

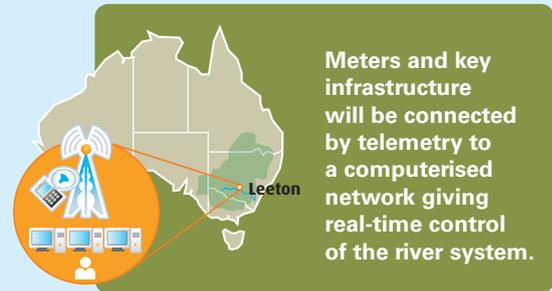
RECOVERING WATER

WITH TRIPLE-BOTTOM-LINE OUTCOMES

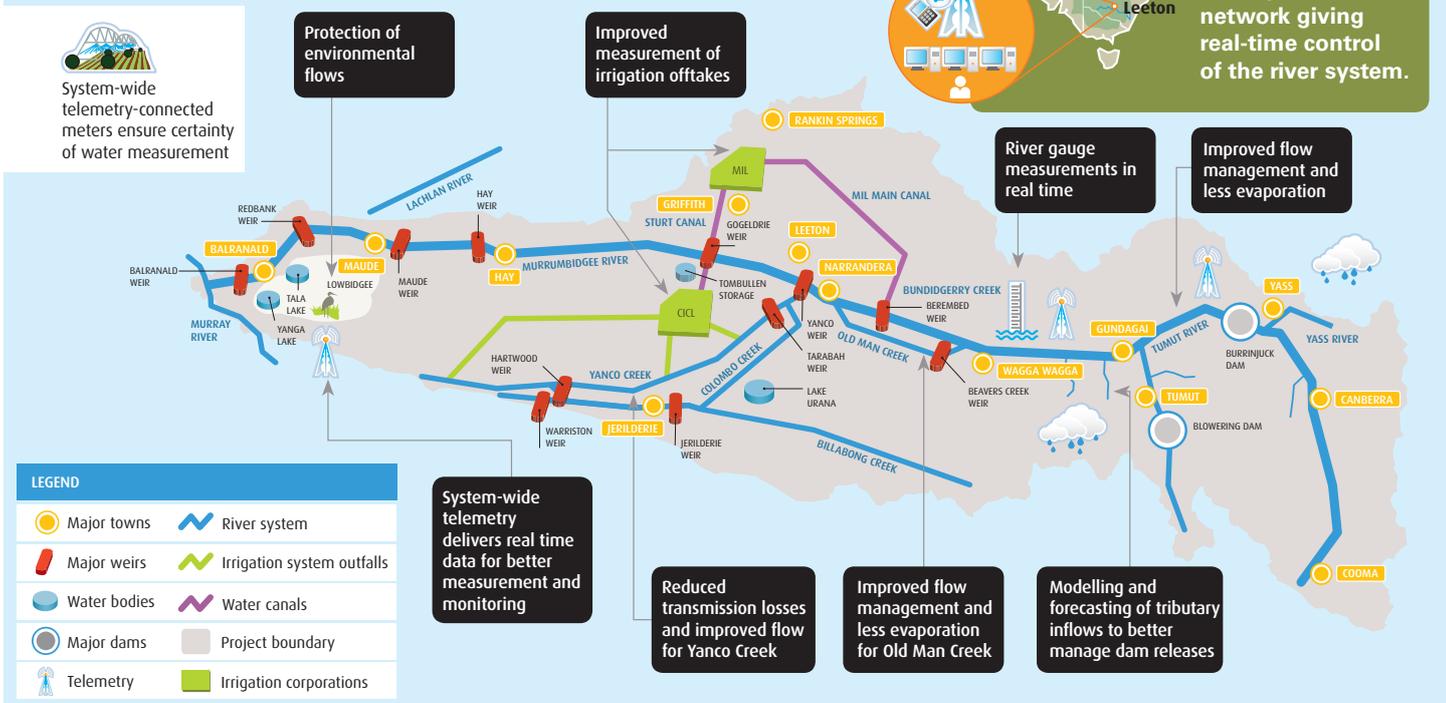
Making the Murrumbidgee Work Better for Everyone



System-wide telemetry-connected meters ensure certainty of water measurement



Meters and key infrastructure will be connected by telemetry to a computerised network giving real-time control of the river system.



The Murrumbidgee Computer Aided River Management (CARM) project is an upgrade of infrastructure and installation of new interactive river flow management technology throughout the river system, making control and measurement of water flows much more precise and responsive, delivering water at the right quantity, time and place.

This innovative flow control will achieve positive efficiency benefits for all water users along the valley, including the environment.

This is the first project of its type which is designed specifically to better manage river flows in the Basin.

It was developed by Water for Rivers in collaboration with the NSW Office of Water, State Water Corporation and river users. This partnership project has involved extensive 'one-on-one' engagement with water diverters along the river system, including all irrigator groups.



For more information about Water Recovery using Computer Aided River Management call Water For Rivers (02) 6058 6000

TRIPLE-BOTTOM-LINE BENEFITS

Environmental

- Greater than 40 GL in savings** ✓
- 100 GL plus benefit to improved environmental watering ✓
- Establishes the Murrumbidgee River as the world's most efficiently managed and operated computer aided river management system ✓
- Assists in offsetting SDL impacts ✓
- More precise control of flows through river system ✓

Economic

- Vastly improved river management ✓
- More security and certainty for every water user ✓
- A high percentage of total flow available for allocation ✓
- Historical opportunity for irrigators to leverage on-farm water technology ✓
- Improved on farm management delivering greater profitability and convenience ✓

Social

- Fairer distribution of available water ✓
- Improved environmental outcomes ✓
- Less wastage of water ✓

Whole-of-valley water recovery delivers regional benefits

The Murray Darling Basin Plan requires significant volumes of consumptive pool water to be reallocated to the environmental pool. To-date, environmental water has been recovered via buyback and limited infrastructure projects aimed at giving improved water efficiency.

Water recovered by either method has tended to be on an opportunistic basis resulting in a patchwork of varying levels of water efficiency across the southern Basin in particular. In fact, buyback has increased the inefficiency of some irrigation areas by leaving fewer users to pay for the same amount of legacy infrastructure that is often in dire need of upgrade.

This patchwork effect is further exacerbated by State and district borders with different programs and focus or timing on either side giving a less than optimum result.

The integrated 'whole-of-valley' approach developed by Water for Rivers, built on the foundation of Computer Aided River Management (CARM), provides project leverage that realises further synergies for improved water efficiency.

Using what we have better, can achieve greater water resource management benefits and will minimise the future impact of recovery on the consumptive pool, and provide improved outcomes for the environment and regional community.

It is expected that a Computer Aided River Management approach across the Basin will generate three different forms of water savings – savings from investment in best practice network delivery and on farm water use (irrigation savings); savings from improved river operations (efficiency dividends); and, savings from implementing efficient environmental watering works and measures (SDL credits).

