# **WSC MEETING SUMMARY**



COMMITTEE NAME	Shepparton
MEETING DATE	Tuesday 16 February 2021
ATTENDEES	WSC Members: Craig Reynolds (Chair), John Horder, David Woodhouse, Kevin Minogue, Ashley Galt,  GMW Attendees: Warren Blyth (General Manager Water Delivery Services) Greg Shannon (Manager Distribution Services) Brendan Brooks (Manager Distribution East) Andrew Cooper (Assistant Manager East) Fabian McCloy (Project Manager – Irrigators Share Distribution) Claire Nihill (Communications and Engagement Project Officer) Joe Banks (DELWP) Penny Clarke (DELWP) Leyla Stender (DELWP) Alex Murray (MDBA) Tyson Milne (MDBA) Ben Dyer (MDBA) Joseph Davis (MDBA)
GUESTS	Rabi Maskey (DEDJTR)
APOLOGIES	Alan Strang, Ross Heywood, Rod Squires, Kerryn Forster (DELWP), Anne Lucas (MDBA)

### **Main Topics Discussed**

#### Irrigators Share Distribution Update - Fabian McCloy & Claire Nihill

- Fabian explained the Irrigators share is the 75GL LTAAY dividend from stage 1 Connections project
- Customers with >0.25 dse will receive approx. 4ml of HRWS & 1.8ml of LRWS and those with <0.25 a cash benefit payment
- Customers will receive the water shares in October 2021 with the allocation for 21/22
- In completing the dividend distribution project work includes quantifying and confirming the water savings from the project and then working through the process of distributing water share to the beneficiaries.
- Customers can check and confirm their delivery share (IAF) by reviewing their 20/21 fixed charges or contacting GMW
- Claire Nihill provided communications timelines on the ISD project through until 2022

## Deliverability Risks Report Joe Banks - Ben Dyer

- Joe explained the deliverability risks pose two types of shortfall (acute & chronic) and both MDBA and the basin states have different responsibilities in managing the risk
- Supply and demand have changed over the past 10/20 years Reduced Barmah Choke capacity and water resource from Menindee lakes plus Horticulture crops are increasing and more water for irrigation & the environment downstream of Barmah is required
- Menindee supplied 44% of water in summer peak to SA but now that has reduced to 20%
- Increased trade (300GL IVT) to meet pre basin plan recovery demand is contributing to the damage to natural waterways such as the Lower Goulburn river
- Ben Dyer explained the findings of the investigation to the reduced capacity of the Barmah choke which has reduced from 11,500ML/d in 1980 to 10,500ML/d mid 1990s and 9,200ML/d in 2019

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- A large volume of sediment gradually moving downstream from Yarrawonga is causing the restriction
- The key findings of the deliverability risks report released in November 2020 summarise the shortfall risks and identify the actions and priorities for government

#### **Operations Update - Andrew Cooper**

- Provided the committee with an update on water delivered for irrigation and environment in both Shepp and MV systems
- Staff completing meter readings for variable charges and also completed almost 4000 work orders including corrective and preventative maintenance on regs and meters during season
- Maintenance desilting works on channels 1/18 3/18 to reinstate capacity on those spurs
- Successful acrolein injection in the MV 5 main to reduce submerged weed has improved channel performance – some discussion on draining of channels
- Planning for increased water delivery in autumn with significant water availability
- East planning winter maintenance activities and dewatering program to manage weeds and complete capital structure and linear programs

#### Other Items to Note

- Subsurface Drainage public pump rationalisation paper provided and discussed
- Rabi Maskey provided the committee recent DEDJTR activities papers

#### **Motion to GMW Board**

Nil

## **Next meeting**

The next Shepparton WSC meeting will be scheduled for 20 April 2021