

WSC MEETING SUMMARY



COMMITTEE NAME	Shepparton & Murray Valley Combined (Gravity East)
MEETING DATE	Wednesday 18 August 2021
ATTENDEES	<p>WSC Members Murray Valley: Jason Andrew (Chair), Alan Hendy, Patrick Connolly</p> <p>WSC Members Shepparton: Craig Reynolds (Chair), David Woodhouse Alan Strang</p> <p>GMW Attendees Brendan Brooks (Manager Distribution East) Greg Shannon (Manager Irrigation) Daniel Irwin (General Manager Strategy and Services Planning) Peter Egglestone (Engineering & Interface Manager Connections) Mark Bailey (Manager Water Resources) Michael Gomez (General Manager Business & Finance) Warren Blyth (General Manager Water Delivery Services)</p>
GUESTS	Alex Murray (DELWP), Giselle Perez Zazueta (DELWP)
APOLOGIES	Rabi Maskey (DEDJTR), Andrew Cooper (GMW), Jeremy Nolan (GMW) John Horder, Rod Squires, Ross Heywood, Ashley Galt, Andrew Routley, Paulette McIntosh, Iwan Van Den Berg, Kevin Minogue,

Main Topics Discussed

<p>Goulburn to Murray Trade Rule - Alex Murray, Giselle Perez Zazueta (DELWP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated WSC on the 21/22 interim rules, advised regarding flexibility in trade rule, What testing monitoring is being undertaken done, other stakeholder updates, Lower Broken creek customer consultation and the next steps Explained the Operating rules, Trade rule and Operating plan – with 190GL cap Operating rules will move between targets of 33/47GL per month – Nov / April Interim rules will enable deferring of IVT to respond to Lake Victoria spill risks, allow surplus flows to boost Murray resources, not restrict trade unnecessarily in winter spring and then deliver IVT at operators discretion within spare river capacity A three year monitoring program undertaken with traditional owners, CMA & scientists to assess impact on Aboriginal cultural values, Riverbank vegetation condition, native fish species and their habitats. Stakeholders will be updated via WSC, Irrigation, Industry, Environmental and recreational representatives plus Further consultation with Lower Broken creek customers in October / November Next steps – release of operating plan, a reference group convened, tagging regulations established by November, Trial operating rules and larger pulses, undertake further environmental assessments with long term operating and trade rules to be decided by July 2022
<p>Channel x Channel (CxC) principles – Daniel Irwin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided an overview of last CxC presentation and feedback from 5 WSC meetings in June Key themes and considerations should include Water use, Onfarm investment, Service KPIs, Access to groundwater and drainage, Land characteristics, capital renewal and revenue Pod classification helps determine options around Asset renewal, maintenance and what timeframe is appropriate to be applied – a Short, medium or long term horizon. Channel SP29 and MV2/5 were two case studies used to apply these principles for the East Provided a list of the capital program in Shepp & MV plus general programs for metering, RTU, access, bridge abutments and guardrails

Service Plans – Daniel Irwin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated members on Service Plans and where they are at • Service Plans will continue to be a standard agenda item at each meeting
Water Efficiency Project (WEP) Program Update - Peter Egglestone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated the committee on the MV and Shepp East WEP programs • 27 regulators installed at Shepp east and approx. 25 meter replacements plus 10 channel sensors • Further works planned for Shepp East in winter 2022 • Engagement has just commenced on channels MV13/6 and MV20/6. More RPs to be rolled out shortly. • Reviewing works against capital plans and agreed scope in consultation with Operations
Update on Allocations, Reserve Policy & Goulburn to Murray Trade - Mark Bailey
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided the WSC with an update on current allocations, outlooks, recent inflows to storages, Reserve review and Goulburn to Murray trade review • Explained that 340GL was borrowed to support early season allocation on the Murray and will be paid back following the 50% allocation announcement – 22GL per 1% not 15GL during this period • Current reserve volumes of 270GL (Goulburn) and 218 (Murray) were set in 2012 and a review is anticipated to commence in 2022/23 • Weather forecasts still favour good rainfall over the next three months (Sept / Nov 2021) • In summary a positive outlook for the season, Catchments are productive and the negative Indian Dipole event continues • Explained the Governance structure for Goulburn to Murray review and advised on the work streams being undertaken
GMW Integrated Enhance Debt Recovery Program - Michael Gomez
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained GMW debt recovery and hardship process is aligned to ESC customer code and GMW customer charter • GMW has sustained issue with debt levels – average age debt is 530 days (Covid minimal impact) • Provided tables indicating customers with less than 0.25 delivery share will receive equivalent value as a credit on their accounts and customers with greater than 0.25 delivery share receiving water shares and allocation estimated at \$39m • The Irrigators Share Distribution (ISD) project; offers an opportunity to implement an enhanced debt recovery program with the objective to stabilise and reduce to acceptable levels and align with Financial sustainability strategy • Advised there are three phases to the program :1 - Communication and awareness, 2 – Support for direct debit deduction and 3 – longer term structural solutions to debt management
Update on Gravity Annual Financials – Michael Gomez
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a report on the Gravity financials and the Capital expenditure programs for 20/21 • Revenue was slightly down due to delivering less than budgeted water delivery (941.6GL V 909GL actual) • Expenditure was under due to labour vacancies in Operations and over in maintenance due to additional desilting during the winter works program. • Linear and meters were under spent but structures over in year 1 of the water plan. • Koondrook Fish weir was externally funded

Customer Charter – Greg Shannon

- Provided an update of the Customer Charter and some of the changes
- No issues from the committee

Other Items to Note (GMW Specific)**Working Group Representative - Brendan Brooks**

- It was discussed that Craig Reynolds will represent both Murray Valley & Shepparton WSC (East)

Operations East Area update – Brendan Brooks

- Provided an update on final deliveries for irrigation in 2020/21 season and an overview of the chemical treatments, channel desilting, capital projects and maintenance works for winter 2021
- WSC were advised East had recruited three new staff in WDS and a new roster (7/2-3/2) was being implemented for the 21/22 season.

Office Hours Change – Brendan Brooks

- All GMW offices have now moved to 8.30/4.30 opening hours when open to the public.

DEDJTR Report – Rabi Maskey

- Written reports provided to the committee – June & July 2021