

No.	Action	2017-18 Progress Update
1	Develop and implement water planning and management frameworks that comply with the sustainable diversion limit (SDL) requirements of the Basin Plan.	<p>SDL compliance requirements have been incorporated in the water resource plans for the Eastern Mount Lofly Ranges and Murray Region and are currently under negotiation with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA).</p> <p>Growth in use policy principles and SDL compliance requirements have been incorporated in the draft River Murray Water Allocation Plan for consultation with the community.</p>
2	Participate in, and influence, the development and implementation of the SDL adjustment mechanism and assessment of projects.	<p>On 16 June 2017, Basin Ministers decided on the final package of projects to offset further water recovery and to address constraints on environmental water delivery.</p> <p>After completing formal public consultation, the MDBA proposed an amendment to the Basin Plan to offset water recovery in the Southern Basin by 605 gigalitres(GL). The amendment was finalised on 9 May 2018.</p>
3	Identify and develop potential South Australian SDL adjustment project proposals and implement approved projects.	<p>South Australia has progressed six projects to offset water recovery and is a co-proponent for another five projects. This includes how to address constraints on environmental water delivery in South Australia.</p>
4	Identify and support implementation of strategic water recovery projects, with advice from the Water Recovery Advisory Committee.	<p>South Australia has successfully completed its 30 June 2019 water recovery task (183.8 GL) through a combination of water recovery initiatives (e.g. South Australian River Murray Sustainability program) and sustainable diversion limit adjustment projects that offset water recovery requirements.</p>

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<p><b>5 &amp; 6</b></p>	<p>Work with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the MDBA to ensure appropriate arrangements for environmental water delivery to South Australia.</p> <p>Influence the management of environmental water under the environmental watering plan, in particular through the development of the Basin-wide environmental watering strategy and annual priorities.</p>	<p>In 2017-18, the Department for Environment and Water (DEW) was successful in securing the delivery of 1175 GL of environmental water to South Australian sites.</p> <p>DEW officers developed and submitted annual watering priorities for South Australian River Murray environmental assets to the MDBA and then worked with the MDBA to identify the Basin annual environmental watering priorities, for 2017-18 and for 2018-19. Environmental water was delivered consistent with South Australia's watering proposals and annual priorities.</p> <p>Environmental benefits observed in 2017-18 included supporting fish migration, maintaining continuous flow to the Coorong and Murray Mouth, providing water bird and wader habitat around the lower lakes and watering wetlands and low-lying floodplain habitat. Targeted barrage releases also supported the upstream migration of pouched lamprey, a species that is still recovering from the impacts of the Millennium Drought.</p> <p>A successful black bream breeding event occurred as a result of the environmental water delivered via the barrages in spring and summer 2017. This created the perfect nursery conditions for spawned eggs, aiding larval development and successful recruitment. The water was provided by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the actions were made possible through a collaborative effort between the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office, DEW, the Community Advisory Panel and Scientific Advisory Group, which identified black bream as a priority for environmental water during this period.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p>Develop and implement South Australia's long-term environmental watering plans and annual watering priorities.</p>	<p>South Australia's River Murray Long Term Environmental Watering Plan was completed in 2015. The Long Term Environmental Watering Plans for the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges and South Australian Murray regions were completed in June 2017 and November 2017 respectively.</p>

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8	Identify and advocate for projects and reforms aimed at removing the barriers limiting the effective delivery of environmental flows through the River Murray system.	<p>South Australia progressed the Ministerial Council agreed package of constraints proposals as a member of the inter-jurisdictional Constraints Measures Working Group.</p> <p>South Australia has commenced preparation, planning and early negotiations with the Commonwealth Government on funding for the River Murray in South Australia constraints measure. South Australia is seeking Commonwealth funding over two years to undertake the next phase of planning, design and engagement in accordance with the long term implementation plan to 2024.</p> <p>This work will be undertaken in close collaboration with local communities and consistent with the Basin wide constraints work plan to enable the environmental benefits and manage the potential risks of flows up to 80,000 megalitres per day at the South Australian border.</p>
9	Facilitate the implementation of the Pike and Katarapko environmental works and measures project.	<p>During 2017-18 work progressed to develop infrastructure options and detailed designs for managed watering of the floodplains and salinity management under the \$155 million South Australian Riverland Floodplains Integrated Infrastructure Program (SARFIIP).</p> <p>Construction of water regulating structures was completed at Margaret Dowling Inlet and Bank J on the Pike and Katarapko Floodplains.</p> <p>Weir pool manipulation events were undertaken as part of SARFIIP. A prioritisation framework for future infrastructure works and environmental measures was developed and work to prepare a business case for future strategic investments commenced.</p>
10	Develop and implement water quality management plans for South Australia's Murray-Darling Basin water resource plan areas.	<p>The Water Quality Management Plans for the Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges, Murray Region and River Murray have been drafted and included in each of the respective Water Resource Plans.</p> <p>South Australia continues to contribute to Basin wide salinity management actions under the Basin Salinity Management Strategy 2030.</p>

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11	Develop water trading policies, protocols, and processes that comply with the Basin Plan.	South Australia's water resource plans have been drafted to ensure that South Australia's water trading activity is consistent with the Basin Plan water trading rules.
12	Develop and implement water resource plans that are consistent with the Basin Plan.	The three water resource plans for regions in South Australia (South Australian Murray Region, Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges and the South Australian River Murray) are on track to be delivered and accredited by 30 June 2019.
13	Continue to work with other Basin states and the MDBA to ensure critical human water needs can be provided in times of low flow or impaired water quality.	<p>As at 30 June 2018, 158 GL of South Australian entitlement flow has been deferred and stored in upstream storages for critical human water needs.</p> <p>Joint arrangements with New South Wales and Victoria are in place each year to ensure sufficient water is available to deliver critical human water needs during dry periods.</p>
14	Support community and industry access to funding for economic diversification and regional development projects.	PIRSA continued to deliver the \$265 million South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program (SARMS) to support regional development and industry redevelopment projects and recover up to 40 GL of water entitlements for the environment. As of 30 June 2018, around \$214 million of investment has been offered through SARMS Irrigation Industry Improvement (3IP) resulting in around 35 GL of water ready for return to the River.
15	Support implementation of the Water Industry Alliance River Murray Improvements Program (SARMS).	PIRSA continued to deliver the \$265 million South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program (SARMS) to support regional development and industry redevelopment projects and recover up to 40 GL of water entitlements for the environment. As of 30 June 2018, around \$214 million of investment has been offered through SARMS Irrigation Industry Improvement (3IP) resulting in around 35 GL of water ready for return to the River.

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16	Engage the community throughout the Basin Plan implementation process.	<p>The River Murray Engagement Plan continues to be implemented to inform and engage people about the implementation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and its various projects.</p> <p>This included supporting the adoption of the River Murray Water Allocation Plan with drop in sessions in Berri, Murray Bridge and Langhorne Creek, targeted stakeholder meetings, digital consultation on YourSAy and marketing and promotion.</p> <p>DEW engaged with communities on a number of policy projects, including Water Level Variability, Upper Pike Take Limits, Environmental and Land Management Allocation (ELMA), Salinity Zoning Policy, Aboriginal recognition and Private Carryover.</p> <p>DEW worked collaboratively with the MDBA, Commonwealth Environmental Water Office and other jurisdictions on engagement activities, including developing consistent information about environmental watering and potential shortfall risk.</p>
17	Ensure South Australia's Basin Plan monitoring, evaluation and reporting arrangements are effective and efficient.	<p>DEW has continued to work collaboratively with the MDBA and the other Basin States to develop the approach for reporting on the effectiveness of the Basin Plan and to identify ways to integrate and coordinate monitoring, evaluation and reporting. DEW contributed to the review of the MDBA's 2017 Basin Plan Evaluation released publicly in December 2017.</p> <p>South Australia delivered its annual reporting requirements (as described in schedule 12 of the Basin Plan). This information was used by the MDBA to prepare the 2017 Basin Plan evaluation and the Basin Plan Annual Report for 2016-17.</p>
18	Ensure best available science supports South Australia's implementation of the Basin Plan.	<p>A range of science projects were undertaken by the DEW and the Goyder Institute for Water Research to improve the understanding of River Murray ecology and responses to environmental watering, assess implications of Sustainable Diversion Limit adjustment projects, improve modelling of groundwater salinity and support the management and operations of infrastructure on floodplains for environmental outcomes.</p>

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19	Negotiate and implement a Basin Plan Implementation Agreement with the MDBA and other Basin states that has regard to South Australian circumstances and any relevant Commonwealth-State agreements.	As at 30 June, South Australia remains on track in delivering the requirements of the Basin Plan Implementation Agreement.
20	Implement the Inter-governmental Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin.	<p>South Australia achieved its 2016-17 milestones for Basin Plan implementation under the National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin.</p> <p>Achieving these milestones secures Commonwealth funding to partially offset implementation costs and continues to be an important step in progressing implementation of the Basin Plan.</p>
21	Ensure South Australia's interests are considered in any reviews or amendment of the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement.	South Australian government representatives actively represented the state's interest in discussions relating to the Agreement and the amendments to the Basin Plan made during 2017-18.