



Meeting Summary

MEETING	Interagency Working Group – Better Management of Environmental Water		
MEETING NO.	20	DATE	3 March 2020
LOCATION	Cliftons Meeting Room 13.05 60 Margaret Street, Sydney, NSW	TIME	10 am – 4 pm
ATTENDEES	DPIE-Water, WaterNSW, NRAR, DPIE-EES, DPI Fisheries, MDBA, CEWO, NRC, DPIE Water Renewal Taskforce		
APOLOGIES	NRC, NRAR		

Agenda Item	Notes
Welcome and Apologies	The Chair welcomed attendees and noted apologies.
Minutes and Actions	The IWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorsed the minutes of IWG Meeting #18 • Endorsed the minutes of the IWG Meeting #19 pending incorporation of DPIE Fisheries comments • Reviewed and noted progress on rolling actions.
Update from the Chair and members	The IWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the structural reforms planned for the Water Reform Taskforce • Noted the IWG will cease to operate beyond 30 June 2020 • Noted the potential for the Northern Water Group to take over policy work of the IWG.
Update from DPIE Water – what happens when it rains	The IWG: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the application of temporary water restrictions in the Barwon Darling River and floodplain to ensure water is held in storage to meet critical water needs. • Noted the role of temporary restrictions in managing environmental flows once the water sharing plan (and active management) is in place.
Update on Reports	The IWG noted the six reports / discussion papers delivered by the Water Renewal Taskforce to support implementation of eWater reforms.
Consultation outcomes and status of water sharing plans	The IWG noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation undertaken on the proposed water sharing rules and summary of submissions received. • Proposed changes to draft water sharing plan rules following public exhibition • The status of water sharing plan amendments



Meeting Summary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That submission summary reports, and consultation outcomes reports will be provided when they are made available to the SAPs.
Northern Connectivity	<p>The IWG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided comments on the objective and structure of a brochure to provide a positive, public facing narrative of the outcomes of the northern connectivity investigations • Provided input on the content that should be included in the Northern Connectivity brochure.
Active Management	The IWG noted progress and next steps to implement active management.
Update on implementation progress	The IWG noted the projects that are being developed to ensure a transition of work from the Water Renewal Taskforce to relevant agencies.
Next steps	The IWG noted the final meeting will be held in May 2020.