Progress of water recovery towards 'Bridging the Gap' to SDLs (registered volumes) as at 30 June 2021

Table 1 - with updated NSW, Victorian, South Australian and Queensland LTDLE factors

Surface water SDL resource unit (or Shared Zone)	Basin Plan recovery targets				Recovery Progress[1]						Remaining		
					Australian Government				state government recoveries[8] (GL/y)	total recovery (GL/y)	local recovery remaining (GL/y)	shared recovery remaining (GL/y)	total recovery remaining (GL/y)
					purchase (GL/y)								
	local target (GL/y)	shared target (GL/y)[2]	SDL adjustment amount[3] (GL/y)	total target (GL/y)	included in 1500 Limit[4]	exempt from 1500 Limit[5]	infrastructure (GL/y)[6]	gifted[7] (GL/y)					
Condamine-Balonne	100.0	-	-	100.0	78.0		8.0	-	-	86.0	14.0	-	14.0
Moonie	-	2.1	-	2.1	-		1.6	1.2	-	2.8	-	-	-
Nebine	1.0	2.8	-	3.8	-		-	3.8	-	3.8	-	-	-
Paroo	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
QLD Border Rivers	14.0	-	-	14.0	4.4		9.3	0.8	-	14.4	-	-	-
Warrego	8.0	12.1	-	20.1	10.1		0.4	9.5	-	20.1	-	-	-
northern Basin QLD zone	**123.0**	**17.0**	**-**	**140.0**	**92.5**	**-**	**19.3**	**15.4**	**-**	**127.2**	**14.0**	**-**	**14.0**
Barwon-Darling	32.0	-	-	32.0	24.9		3.7	-	1.7	30.4	1.6	-	1.6
Gwydir	42.0	7.6	-	49.6	42.9		5.0	-	6.7	54.6	-	-	-
Intersecting Streams[9]	-	13.8	-	13.8	13.8		-	-		13.8		-	-
Macquarie-Castlereagh	55.0	2.6	-	57.6	30.8		39.2	-	25.8	95.8	-	-	-
Namoi	20.0	-	-	20.0	4.7		5.9	-	-	10.5	9.5	-	9.5
NSW Border Rivers	7.0	-	-	7.0	-		1.9	-	-	1.9	5.1	-	5.1
northern Basin NSW zone	**156.0**	**24.0**	**-**	**180.0**	**117.1**	**-**	**55.7**	**-**	**34.3**	**207.1**	**16.2**	**-**	**16.2**
northern Basin total	**279.0**	**41.0**	**-**	**320.0**	**209.5**	**-**	**75.1**	**15.4**	**34.3**	**334.3**	**30.2**	**-**	**30.2**
Lower Darling	8.0	14.3	-	22.3	21.8		1.4	-	-	23.2	-	-	-
NSW Murrumbidgee[10), (11), (12)]	320.0	277.9	(145.9)	452.0	136.6		279.6	-	26.2	442.4	-	9.6	9.6
NSW Murray	262.0	165.8	(112.4)	315.4	190.2		102.7	-	0.1	293.0	-	22.4	22.4
southern Basin NSW zone	**590.0**	**458.0**	**(258.3)**	**789.7**	**348.5**	**-**	**383.6**	**-**	**26.4**	**758.5**	**-**	**32.1**	**32.1**
ACT Murrumbidgee[10]	-	4.9	-	4.9	-		-	-	-	-	-	4.9	4.9
southern Basin ACT zone	**-**	**4.9**	**-**	**4.9**						**-**			**4.9**
Broken	-	1.3	(1.0)	0.3	0.0		0.3	-	0.1	0.4	-	-	-
Campaspe[14]	18.0	13.2	(2.3)	28.9	6.3		0.2		21.4	27.9	-	1.0	1.0
Goulburn[14]	344.0	186.4	(157.2)	373.2	219.0		113.8	-	36.2	369.0	-	4.2	4.2
Kiewa[13]	-	1.1	(1.2)	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loddon[14]	12.0	9.8	(9.8)	12.0	1.8		0.4	-	10.2	12.3	-	-	-
Ovens[13]	-	2.7	(2.7)	-	0.0		0.0	-	-	0.1	-	-	-
VIC Murray[14]	253.0	210.8	(65.6)	398.2	259.6		112.6	-	21.8	394.0	-	4.2	4.2
southern Basin VIC zone	**627.0**	**425.3**	**- 239.8**	**812.5**	**486.7**	**-**	**227.2**	**-**	**89.6**	**803.6**	**-**	**9.4**	**9.4**
Eastern Mount Lofty Ranges	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Marne Saunders	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SA Murray	101.0	82.8	- 44.9	138.9	84.6	2.8	47.3	-	6.3	141.0	-	-	-
SA Non-Prescribed	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
southern Basin SA zone	**101.0**	**82.8**	**- 44.9**	**138.9**	**84.6**	**2.8**	**47.3**	**-**	**6.3**	**141.0**	**-**	**-**	**-**
southern Basin total	**1,318.0**	**971.0**	**- 543.0**	**1,746.0**	**919.9**	**2.8**	**658.2**	**-**	**122.2**	**1,703.1**	**-**	**41.5**	**46.4**
Lachlan	48.0	N/A	-	48.0	33.0		2.3	-	11.8	47.1	0.9	-	**0.9**
Wimmera-Mallee	23.0	N/A	-	23.0	23.2		-	-	-	23.2	-	-	-
total Basin	**1,668.0**	**1,012.0**	**- 543.0**	**2,137.0**						**2,107.7**			**77.5**

Notes on Table 1

Allow for minor rounding in total values.

All water recovery figures are expressed in long-term diversion limit equivalent (LTDLE) terms. Water recovery amounts are calculated using:

1. Water recovery registered as reported by Basin states under Basin Plan Schedule 12 Matter 9.1.1 as at 30 June 2021.

2. The Basin Plan Amendment Instrument (No.1) 2018 provided additional time for Basin States to request a re-allocation of the shared reduction amount within a Basin zone in their state. Queensland and South Australia made a request to re-allocate the shared reduction amount within their state in June 2018. NSW and Victoria made requests to re-allocate their shared reduction amounts in December 2018 that were agreed by the Authority in March 2019. This table shows the outcome of those re-allocation requests.

3. SDL adjustment amount as determined by the MDBA for 30 June 2021 based on the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Mechanism (SDLAM) amendment instrument that commenced in law on the 13 January 2018. The SDL reflects supply contributions, efficiency contributions as at the end of the first day of the water accounting period, of 1.9 GL/y LTDLE and the application of the net 5% limit rule. As efficiency projects are completed and entitlements are registered with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, the SDL adjustment amount will change. Further information about supply and efficiency projects can be found at https://www.mdba.gov.au/basin-plan-roll-out/sustainable-diversion-limits/sdlam

4. Water recoveries that are included in the Australian Government's 1500 GL/y limit on water purchases.

5. Consistent with the Water Act 2007 (Cth) (s85B, C and D), 2.8 GL/y LTDLE of water secured from the SA Government in May 2016 is exempt from the 1,500 GL/y limit on water purchases.

6. Includes Australian Government water recoveries funded through the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program (SRWUIP) Infrastructure projects, the South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program (SARMSP) and the Water Smart Australia Program in the Murrumbidgee. Programs also include entitlements recovered through co-funded Commonwealth/State projects.

7. Water gifted to the Australian Government by the Queensland Government.

8. State recovery figures as reported by Basin states under Basin Plan Schedule 12 Matter 9.1.1 as at 30 June 2021, including the Water Smart Australia Program (excluding Murrumbidgee which is reported under Infrastructure).

9. As part of the NSW updated LTDLE factors work in 2018, the Intersecting Streams SDL resource unit BDL was re-estimated and a factor determined for the former Toorale station unregulated river special additional high flow entitlement of 9.720GL. From March 2019, this recovery is now included in this table. For this Table the factor for this entitlement is 1.00.

10. The entitlement that was acquired in 2014 to meet the ACT shared reduction target has been recovered from the NSW Murrumbidgee. At the time of the purchase, it was intended to meet the ACT's shared reduction amount target. Until this entitlement can be traded from NSW into the ACT it will be shown as a recovery in the NSW Murrumbidgee.

11. Following a request from NSW, and as part of NSW planning assumption work, the MDBA has reviewed the water recovery in the Nimmie-Caira (Murrumbidgee SDL resource unit). This resulted in the MDBA recognising an extra 40.4 GL/y as contributing to 'bridging the gap'. The review report is available at https://www.mdba.gov.au/publications/mdba-reports/nimmie-caira-entitlements-contribution-bridging-gap

12. The proposed NSW WRP (30 June 2020) provides updated information for the LTDLE factor for unregulated entitlements - the number of entitlements on issue. NSW agreed this updated information (July 2020) be applied and the updated factor is included in this table.

13. Basin Plan recovery targets: The Victorian shared reduction request (as agreed by the Authority) produces a small negative amount in the Kiewa of 0.1 GL/y for the required reduction from the BDL to the SDL when applied in conjunction with the apportioned supply contribution; which assumes at least 62 GL/y of efficiency measures is achieved. The Victorian shared reduction request meets all of the requirements set out in the Basin Plan at s6.05. Resolution of any anomalies will be considered as further recoveries are secured and / or at the 2024 reconciliation of the SDLAM.

14. NVIRP Stage 1 is a water recovery project estimated (as a project) to deliver 75 GL/y to the environment. As a project it recovers water from 4 systems: Victorian Murray, Goulburn, Campaspe and Loddon.

For this analysis, entitlement volumes for NVIRP Stage 1 for the Murray, Goulburn, Campaspe and Loddon were available. BE amendments made on 25 and 26 June 2019 have been included for the Victorian Murray and Goulburn. This analysis also applies the updated LTDLE factors.

Previous analysis assumed that the total of 75 GL/y (long term average annual) will be maintained across the 4 systems - and entitlements would be issued to support this volume. In prior analysis, LTDLE factors have been applied to the Campaspe and Loddon entitlements, and to ensure the total of 75 GL/y was maintained, the remaining balance from 75 GL/y was evenly divided between the Murray and Goulburn.

At 30 June 2019 with new entitlement volumes issued, the prior presentation ceased and only entitlements with an LTDLE factor are presented. This is shown as a part of the change in water recovery volume. The incomplete water recovery in the Campaspe is related to Victoria finalising the issuing of entitlements associated with NVIRP 1.

Table 2 - with updated Queensland LTDLE factors

Groundwater [1] SDL Resource unit	Sustainable Diversion Limit Reduction Amount			Recovery Progress		Remaining
	Local Target (GL/y)	Shared Target (GL/y)	**Total Target (GL/y)**	Purchase (GL/y)	**Total Recovery (GL/y)**	**Total recovery remaining (GL/y)**
Upper Condamine Alluvium (Central Condamine Alluvium)	35.40	N/A	**35.40**	35.15	**35.15**	**0.25**
Upper Condamine Alluvium (Tributaries)[2]	3.05	N/A	**3.05**	0.10	**0.10**	**2.95**
Total Basin	**38.45**	**N/A**	38.45	**35.25**	35.25	3.20

Notes on Table 2

Allow for minor rounding in total values.

All water recovery figures are expressed in long term diversion limit equivalent (LTDLE) terms. Groundwater water recovery amounts are calculated using long-term diversion limit equivalent factors that are consistent with accredited Queensland Water Resource Plans. Queensland planning assumption work has been completed and independently reviewed that supports the LTDLE factors used here. This may have changed the long-term diversion limit equivalent volumes from previous presentations.

1. Groundwater recovery does not contribute to the surface water recovery target.

2. Queensland has reviewed how the BDL was set in 2012, where the figure included water licences that were authorised to take water from three groundwater resources - namely the Tributaries, the Upper Condamine Basalts and the great Artesian Basin. Since that time, Queensland has amended these licences so they may take water from one resource only. As a result, the maximum allowable take in the Tributaries has effectively decreased by 1,950 ML/y (from 5,000 ML/y to 3,050 ML/y). With a reduction in the BDL and the SDL remaining the same, the water recovery target in this SDL resource unit decreases by 1,950 ML/y to 3,050 ML/y.