Narrandera, Darlington Point, Wagga Wagga, Albury and Tumut in late 2018 and are continuing into 2019. These workshops provided NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Wiradjuri community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Macquarie–Castlereagh, Lachlan, Murray-Lower Darling and Murrumbidgee WRP areas.

Common themes will be used to guide discussion in the workshops and will be established during the face-to-face interviews.

Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix E once the consultation report has been completed.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Wiradjuri Nation's values and uses will be identified. The risks to those values and uses will also be explored and further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix E).

3.5.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Wiradjuri Nations Consultation Report as Appendix E of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations are being consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

3.6 Nyeri Nyeri Nation

Nyeri Nyeri Nation boundaries cross over two surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.6.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews will be undertaken with senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Nyeri Nyeri Nation. At this stage, NSW Department of Industry are still in the process of making contact and interviewing the key Traditional Owners of the Nyeri Nyeri Nation. Senior TOs who participate in the face-to-face interviews will be drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs who participate in these interviews will represent their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Nyeri Nyeri Nation. These interviews will assist in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops to be held in mid 2019.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix F once the report becomes available.

3.6.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops will be held in mid 2019. These workshops will provide NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Nyeri Nyeri community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the NSW Murray Lower Darling and Murrumbidgee WRP areas. Common themes established during the face to face interviews will be used to guide discussion in the workshops.

Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix G once the consultation report has been completed.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Wiradjuri Nation's values and uses will be identified. The risks to those values and uses will also be explored and further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix F).

3.6.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Nyeri Nyeri Nations Consultation Reports as Appendix F of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will also be consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.
- NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

3.7 Walgalul Nation

The Walgalul Nation covers one surface water WRP area. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes

- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.7.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews will be undertaken with senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Walgalu Nation. At this stage all key Walgalul TOs have not been interviewed and NSW Department of Industry are still in the process of making contact and interviewing the key Traditional Owners of the Walgalul Nation. Senior TOs who participate in the face-to-face interviews will be drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs who participate in these interviews will represent their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Walgalul Nation. These interviews will assist in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops to be held in mid 2019.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix G once the report becomes available.

3.7.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops will be held in mid 2019. These workshops will provide NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Walgalul community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the Murrumbidgee WRP areas.

Common themes established during the face to face interviews will be used to guide discussion in the workshops. Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix G once the consultation report has been completed.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Walgalul Nation's values and uses will be identified. The risks to those values and uses will be explored and further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix G).

3.7.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Walgalul Nation's Consultation Reports as Appendix G of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will also be consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.

- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

3.8 Wamba Wamba Nation

Wamba Wamba Nation boundaries cross over four surface water and three groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.8.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews will be undertaken with senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Wamba Wamba Nation. At this stage all key Wamba Wamba TOs have not been interviewed and NSW Department of Industry are still in the process of making contact and interviewing all the key Traditional Owners of the Wamba Wamba Nation. Senior TOs who participate in the face-to-face interviews will be drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs who participate in these interviews will represent their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Wamba Wamba Nation. These interviews will assist in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops that will be held.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix H once the report becomes available.

3.8.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops are to be held in mid 2019. These workshops will provide NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Wiradjuri community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the MNSW Murray Lower Darling and Murrumbidgee WRP areas.

Common themes will be used to guide discussion in the workshops and will be established during the face-to-face interviews. Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix H once the consultation report has been completed.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Wamba Wamba Nation's values and uses will be identified. The risks to those values and uses will also be explored and further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix H).

3.8.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Wamba Wamba Nations Consultation Reports as Appendix H of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will also be consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in

respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.

- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

3.9 Weki Weki Nation

Weki Weki Nation boundaries cross over three surface water and two groundwater WRP areas. The consultation process adhered to Basin Plan Part 14 Guidelines for meeting Chapter 10 requirements. The process will be underpinned by eight principles for culturally appropriate consultation:

- respect for the contemporary cultural framework
- flexibility
- collaboration
- quality assurance
- clear communication
- building tangible outcomes
- inclusivity and accessibility
- Indigenous data sovereignty.

3.9.1 Face-to-face interviews

A series of face-to-face interviews will be undertaken with senior Traditional Owners (TOs) from the Weki Weki Nation. At this stage all key Weki Weki TOs have not been interviewed and NSW Department of Industry are still in the process of making contact and interviewing all the key Traditional Owners of the Weki Weki Nation. Senior TOs who participate in the face-to-face interviews will be drawn from three categories – grassroots, Native Title applicants and suggestions from other interview participants. TOs who participate in these interviews will represent their own family groups and speak for a broad range of communities and different areas of Weki Weki Nation. These interviews will assist in formulating the discussion undertaken in the workshops to be held in mid 2019.

The process involved in identifying Senior TOs and the questions they were asked can be reviewed in detail in Appendix I once the report becomes available.

3.9.2 Workshops

Following on from the face-to-face interviews, First Nation consultation workshops with the Weki Weki Nation will be conducted. These workshops will provide NSW Department of Industry with the opportunity to engage with the wider Weki Weki community and capture their views and opinions on objectives, outcomes, values and uses for the NSW Murray Lower Darling and Murrumbidgee WRP areas.

Common themes will be used to guide discussion in the workshops and will be established during the face-to-face interviews. Detailed workshop participant data can be viewed in Appendix I once the

consultation report has been completed.

As a result of this two-step consultation process, Weki Weki Nation's values and uses will be identified. The risks to those values and uses will be explored and further built on to develop objectives and outcomes for water management (see Appendix I).

3.9.3 Consultation outcomes

NSW is yet to complete this consultation. Following consultation, a more detailed discussion of the objectives and outcomes for Aboriginal values and uses developed through this consultative process will be included in the Wiradjuri Nations Consultation Reports as Appendix I of this Schedule. Organisations including NSW Aboriginal Land Council, Local Aboriginal Land Councils, native title groups and other relevant Aboriginal organisations will also be consulted.

These reports aim to demonstrate that:

- The WRP was developed in a way that had genuine regard to objectives and outcomes in respect of social, spiritual and cultural values and uses of the water resources by Traditional Owners.
- Consultation with relevant Indigenous organisations was undertaken, including with the Northern Basin Aboriginal Nations and Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations.

In addition to consulting with Traditional Owners, the NSW Government consulted with several organisations (e.g. native title, LALCs) Murdi Paaki working group, MLDRIN and NBAN. This demonstrates that the consultation had regard to the views of:

- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to inclusion of Indigenous representation in the preparation and implementation of the plan.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to Indigenous social, cultural, spiritual and customary objectives, and strategies for achieving these objectives.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to the encouragement of active and informed participation of Indigenous people.
- relevant Indigenous organisations with respect to risks to Indigenous values and Indigenous uses arising from the use and management of the water resources of the water resource plan area.
- Indigenous people with respect to cultural associations with the groundwater resources of this WRPA.

NSW will not be seeking Commonwealth accreditation of this plan until the Aboriginal consultation is completed.

Appendix A to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Wadi Wadi Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

This report is available at: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/murrumbidgee-surface-wrp>

Appendix B to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Nari Nari Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

This report is available at: <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/murrumbidgee-surface-wrp>

Appendix C to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Muthi Muthi Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix D to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Barapa Barapa Nation Consultation Report Development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix E to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Wiradjuri Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix F to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Nyeri Nyeri Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix G to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Wolgalu Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix H to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Wemba Wemba Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.

Appendix I to Schedule C: Culturally Appropriate First Nations Consultation, Weki Weki Nation Consultation Report for development of NSW Water Resource Plans

In preparation.