



MD-WERP Symposium 2024 wrap-up

On 21 June 2024, the Murray-Darling Water and Environment Research Program held its second annual symposium in Albury. The 2024 science symposium theme was 'knowledge of the collective to shape a way forward'. [Watch the 2-minute Symposium wrap-up video](#) on our website.



[Read our wrap up of the MD-WERP Symposium](#)

Message from the Governing Panel



Welcome to the July 2024 newsletter. This newsletter contains a wrap-up of the 2024 symposium, discusses the MD-WERP mid-term evaluation and highlights new research reports and project findings.

As we enter our fifth and final year of operations, there will be a significant focus on translating our research findings into forms that suit the needs of our diverse stakeholders. Our primary path to impact is via the forthcoming Basin Plan Evaluation and Basin Plan Review. The Governing Panel is confident that the MD-WERP research outcomes will enhance the quality of those processes.

*Professor Rob Vertessy FTSE
Chair, MD-WERP Governing Panel*

Mid-term evaluation

The mid-term evaluation of the Murray–Darling Water and Environmental Research Program was conducted by independent evaluators Professor Barry Hart and Dr Rhonda Butcher from July to November 2023.

[Read the evaluation](#)

Governing Panel response

Before the end of the program, you will see a number of recommendations implemented including a document that clearly identifies the research outputs and how they will be used and how to better engage with First Nations groups.

[Read the response](#)



Spotlight: Enhancing local fish & wetlands on Country

MD-WERP is funding a unique project that combines First Nations knowledge and modern fisheries science. This project is researching native fish habitat and connectivity. Managed wetlands will support native fish as breeding nurseries and tagged

fish will reveal movement patterns in the Basin.

[Read more](#)



Symposium posters

A key focus of the 2024 symposium was the interactive poster sessions which enabled attendees to engage with individual research projects and researchers. During the Symposium, 13 research projects presented posters.

[View the posters](#)

Now released – New MD-WERP reports

Projects funded through the MD-WERP are continuing to uncover new information and generate new tools to improve water and environmental management and outcomes for Basin communities. Newly published reports since our last e-newsletter include:

- [T.8b.4 Summary report – Groundwater as an adaptation option to current water resources management](#)
- [T2.H.2 Hydroclimate and catchment processes impacting runoff in the northern Murray–Darling Basin](#)
- [T3.11.4.3 Habitat Suitability Modelling of Fish, Aquatic Invertebrates and Riparian Plants in the Murray–Darling Basin](#)

Contact us

We welcome your feedback or questions at any time. Please contact the MD-WERP Implementation Team via email at MDWERP@mdba.gov.au.

Please do not reply directly to this email. To contact the Murray–Darling Water and Environment Research Program, email mdwerp@mdba.gov.au or phone 1800 230 067. Our postal address is:

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The Murray–Darling Basin Authority offers respect to the Traditional Custodians of Country and their Nations of the Murray–Darling Basin. We acknowledge their continuing deep cultural, social, environmental, spiritual and economic connection to their lands and waters. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.