

WHAT IS THE ADVANCED MAINTENANCE PROGRAM?

Goulburn-Murray Water has introduced the Advanced Maintenance Program (AMP) to lengthen the life of assets by performing preventative maintenance. Maintaining water delivery assets in a proactive way will extend their useful life and save customers money.

AMP is like performing a major service on a vehicle. It won't return the vehicle to brand new condition, but it will keep it in peak running order and extends the time required until you have to replace it with a new one.

Timely rehabilitation techniques will make our assets last longer and work more efficiently. By maintaining assets like channels and concrete structures before they reach a critical condition, replacement expenses are deferred into the future. As a result, spikes in capital expenditure are smoothed out, allowing for more consistent and sustainable water prices for irrigators and other customers.



AMP uses maintenance techniques such as Rock Armouring



The inside of the channel bank batters is shielded from erosion by applying a thin protective layer of rock.



Reinstating Channel Bank Batters



Eroded bank material from the bed of the channel is reinstated onto the inside of the channel bank batter, creating a stable slope which slows the rate of deterioration.

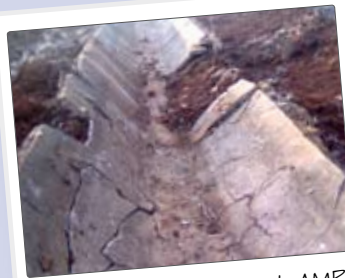


Structural Repairs: Repairing cracks in concrete structures with epoxy products adds stability and deters leaks.

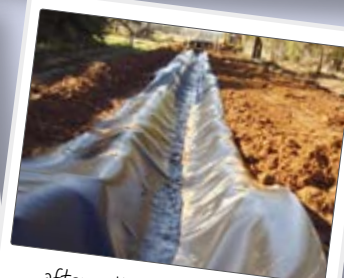


Beaching
Reinstating eroded beaching. Poor quality material is removed and replaced with selected clay, then covered with geofabric and rock beaching.

Even with maintenance, assets will reach the end of their serviceable life eventually. However, AMP works will allow more time to consider whether assets should be rationalised or replaced with modern equivalents.



before... Katandra Channels AMP



after... the asset's expected life was increased by 20 years.

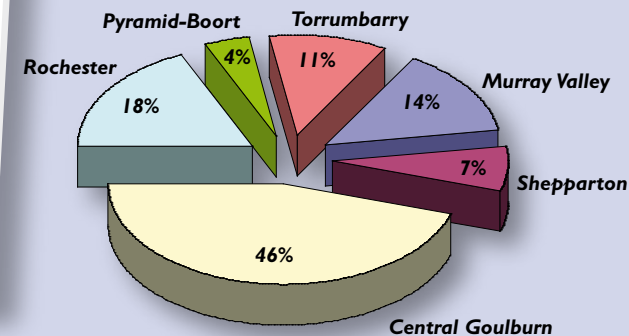
HOW ARE ASSETS SELECTED?

To gain maximum benefit AMP works are conducted on assets that are over halfway through their life expectancy. The assets are identified and categorised by assessing their condition through regular field inspection. Sometimes an asset may be excluded from the AMP program as replacement is found to be the most cost effective solution.

WHERE DOES AMP OCCUR?

AMP is currently concentrated on the upper and middle sections of the water supply system to delay works on areas that could be changed in the future.

Maintenance activities are grouped into zones based on the technique used. To ensure an efficient program delivery, work is then scheduled to allow assets within close proximities to be maintained in the most cost-effective way.



Breakdown of budgeted AMP expenditure in 2006/07 by Irrigation Area

WHO FUNDS THE AMP WORKS?

AMP Works are funded by individual Irrigation and Drainage Areas via the infrastructure Access Fee, and were included in the customer consultative process of the Water Plan. The budget for 2006/07 to 2007/08 for AMP is approximately \$27 million.



before...



after... Typical Structural Rehabilitation