



Environmental Outcomes of the National Water Initiative

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Tuesday, 4 September 2007

What are the specific challenges in the MDB with the delivery of water to icon sites in a drying climate?

1. Embracing engineering responses
 - a) Pumping
 - b) Weir raising
 - c) Dredging

2. Water trading becomes more important
 - a) More pressure to get mix of products right
 - b) Prices remain high

3. Pressure to not deliver water for the environment is high
 - a) Vandalism of the Hattah Lakes pumps
 - b) Who is best positioned to deliver water?

How can the Commonwealth under the National Plan for Water Security catalyse appropriate interactions between environmental managers and achieve better water management?

1. Identify the tasks
 - a) Which are linked?
 - b) Which can or must be separated?
 - c) Differentiate on scale
2. Understand who is best placed to deliver various tasks?
 - a) Role of non-profits
 - b) Leads to appropriate networks
3. Create organisational certainty
 - a) What opportunities exist?
 - b) Role of public versus private sector

There are many players in environmental management. How can they work together to deliver environmental outcomes under the NWI

- Clarify different responsibilities and what environmental outcomes are they required to achieve
 - Planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, sourcing, holding, trading
 - Who is best placed to undertake the different tasks
 - Environmental outcomes – large, key assets versus local , community sites
 - Governance reasons for separation
 - Community acceptance
 - Create organisational certainty
- Federal government's Basin Plan – identify responsibilities based on task and scale
- Private, NGOs – need to know what the boundaries are because they are running a business, can deliver benefits that public bodies can't, but need to be sustainable – U.S. provides examples of non-profits working

In your experience what would (does) good environmental management look like

- Healthier environment
- Committees, multidisciplinary, respect for knowledge
- Respecting legality of water rights
- Ability to record and report results in a scientifically defensible manner and withstand the town hall test
- Community involved in local projects and singing their praises