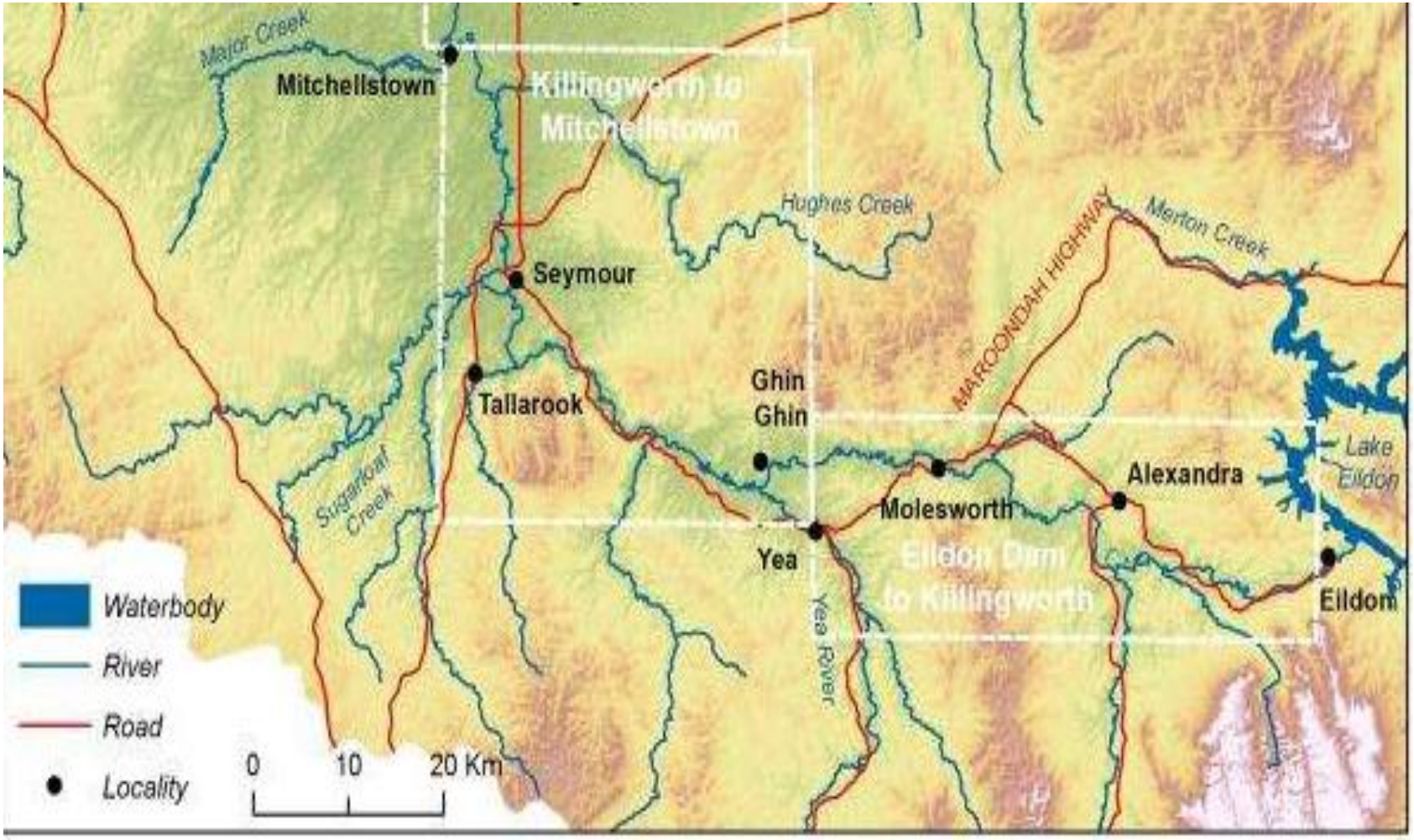
Submission to Senate Select Committee Inquiry on Murray Darling Basin Plan & Constraints Management Strategy

Submission from Upper Goulburn River Catchment Association
Representative: Jan Beer

Upper Goulburn River Catchment



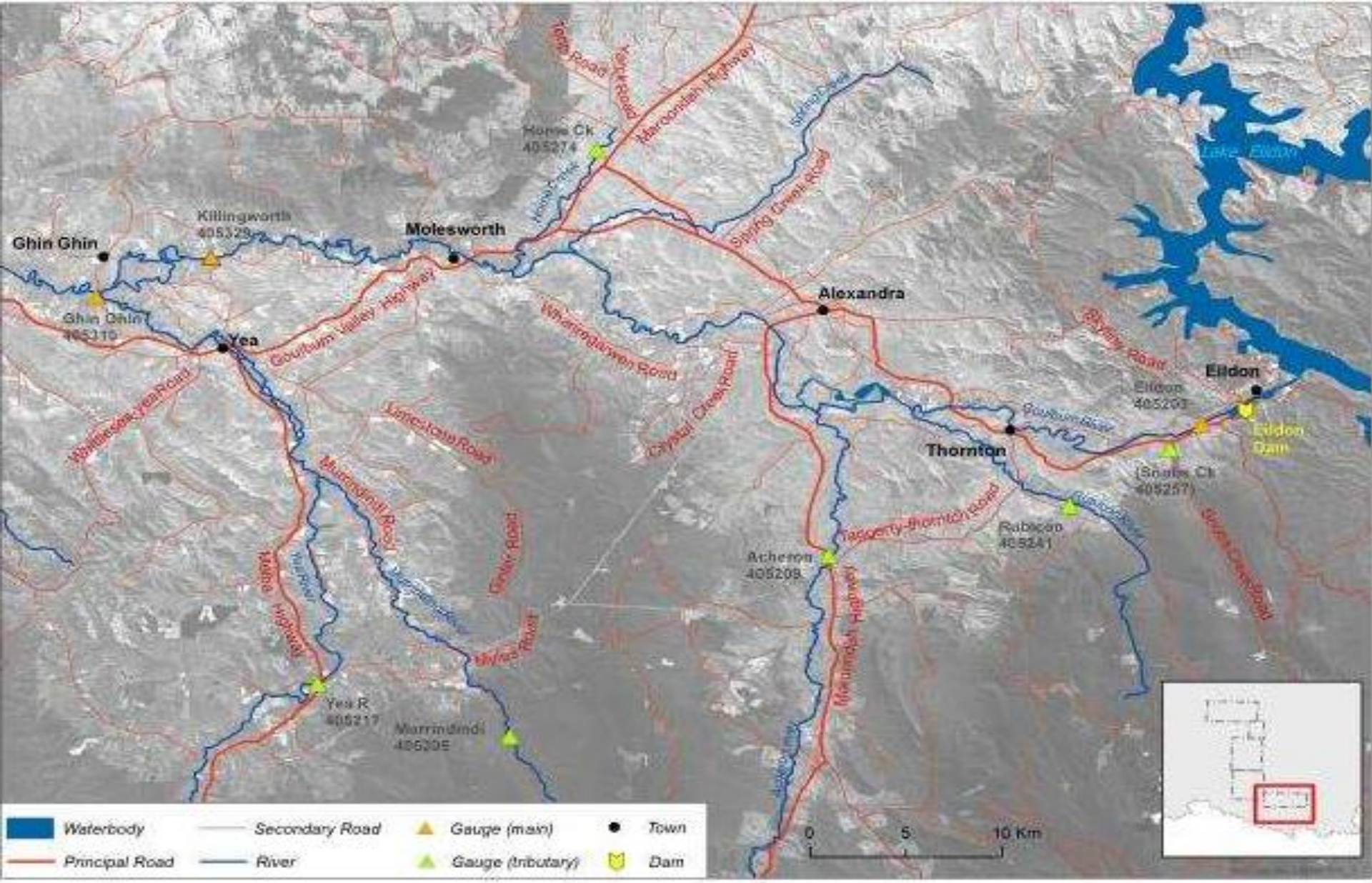
- The following photos graphically show the impacts, that the proposed environmental flows of up to 20,000ML/day in the Eildon to Molesworth Reach and up to 30,000ML/day in the Killingworth to Mitchelton Reach, will have on the landowners and communities in the Upper Goulburn Catchment.

  The MDBA describe these flows as "small overbank flows", not exceeding minor flood levels. The MDBA also state that they are not trying to create large, major floods, such as that of September 2010. However that is exactly what is being proposed, as the MDBA have totally under-estimated the flood footprints of these flows and their impacts.

  The photos were taken on the 5th September 2010 and show that at the time of day the photos were taken, the flow in the Goulburn River gauged at Trawool, which is just downstream of Ghin Ghin, was 29,218ML/day, with Eildon Release 430ML/day, that is the upstream Goulburn tributaries generated all flood flows.

  This specific example of 30,000ML/day flow in the Goulburn clearly shows the impacts along the Goulburn River and Yea River floodplains is totally untenable. If the proposal to increase these flows up to 6 years out of every 10 years proceeds, it would render these rich, high value agricultural properties uneconomic , unviable and much reduced in value.

Photos relate to floodplain areas on the Goulburn River at Molesworth, Killingworth, Ghin Ghin and along the Yea River at Cheviot Hills, Murrindindi and Yea.



5 SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 9.12AM GOULBURN RIVER AT GHIN GHIN BRIDGE

9.15AM Flow gauged at Trawool 29,218ML/day
Eildon Release 430ML/day, which means all flood flow was coming out of the tributaries.
Photo taken 5th Sept. 2010 at 9.12AM

5th September 2010 at 8.27am Goulburn River at Killingworth N-S Pipeline pump station. Goulburn River @ Trawool Gauge 28,953ML/day

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River Flats,Ghin Ghin. Goulburn River @ Trawool gauge 9AM-29,131ML/day to 3PM-32,191ML /day

This location is 1 km. from Goulburn River

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River Flats at Ghin Ghin. Goulburn River @Trawool Gauge 9AM-29,131ML/day to 3PM- 32,191ML/day

Pump shed inundated on Goulburn River Bank-4 metres above normal river height

Impact on Killingworth North-South Pipeline pump station flood barrier

5th September 2010 at 10.04am. Goulburn River @Trawool Gauge 10AM- 29,597ML/day

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River flats at Molesworth

"Glen Doone and Binbilla" Flats

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River Flats at Molesworth

"Glen Doone" Silage equipment submerged

5th September 2010 Binbilla Homestead, Molesworth surrounded by floodwaters

95% property inundated & property unusable

Goulburn River Flats at Molesworth

Glen Doone

Goulburn River Flats at Molesworth showing extent of floodplains 1993 Flood

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River Flats at Acheron. Acheron River @ Taggerty Gauge at 1AM – 23,249ML/day 7AM-13778ML/day

Flooding from Acheron River

September 5th 2010 Goulburn River Flats at Acheron. Acheron River @Taggerty Gauge at 1AM – 23,249ML/day 7AM –13,778ML/day

5th September 2010 at 9.18am flooding at confluence of Yea and Goulburn Rivers Ghin Ghin. Goulburn River@ Trawool Gauge at 29,131ML/day. Yea River @ Devlin's Bridge Gauge at 9PM 4thSeptember – 10,498ML/day

5th Sept 2010 at 8.58 am Yea River Flats Ghin Ghin flooded by the Island Creek, a Yea River effluent

Yea River 5th Sept 2010 7.57am at Chevriot Hills"Yea. Yea River @ Devlin's Bridge Gauge 8PM 0n 4th September 10,274ML/day

5th Sept 2010 Yea River Flats at 2.4pm Cheviot Hills .Yea River @ Devlin's Bridge Gauge Midnight 4th September -9,717ML/day

Portion of Yea River Flats, Cheviot Hills, Yea

5th September 2010 8.12am Yea River flats at confluence of Yea and Murrindindi Rivers at Murrindindi Rd. Yea River @ Devlin's Bridge Gauge on 4th September at 8PM-10,274ML/day

5th Sept 2010 at 8.39am Marshlands St, Yea. Yea River @Devlin's Bridge Gauge at 6PM on 4th September-10,377ML/day

5th September at 8.32AM 2010 Yea Caravan Park. Yea River @ Devlin's Bridge on 4th September at 6PM – 10,377ML/day

5th September 8.21am Yea river flats. Floodwaters almost encroaching on Melba Hwy

5th September 2010 8.27am. Only entrance & exit to Yea Caravan Park

September 5th 2010 at 9.08am Yea River at confluence with Goulburn River. Yea River @Devlin's Bridge Gauge at 6PM on 4th September- 10,377ml/day

Previous photo without inundation. Yea River Flats at confluence with Goulburn River

5th Sept. 2010 at 7.57am Yea River Flats at “Cheviot Hills”

11th August 2012 Yea River Flood at Cheviot Hills

18th August 2012 Yea River at "Cheviot Hills", Yea

5th Sept Flooding Impacts Fence debris & flood sediment on pasture at Cheviot Hills, Yea

Flooding Impacts Cheviot Hills, Yea River flats–fallen mature red gums

Erosion impacts Yea River Flats–Cheviot Hills, Yea

Flooding impacts- breached levee bank. Yea River Flats Cheviot Hills Yea

Flooding Impacts –flood debris. Yea River Flats Cheviot Hills, Yea

1ST November 2010 Yea River Flats at Cheviot Hills. Silage & equipment caught in rapidly rising floodwaters.

Goulburn River Flow gauged at Trawool 18,927ml/day
Yea River Flow gauged at Devlin's Bridge 3,148ml/day

1st Nov 2010 Yea River Flats at Cheviot Hills. Unable to move silage or equipment as access cut off.

1st November 2010 at Yea River flats at Cheviot Hills

Silage in floodwaters