



Australian Government



Basin Plan

FACT SHEET 4: BASIN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY BASIN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

The 16-member Basin Community Committee (BCC) has been established to provide the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) with advice on community issues in relation to the proposed Basin Plan. They will also provide a community perspective for MDBA and the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council on a wide range of water resource, environmental, cultural and socioeconomic matters.

BCC members were selected on the basis of their expertise or interest in community, water use, environmental water management, Indigenous or local government matters.

To assist in its advisory role BCC is required to form irrigation, environmental water and Indigenous water subcommittees. The committee first met in July 2009 in Canberra and will meet at least six times a year in different regional locations.

BASIN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Joan Burns (Chair)

Mildura, Victoria

Joan is a dryland farmer and stock and domestic water user in the Murray-Darling Basin. She is Chair of the Mallee Catchment Management Authority and has extensive experience of MDBA programs.



Danielle Anderson

Wellington, New South Wales

Danielle is a dryland farmer from Wellington, NSW. She has worked for a peak irrigation group and as communications officer for the Far West Region, NSW Department of Natural Resources.



Members of the Basin Community Committee. Absent: Matthew Rigney



Arlene Buchan
Melbourne, Victoria

Arlene is the Healthy Rivers Campaign Coordinator with the Australian Conservation Foundation. She is a member of The Living Murray Community Reference Group, the Water Recovery and Environmental Use Stakeholder Reference Panel (Department of the Environment, Water Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA)), the Snowy River Scientific Committee and the Stakeholder Reference Group of the National Water Commission.



Cheryl Buchanan
Cunnamulla, Queensland

Cheryl is an Indigenous writer and advocate. She is the Chairperson of the Kooma Traditional Owners Association Inc. and was the inaugural state and national chairperson of the Aboriginal Justice Advisory Council. She is founder of many Aboriginal organisations.



Ian R Falconer AO
Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Ian is Vice-President of the Conservation Council of the ACT region and has extensive experience in water quality issues. He was a member of the former Murray–Darling Basin Community Advisory Committee for four years and was appointed an Officer to the Order of Australia for his services to science.



Mary-Lou Gittins
Allora, Queensland

Mary-Lou has a background in Landcare, catchment management and primary production at a local, regional, state and federal level. She is a qualified practising teacher. In addition, Mary-Lou and her husband farm 165 acres of Goomburra Valley irrigated cropping land in the upper Condamine Catchment (north of Warwick).



Les Gordon
Barham, New South Wales

Les has been an irrigator for over 30 years and is the President of the Ricegrowers' Association of Australia. He has had an active interest in the environment in a productive landscape since his involvement in Landcare in 1989. He was a member of the former Murray–Darling Basin Community Advisory Committee and is a member of the NSW Irrigators' Council and the Members' Council of the National Farmers' Federation.



Henry Jones
Clayton, South Australia

Henry is a sixth-generation commercial fisherman in the Lower Lakes and Coorong. He is involved in fisheries management, local governance and environmental management, as well as having a lifetime of community involvement.



Sarah Nicholas
Wandiligong, Victoria

Sarah has a background in rural strategic planning with a strong community engagement component. She was the Chair of the North East Catchment Management Authority for nine years, a member of the Murray–Darling Basin Ministerial Council's Community Advisory Committee and Deputy Chair of The Living Murray Community Reference Group.



Jeff Parish OAM
Barmera, South Australia

Jeff is the Chief Executive Officer of Central Irrigation Trust which provides water to 1,500 horticultural farms, 3,500 households and 70 industries in 10 districts along the River Murray. Jeff has been involved in the irrigation industry for 44 years and has extensive experience in natural resource management and water planning.



Russell Pell
Wyuna, Victoria

Russell is an irrigation dairy farmer. He has a keen interest in the health and management of waterways and has been actively involved in community environmental groups for more than 20 years. He is a board member of the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority and a member of The Living Murray Community Reference Group.



Kathryn Ridge
Sydney, New South Wales

Kathryn is an environmental lawyer who acts for government, private sector, environmental and Aboriginal organisations. Her specialties are biodiversity, conservation and cultural heritage law. She has been on several boards, including the State Water Corporation, Environmental Defender's Office and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority.



Matthew Rigney
Meningie, South Australia

Matthew is a Ngarrindjeri man from the Lower Lakes and Coorong. He holds many positions, the most notable being: Chair of MLDRIN (Murray Lower Darling Rivers Indigenous Nations), Chair of Ngarrindjeri Native Title, Vice-Chair of Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority, and Vice-Chair of Ngarrindjeri Heritage. Matthew is also a teacher of Aboriginal culture and politics at Camp Coorong.



Guy Roth
Narrabri, New South Wales

Guy is an agricultural and natural resource specialist. He is the National Coordinator of the National Program for Sustainable Irrigation. Guy also runs a research and development business.



Dick Thompson
Hanwood, New South Wales

Dick is an irrigator farming rice, wheat and sheep in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. He is Chair of Murrumbidgee Irrigation Ltd and a member of the Murrumbidgee Catchment Management Authority. He has been involved in irrigation politics for over 25 years and is interested in identifying opportunities to improve the environment while maintaining productive regional communities.



Rory Treeweke
Lightning Ridge, New South Wales

Rory is a broadacre farmer and grazier with a family connection to the area for over a hundred years. He has been a member of three Queensland water planning committees for the Lower Balonne and Chair of the Barwon Darling River Management Committee. He is currently a member of the Western Lands Advisory Council, the Great Artesian Basin Advisory Group, the Water Recovery and Environmental Use Stakeholder Reference Panel (DEWHA), and Chair of the Western Catchment Management Authority.



Murray–Darling Basin Authority member representatives

Authority members are represented on BCC by the four part-time members on a rotational basis. The members are (anticlockwise from left) Ms Dianne Davidson, Dr Diana Day, Mr David Green and Professor Barry Hart.



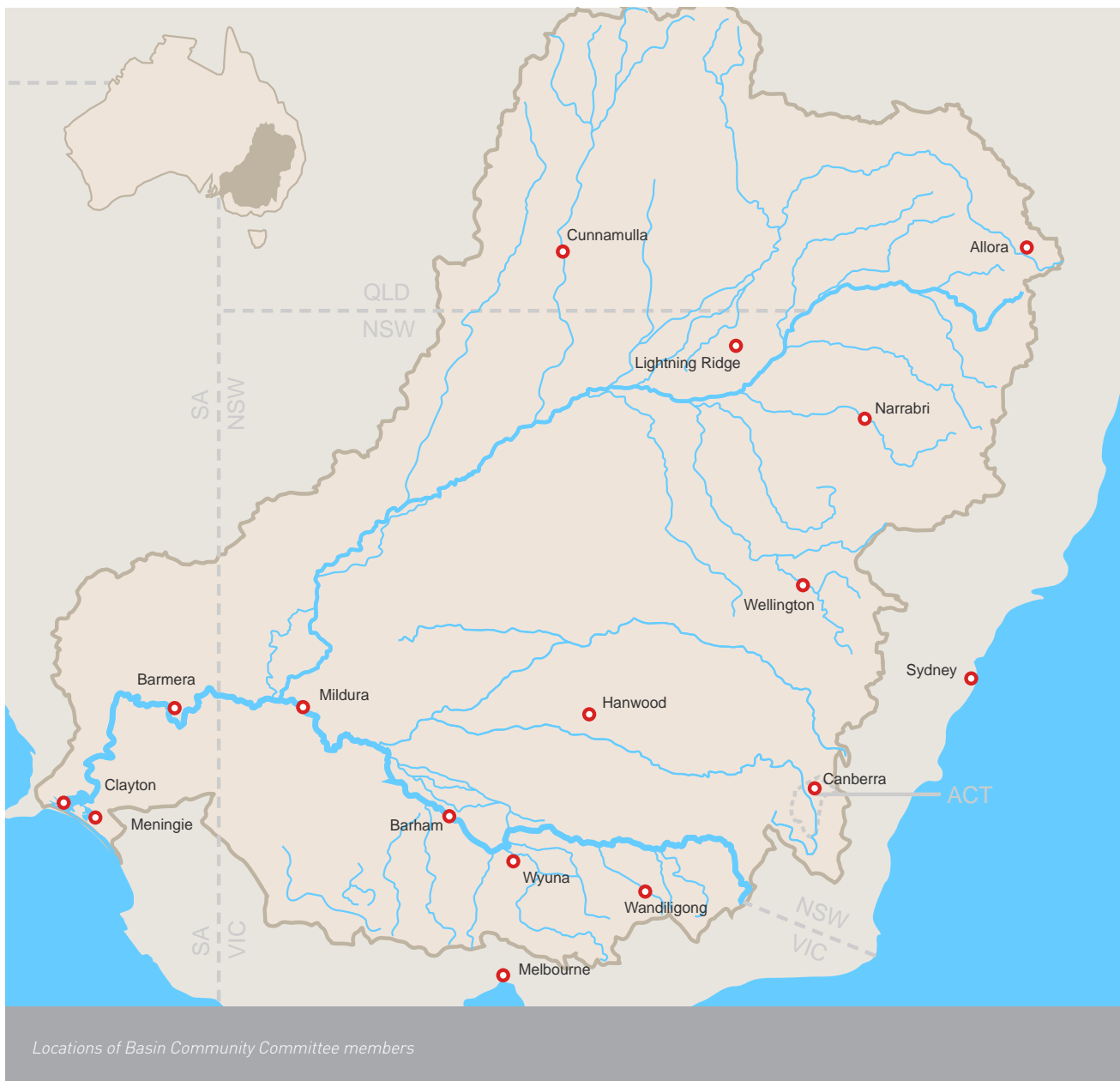
ABOUT THE MURRAY–DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY

The Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) is the Commonwealth agency that manages the Murray–Darling Basin's water resources in the national interest.

MDBA is responsible for preparing and overseeing a legally enforceable management plan — the Basin Plan.

The Basin Plan will:

- set and enforce environmentally sustainable limits on the quantities of water that may be taken from Basin water resources
- set Basin-wide environmental, water quality and salinity objectives
- develop efficient water trading regimes across the Basin
- set requirements for state water resource plans
- improve water security for all Basin water uses.



FURTHER INFORMATION

The *Basin Plan*: a concept statement and copies of this fact sheet are available on the Murray–Darling Basin Authority website at www.mdba.gov.au.

For copies or enquiries email engagement@mdba.gov.au or phone 1800 230 067.

To contact BCC, email bcc@mdba.gov.au

This is #4 in a series of fact sheets on the development of the Basin Plan



First published - September 2009

Photos: MDBA

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

GPO Box 1801 Canberra ACT 2601

Tel 02 6279 0100 Fax 02 6248 8053

www.mdba.gov.au