



2012

Murray-Darling Basin Plan

The Basin Plan received bi-partisan support from both houses of Federal Parliament in November 2012.

The Basin Plan allows for up to 650 gegalitres of the required 2,750 gegalitre reduction to be met with environmental works and changed river operations, as long as the same environmental outcomes are achieved.

Any adjustment to sustainable diversion limits achieved by building funded projects will be determined by 2016. This allows time for the adjusted limit to be reflected in state water resource plans before the Plan's sustainable diversion limits take effect from 2019.



Above: Environmental works at Mulcra Island.
Photo: Mallee CMA.

2012-2013

Preliminary designs developed

The Mallee CMA worked with key stakeholders, Indigenous and interested community groups to develop the concepts and preliminary designs for the seven environmental works projects currently being investigated.

The preliminary designs for these sites, along with another two in the North Central CMA region, were accepted by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments and funding was provided to develop a business case for each of the proposed sites.

2014 - Current stage

Business case development

Research is being done during 2014 to finalise the concept designs for each site. This will form a key part of the business case for each of the proposed projects.

During development of the business cases, there will be modelling and risk assessments of each of the environmental works projects to look at areas of flooding, salinity impacts, cultural heritage and how construction works might affect plants and animals.

Finalising the concept designs will help determine the actual extent of the proposed works and what each project will involve.

Business cases are due to be finished in November 2014 for evaluation by the Victorian Government. Successful projects will then be

put forward to the Commonwealth Government for assessment by a committee of representatives from the Commonwealth and Basin States.

The Mallee CMA will work closely with key stakeholders in developing business cases for each site because we recognise the value of local knowledge, advice and feedback in successfully developing these projects.

2015

Business case assessments

A committee of representatives from the Commonwealth and Basin States will assess all the business cases in 2015. The Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council will then decide which projects can progress to detailed design phase and construction.

2016 onwards

Construction and operation

The funded projects are expected to be built from 2016 onwards.

All environmental works projects that impact on sustainable diversion limits through the Basin Plan's adjustment mechanism will need to be operating by 2024.

Find out more

If you would like to know more about these projects please contact the Mallee CMA on 5051 4377, visit www.malleecma.vic.gov.au or follow us on Twitter @MalleeCMA.