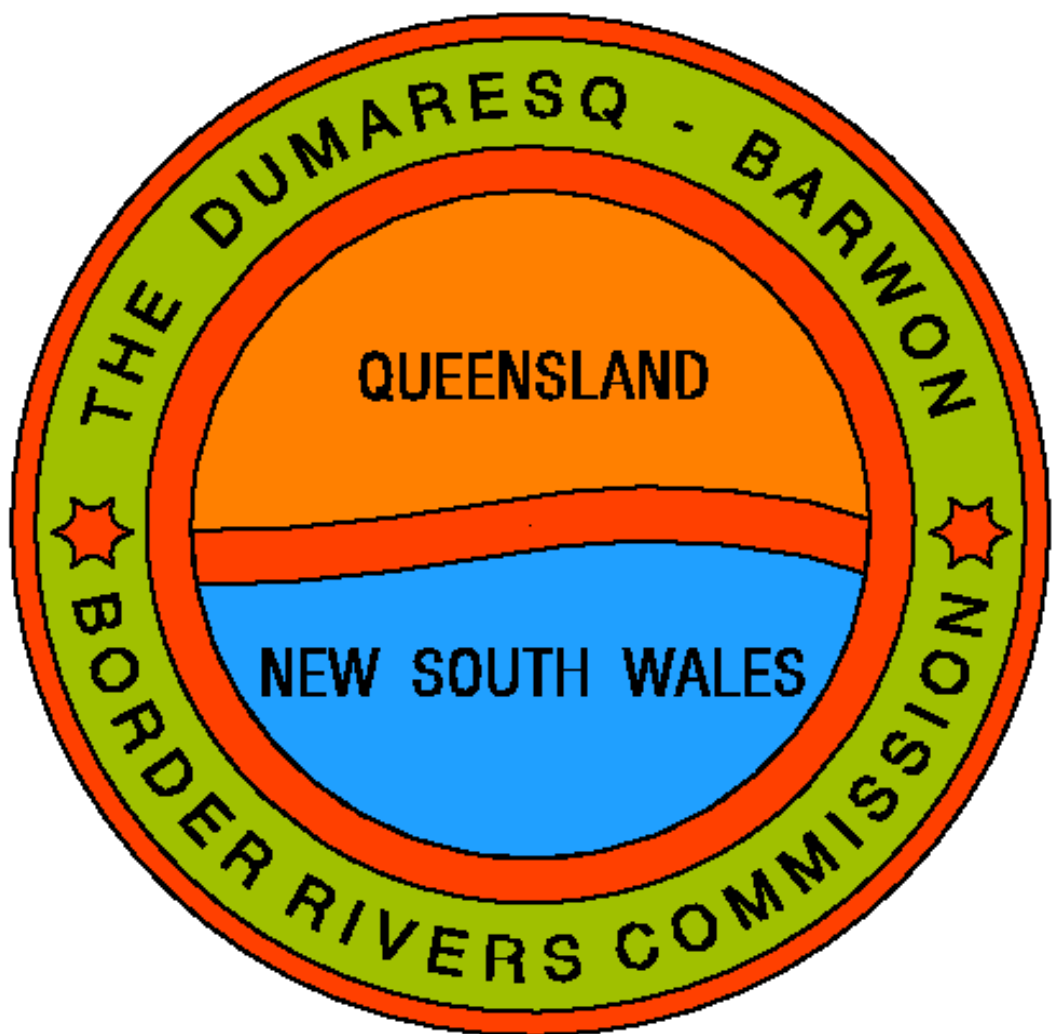


**Dumaresq-Barwon**  
**Border Rivers Commission**

2019 – 2020

**ANNUAL**  
**REPORT**



Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission  
L18, 275 George Street | GPO Box 2771,  
Brisbane Qld 4001

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Commission 2020

*The Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission operates in the upper Murray Darling Basin. The Commission came into existence by a legislative agreement between the States of New South Wales and Queensland in 1946-1947.*

The Commission is a joint operation with each State retaining 50% shareholding control, Commission expenses incurred are funded 50:50 by each State and each State has 50% ownership of the Commission's \$158 million bulk water infrastructure asset portfolio.

The Commission determines, enables, and monitors each State's eligible share of water that crosses or passes into and along the New South Wales and Queensland border. It has certain investigative functions to identify and report on potential improvements for water sharing equity between the States.

The Commission manages water at a wholesale supply level i.e. our stakeholders are the States and not individual water users of either State. Subsequent revenue from water usage is collected and retained separately by each State.

The States jointly contributed \$3.6 million to fund the Commission's expenses in the 2019-20 financial year. All works and services are undertaken by or procured through a government entity of either State. The Commission, in turn, pays those entities for their services. Operating expenses for 2019-20 were \$3.2 million.

## About the report

The Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Annual Report 2019-20 describes the Commission's activities undertaken between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020.

The Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission is recognised as a not-for-profit, unincorporated government Statutory Body in both Queensland and New South Wales.

## Public availability

Electronic copies of the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission annual report are available online at

<http://www.brc.gov.au/publications.html>.

Limited printed copies are available by phoning **(07) 3330 4455** Monday to Friday between 9am-3pm or emailing [brc@dnrme.qld.gov.au](mailto:brc@dnrme.qld.gov.au).

## Information security

This document has been classified using the Queensland Government Information Security Classification Framework (QGISC) as PUBLIC and will be managed according to the requirements of the QGISC. See [www.qgcio.qld.gov.au](http://www.qgcio.qld.gov.au).

## Interpreter service statement

The Queensland Government is committed to providing accessible services to Queenslanders from all culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. If you have difficulty in understanding the annual report, you can contact us within Australia on 13 QGOV (13 74 68) and we will arrange an interpreter to effectively communicate the report to you.

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# Letter to Queensland Shareholder Minister

22 September 2020

The Honourable Dr Anthony Lynham, MP  
Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy  
PO Box 15216  
CITY EAST Q 4002

Dear Minister Lynham

I am pleased to submit for presentation to the Parliament the Annual Report 2019-2020 and financial statements for the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission.

The report details the non-financial and financial performance of the Commission from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

I certify that this Annual Report complies with the

- prescribed requirements of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*, and
- Is in accordance with the provisions of the *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946*.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Cox  
Chair



Paul Sanders  
Commissioner for Queensland

# Letter to New South Wales Shareholder Minister

22 September 2020

The Honourable Melinda Pavey, MP  
Minister for Water, Property & Housing  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister Pavey

I am pleased to submit for presentation to the Parliament the Annual Report 2019-2020 and financial statements for the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission.

The report details the non-financial and financial performance of the Commission from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

I certify that this Annual Report complies with the

- prescribed requirements of the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984*, and
- Is in accordance with the provisions of *the New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947*.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Cox  
Chair



Mitchell Isaacs  
Commissioner for New South Wales

# Who we are

The New South Wales and Queensland Governments established the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission on ratification of the

*New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946 (Qld), and New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947 (NSW)*

**Under the Acts, the Commission's key obligation is to determine and monitor the water supply shares available to each State as per the Act Agreement. This is enabled by legislative control of the jointly owned States' infrastructure.** Each State funds the Commission's expenditure equally. Resulting water user revenue is accounted for separately by each State.

The Commission's operational area exists within the upper reaches of the Darling River within the Murray-Darling basin and responsibility includes:

- Glenlyon Dam on Pike Creek, Queensland
- Dumaresq River watershed upstream of Mingoola Gauging Station.
- The Carrier Rivers being the rivers constituting part of the boundary between the States
- The Intersecting Streams which include the Moonie, Bokhara, Narran, Culgoa, Ballandool, Warrego and Paroo Rivers and any stream or watercourse which forms part of the Darling River Drainage system and crosses the New South Wales-Queensland border west of Mungindi.
- Alluvial aquifers associated with the Border Rivers Alluvium.

The statutory functions and duties of the Commission are to:

- Determine the quantities of water available to each State and ensure compliance by each State of their share.
- Periodically determine the quantities of water available from the groundwater alluvium associated with the Carrier Rivers, report and make recommendations to the States
- Periodically determine the quantities of water available from the Intersecting Streams, report and make recommendations to the States of works to ensure better distribution of water between the States.
- Investigate matters to enable the Commission to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred upon it by the Act Agreement
- Report and make recommendations to the States regarding the works and other matters
- Control the construction, operation, and maintenance of works subject to the Act Agreement in the Border Rivers Catchment and Intersecting Streams
- Arrange for the effective monitoring of certain waters that flows into, along and out of the Carrier Rivers, of the Intersecting Streams and certain groundwater

In addition to its statutory functions, the Commission has arranged for water quality monitoring in the Carrier Rivers and the Intersecting Streams.

The Commission is also a registered water service provider under the *Queensland Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008*.

# Where we operate

The Border Rivers Catchment and Intersecting Streams operational areas

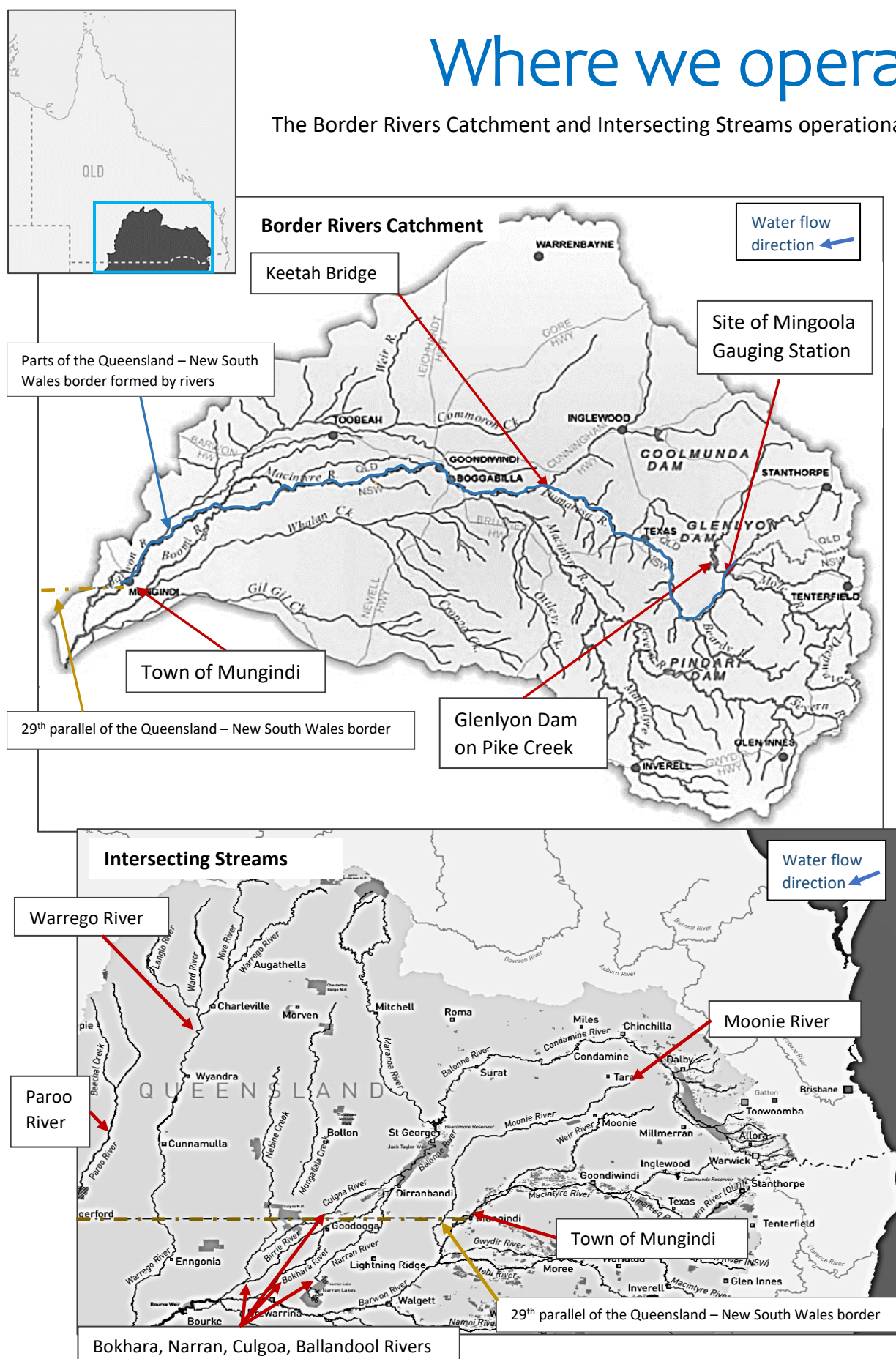


Figure 1 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission operational areas

# 2019-2020 at a glance

## Finances and water supply

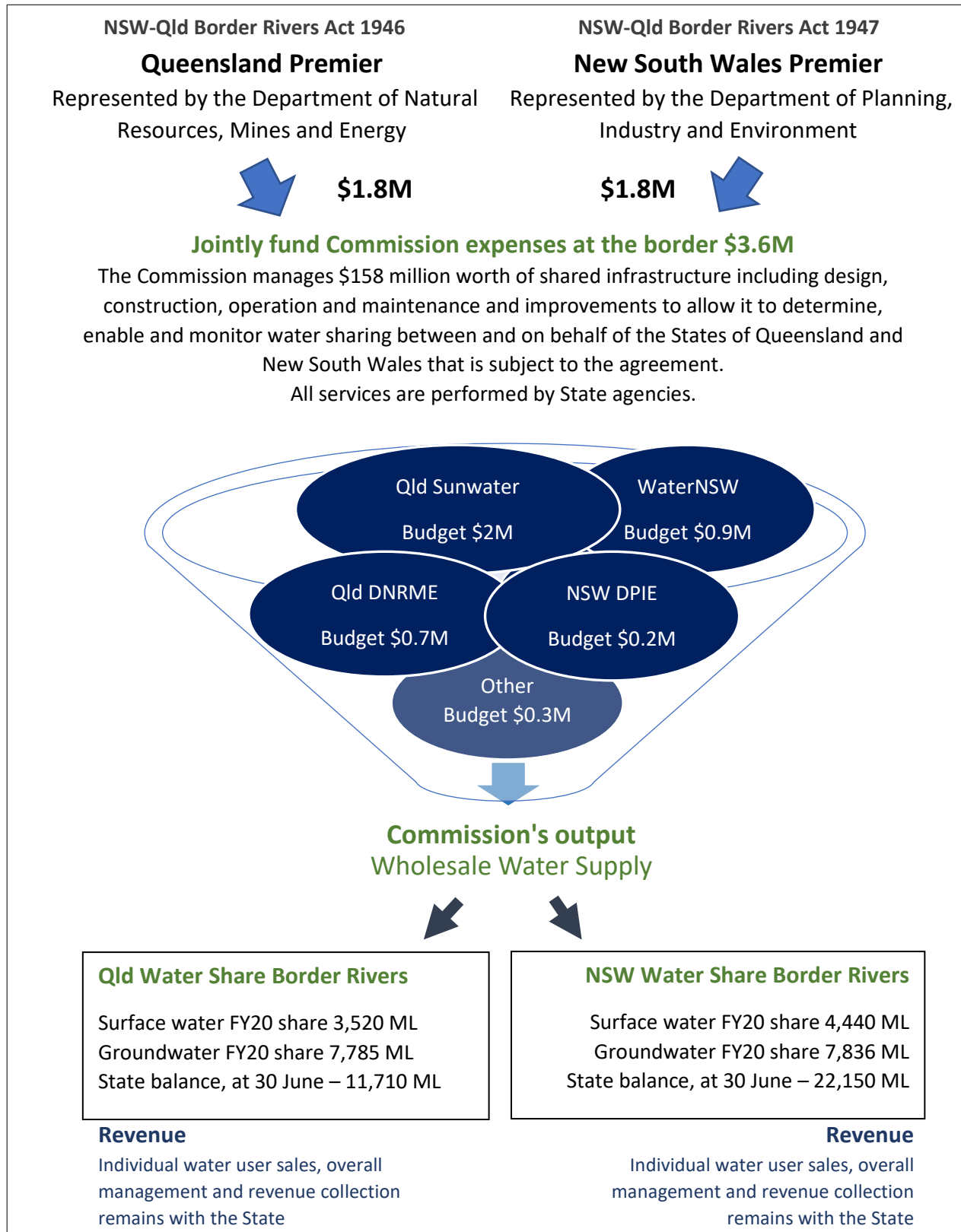


Figure 2 Dumaesq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission high level finances and water supply 2019-20

# Employment of Labour between the States

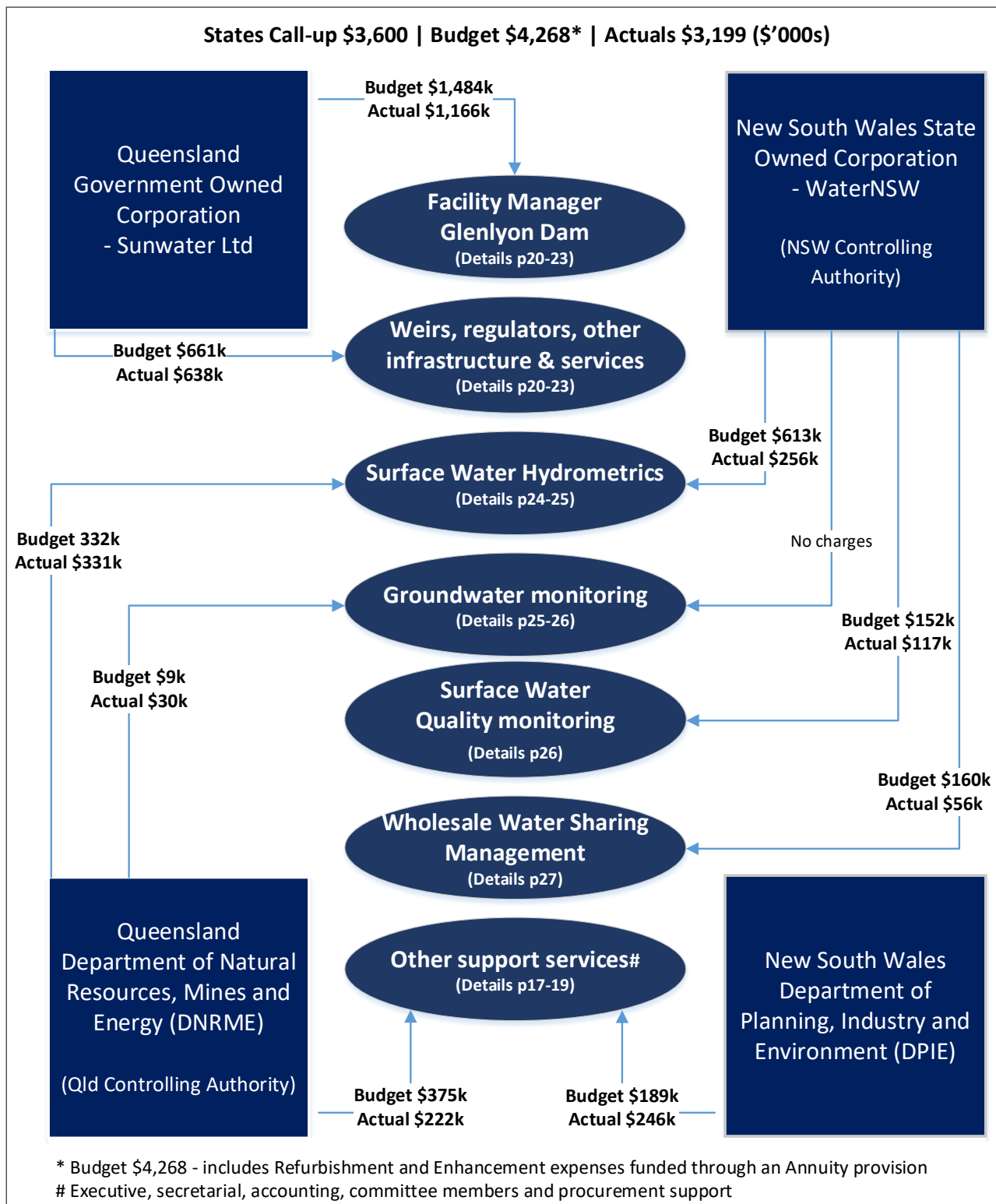


Figure 3 Employment of Labour 2019-20 budget and actual

# Chair's Report

I am pleased to present the Commission's achievements against the objectives set out in our Business Plan for 2019–2020. Our goal is to ensure that the border rivers are managed sustainably with clear and simple governance and service delivery arrangements in place.

This year saw the extremely dry conditions continue throughout the Border Rivers catchment, with the likely result that it will be classified as a drought of record for the area.

In September 2019, a strategic release was made from Glenlyon Dam to support critical human needs downstream, knowing that this would be the last release able to be made from the storage should the drought continue. In the early part of 2020 inflows have been received and Glenlyon has ended the year holding 33,860 megalitres. Downstream flows have been much more widespread, and water has been flowing over Boggabilla, Goondiwindi, and Mungindi Weirs for some months. These storages will now be able to supply town water supplies well into 2021.

Water in the Border Rivers benefits irrigation water users, town water users and the environment on both sides of the Border.

Since taking up as Chair, I have been conscious of the need for significant change in the way the Commission operates. Indeed, the Commission has been on a course of continuous improvement since then, but there is still much to do.

The Commission met formally on five occasions this financial year and planned to convene four times each financial year.

The Commission has strengthened governance and compliance with the additional meetings held by the Commission and our subcommittees.

The implementation of our new stakeholder engagement plan has seen an increase in engagement in regional forums. This interaction with regional stakeholders has led to a review of the bifurcation weirs and the operations.

The annual "call-up" from each state was \$1.8 million for the 2019-20 financial year.

The Queensland Audit Office has audited the Commission's finances for 2019-20 and found them to be in order.

I wish to thank Sunwater Ltd and WaterNSW for their operation and management of the Commission's assets and delivery of water to the States during the year and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment and the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy for their continued support during 2019-20.

I would also like to record my thanks to Mr Brian Cook, former secretary, for his service to the Commission from November 2011 to September 2019.

In closing, I also thank the Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners, the Commission's Chief Executive Officer, Business and Governance Officer, and Accountant and members of the Committees and other departmental staff from both States, for their dedication, efforts, and support throughout the year. I am sure they will continue in the same committed manner in 2020-21 and beyond.



Mr Shaun Cox, Chair

# Strategy and Governance

## Our strategic direction

The Commission's goal is to ensure that the border rivers are managed sustainably with clear and simple governance and service delivery arrangements in place. The Commission will get its fundamentals right to support effective service to the States.

### We will do this by

- Managing the business prudently and efficiently while ensuring financial sustainability
- Establishing long term plans (10 years) for sustainably managing the business, the desired levels of service and the associated assets
- Identifying risks and developing relevant mitigation plans
- Ensuring high levels of transparency in relation to our activities

To achieve our business objectives, several key initiatives have been identified with work underway. Refer to Table 1.

Table 1 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Strategic Plan

Goal	The border rivers are managed sustainably with clear and simple governance and service delivery arrangements
Business objectives	Key initiatives
1. Prudent and efficient management	Scope of service obligations Governance framework Long term financial plan Cost and price review
2. Sustainable plans for service delivery	Secure service provider arrangements Asset strategy and management plan Asset ownership framework
3. Risk management	Risk management plan and framework Public safety strategy Business continuity
4. Transparent operations	Stakeholder engagement plan Performance reporting review Performance audit

# Our strategic performance

## Business Objective 1: Prudent and Efficient Management:

The Commission is reviewing its service obligations scope to ensure continued compliance with legislative and other requirements. This review will also identify activities being undertaken that is not clearly defined in current inter-jurisdictional legislation or other arrangements. Taking a holistic view, it will identify activities which are other government entities responsibilities. The objective is to eliminate duplications of effort.

The Commission has continued to work on the implementation of the new governance framework during the year to provide confidence that activities are managed and controlled. During 2019-20, the Commission in partnership with our internal sub-committees, adopted and implemented several governance related policies, which included a new risk management framework, stakeholder plan, and succession plan.

For a second year, the Commission has undertaken a comprehensive self-assessment evaluation to measure progress and improvements in strategy formulation, policy making, monitoring and supervision, accountability and working through a CEO. This survey is a useful continuous improvement tool. The Commission was able to demonstrate improvements.

In 2020-21, the Commission will undertake external cost and price reviews of our service providers and develop a ten-year term financial plan. This work will provide third party assurance that the Commission's costs and services are prudent and efficient. Additionally, it will clearly set out the Commission's costs

and associated price paths for the future 10 years, ensuring cost transparency to our shareholding governments.

## Business Objective 2: Sustainable Plans for Service Delivery:

Since 2000, Queensland state water reforms, which separated regulatory and operational roles and responsibilities, had created some uncertainty. A State controlling authority has legally binding obligations for undertaking regulatory, operational and construction activities under the Acts. During 2019-20, the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME) was clarified as the Queensland controlling authority. Supported by the Commission, DNRME has commenced negotiations with Sunwater Ltd, formalising contractual arrangements. Sunwater undertakes facility management activities (FY20 Actuals \$1.8M, 56% of total operational expenses) on behalf of the two States, through the Commission.

An independent external contractor was engaged to revalue the assets and review Sunwater's twenty-year refurbishment and enhancement asset program. Work continues in 2020-21 to develop an overarching Asset Management Plan including an asset strategy decision framework. This will encompass other assets that are by statute under the control and funded through the Commission but not listed in the Commission's and jointly States-owned asset register. These are held directly in either Queensland DNRME or WaterNSW asset registers.

Further work is planned on asset ownership.

### **Business Objective 3: Risk Management:**

In partnership with the Commission's internal sub-committees, the Commission approved a new risk management framework, plan, and update of its risk register. This provides the Commission with clarity and understanding of the risks to be managed by and within the business, our risk appetite and tolerability and informs work programs, priorities, and budgets.

As the facility manager, Sunwater operates, maintains, and undertakes capital works on Glenlyon Dam, Boggabilla Weir, and several smaller weirs. The Commission is working with Sunwater to obtain assurances of their public safety framework to keep people safe. This is part of a larger body of work to establish a public safety assurance framework, as the Commission manages and mitigates risk associated with all assets and operations under its control.

In 2020-21, work will also commence for the development of a business continuity plan to provide community and stakeholders with confidence that arrangements are in place to manage emergencies and ensure business continuity following such events.

### **Business Objective 4: Transparent Operations:**

During 2019-20, the Commission adopted a stakeholder engagement plan which outlines our approach for ensuring proactive and constructive engagement with key stakeholders.

In 2020-21, work will commence to review the Commission's current performance reporting regime. The objective is to ensure continual alignment by the Commission and service providers with our legislative and other obligations, to enable identification and management of key risks and drive value.

# Our overall governance structure

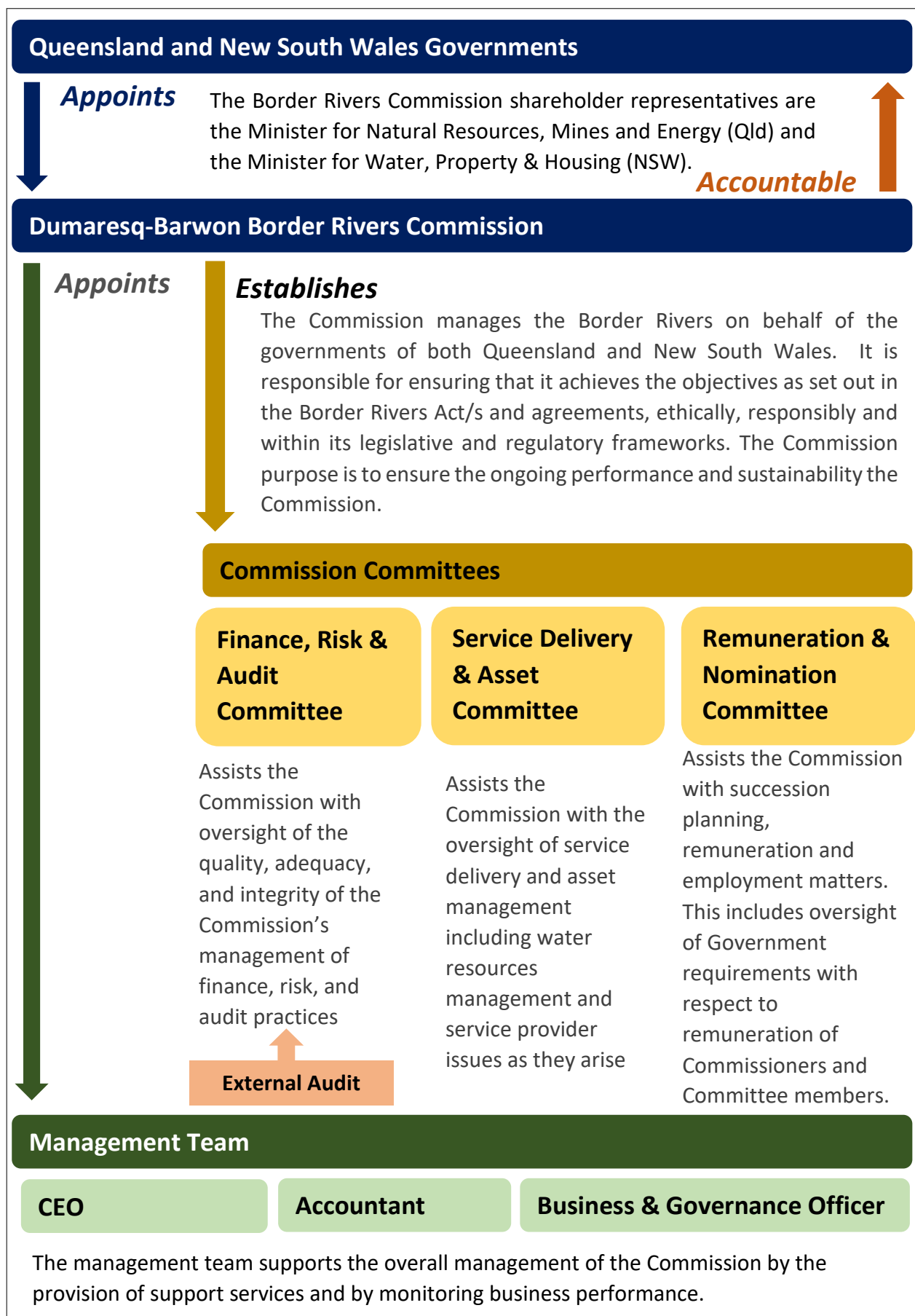


Figure 4 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Governance Structure 2019-20

# Our governance framework

Underpinning our governance structure, is a framework of rules, relationships, systems, and processes to exercise and control our activities. Our governance framework encompasses the mechanisms by which the Commission, and those in control of the activities will be held to account.

The Commission is recognised as an unincorporated Statutory Body in New South Wales and Queensland.

The Governance Framework for the Commission is based on the 'Governance Lighthouse' model that has been produced by the New South Wales Audit Office specifically for State and local government entities. It covers eight principles and has seventeen key governance components. The principles and components are based on the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations. Table 2 provides an overview.

## Other matters

### Audit and inspection of Commission's books

Under the Acts, the Commission shall be audited at least once in every year by the Auditors-General of New South Wales and Queensland or such one of them as may be agreed upon from time to time by the Premiers. On 8 October 2012, the Premier of Queensland signed an instrument of agreement that the Auditor-General of the State of Queensland shall conduct all financial audits for the 2011-12 and subsequent financial years.

Table 2 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Governance Framework

Our Governance Principles	Key components
Key Stakeholder Rights	17. Key stakeholder management program
Risk Management	16. CEO and management sign-off on internal controls 15. Risk management program
Remuneration	14. Remuneration is fair and reasonable
Disclosure	13. Continuous disclosure 12. Annual report
Corporate Reporting	11. CEO and Accountant sign-off on financial reports 10. Internal and external audit 9. Audit and risk committee
Ethics	8. Compliance framework 7. Fraud and corruption control framework 6. Ethical framework
Structure	5. Key governance committees
Management and Oversight	4. Diversity policy 3. Clear Accountability and delegations 2. Regular reporting against plans 1. Leadership and strategic and business plans

In accordance with the Act Agreement Clause 31 and the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Regulation 2015 (NSW)* Clause 9(2), auditing of the Commission's financial records for period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 20 has been performed by the Queensland Audit Office. There are no known events occurring after balance date that would have effect on the Commission's financial statements.

### **Freedom of information / Right to information**

No requests were received during the 2019-20 financial year.

### **Privacy management**

The Commission complies with the privacy management requirements applying to the Queensland Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. No complaints were received during the year.

### **Insurance**

Assets managed by the Commission, on behalf of the State of Queensland and New South Wales, are insured under policies held by the representative State departments, being the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry, and Environment. The insurance providers are the Queensland Government Insurance Fund and the New South Wales Treasury Managed Fund, respectively.

The Commission, its servants, and the departments are covered in those arrangements with respect to any public liability claim. No claims were made during 2019-20.

### **Internal audit and risk management**

The Commission has in place a three-part strategy for managing risk, namely:

- The Commission maintains a risk register to record identified institutional and business risks and to detail risk treatment strategies for each of those risks.

- From time to time, the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy undertakes an internal audit of the Commission's financial processes and practices on its behalf.
- Sunwater Ltd as the Commission's dam and weirs operations and maintenance service provider maintains on the Commission's behalf a best practice risk management system relating to the Commission's infrastructure.

### **Cyber Security requirements (NSW)**

The Commission is a listed agency under the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Cyber Security attestation. New South Wales department personnel undertaking Commission duties comply with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment implemented cyber security policy and procedures.

### **Human Rights Act (Qld)**

The Commission complies with the requirements of the Human Rights Act where it has jurisdiction application. No human rights complaints were received in 2019-20.

### **Workplace Health and Safety**

There were no injuries or prosecutions reported during 2019-20.

### **Other legislative requirements**

The Commission complies with the requirements of other relevant legislation in Queensland and New South Wales through the adoption of the practices and procedures implemented by the Queensland Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. No evident breach of compliance occurred during 2019-20.

### **Printing**

This report was compiled and printed in-house at minimal cost.

# The workforce

## Our organisational structure

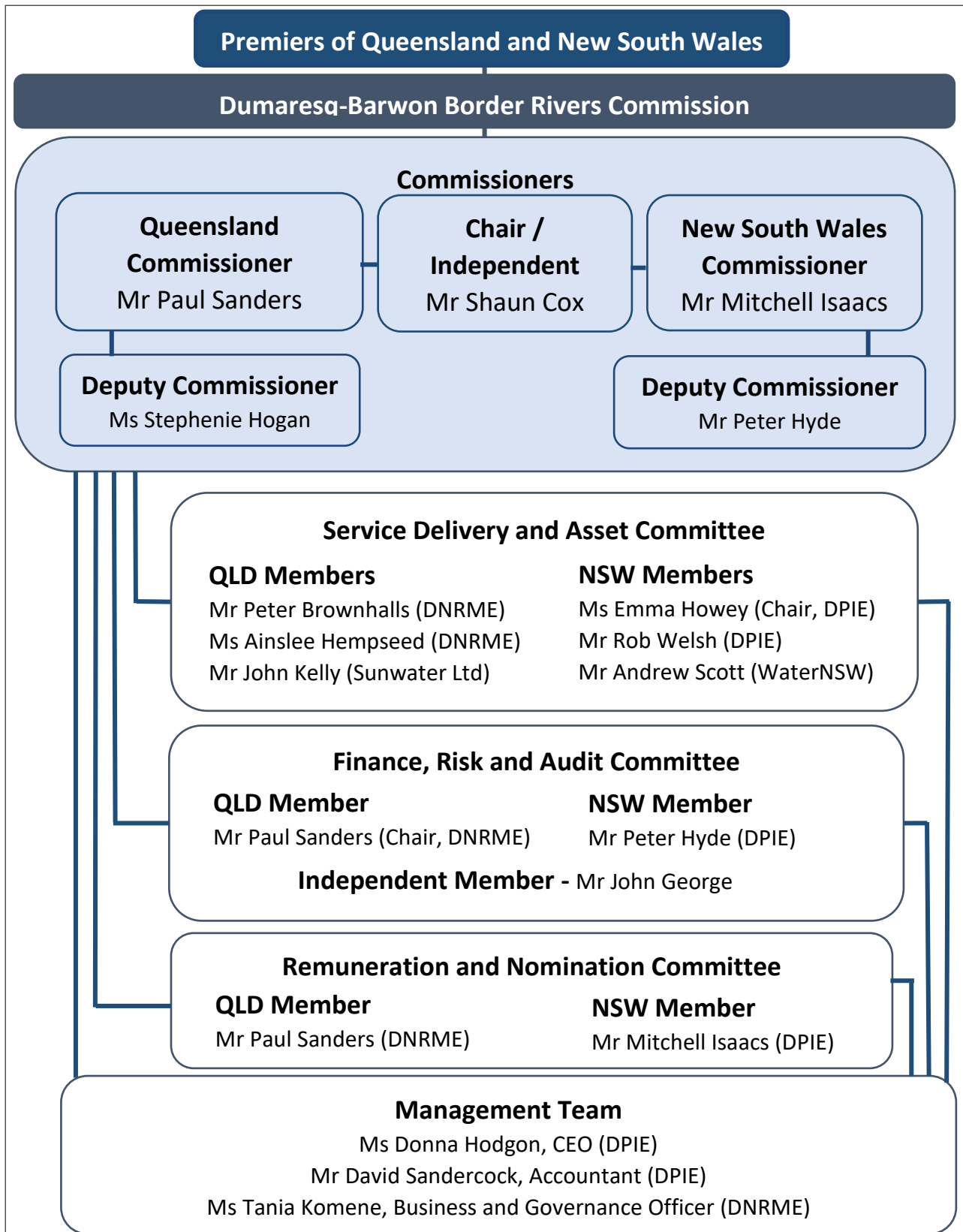


Figure 5 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Organisational Structure 2019-20

# Our Commissioners

## **Mr Shaun Cox (Chair)**

BEng (Civil), METM, FAICD, FIEAust, CPEng, FAIM

### **Independent Commissioner**

**(Appointed April 2018 with an appointment term to October 2021)**

### **Skills, experience, and expertise**

Shaun has led various Australian water utilities for more than eighteen years. This includes Melbourne Water, South East Water and Gold Coast Water.

He also has over eighteen years of Board experience being a past Director and Chair of both the Smart Water Fund and the Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA). He has also served as the Managing Director of Melbourne Water and South East Water and was on the inaugural Board of the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities.

He is now enjoying running his own consultancy business, which he has done for the past five years. He is also Chair of Water Research Australia.

Shaun has extensive leadership experience in the water industry, and a passion for creating and adding value in any role he takes on. He holds a degree in Civil Engineering and a Master of Engineering and Technology Management.

Shaun is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Queensland and is a Fellow of The Australian Institute of Company Directors, Engineers Australia, and the Australian Institute of Management.

## **Mr Paul Sanders**

BEng (Ag)

### **Commissioner representing Queensland**

**(Appointed June 2016 with an appointment term to June 2021)**

### **Skills, experience, and expertise**

Paul has worked in water related roles in the Queensland Government since 1994. He is currently employed as Regional Manager Water Services within the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.

He leads water related activities within South Region which includes water plan development, water monitoring, water management and access, and water entitlement dealings. Paul's roles have revolved around day-to-day engagement with various stakeholders including landholders, industry bodies and councils. In 2013 Paul was appointed as Deputy Commissioner, he took up his present role of Commissioner in 2016.

## **Mr Mitchell Isaacs**

BSc Adv. (Honours), GAICD

### **Commissioner representing New South Wales**

**(Appointed September 2018 with an appointment term to September 2023)**

### **Skills, experience, and expertise**

Mitchell has worked in water related roles in the New South Wales (NSW) Government since 2009 and is currently the Director Office of the Deputy and Strategic Relations in the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Water Group. This role includes responsibility for intergovernmental relations, stakeholder engagement, corporate reporting, and program support.

Prior to joining the NSW Government, Mitchell worked as a research scientist in Australia and Japan, and as a project management advisor to the Cambodian Government's Fisheries Administration.

**Ms Stephenie (Steph) Hogan**

BAppSc (App. Geology)

**Deputy Commissioner representing Queensland**

**(Appointed November 2019 with an appointment term to November 2024)**

**Skills, experience, and expertise**

Steph has worked in water related roles in the Queensland Government since 1999 and is currently the Project Director for Major Water Supply Projects in the Water Supply unit of the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. This role includes responsibility for assisting proponents in facilitating delivery of priority water infrastructure projects across the State. Steph's substantive role is the Director for Water Planning in the Water Policy unit; being responsible for developing water plans across the State of Queensland.

**Mr Peter Hyde**

BAppSc, MEnv.Mgmt

**Deputy Commissioner representing New South Wales**

**(Appointed September 2018 with an appointment term to September 2023)**

**Skills, experience, and expertise**

Peter has over twenty years' experience in the water area and has worked with the NSW Government since 2017. He is currently the Director Inland Water Planning in the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's Water Group. This role includes responsibility for the NSW inland surface and groundwater water sharing plans and the development of the Basin plan water resource plans.

Prior to joining the NSW Government, Peter worked at the Murray – Darling Basin Authority and the National Water Commission. Prior to working for the Commonwealth Government, he worked in consulting in various locations including Papua New Guinea, China, Western Australia, and the Hunter region of NSW.

# Our Commission Committees

The Commission has three standing Committees that meet periodically. All members, except for one independent, are representatives of a State Entity; being either the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE); Qld Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME); WaterNSW (NSW State Owned Corporation) or Sunwater Ltd (Qld Government Owned Corporation).

- Service Delivery and Asset Committee: Emma Howey (Chair, DPIE), Rob Welsh (DPIE), Andrew Scott (WaterNSW), Peter Brownhalls (DNRME), Ainslee Hempseed (DNRME), John Kelly (Sunwater Ltd).
- Finance, Risk and Audit Committee: Paul Sanders (Chair, DNRME), Peter Hyde (DPIE), John George (Independent member).
- Remuneration and Nomination Committee: Mitchell Isaacs (DPIE), Paul Sanders (DNRME).

## Service Delivery and Asset Committee

The Service Delivery and Asset Committee assists the Commission in fulfilling its responsibilities in the oversight of water management, service delivery and asset management practices. This oversight is to help the Commission meet its strategic objectives and to manage risk and operational costs in relation to these activities.

The Committee's Charter outlines its role, functions, and responsibilities. The Committee provides assurance for Asset Management; the setting and implementation of internal controls in relation to laws, regulations, risk management and best practice guidelines within their responsibility area; water management; Dam Safety and the prudence and efficiency of the service delivery contracts and service standards.

During 2019-2020, the Committee reviewed the

- Risk Management Framework
- Risk Register
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- Legislative service obligations including compliance
- Glenlyon Dam five-yearly inspection report undertaken by Sunwater Ltd
- Service provider operational reports
- 2020 Asset Management Plan

Work continues on a

- Asset Strategy Decision Framework
- Review and update of operational procedures and policies

## Finance, Risk and Audit Committee

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee assists the Commission in fulfilling its responsibilities for oversight of the quality, adequacy and integrity of the company's finance, audit (internal and external) and risk management practices.

The Committee's responsibilities and duties are outlined in its Charter. This encompasses oversight of the prudence and efficiency of the budgeting process; financial management and reporting including review and application of Accounting Policy Standards; internal control setting and implementation; organisational wide risk management; establishing and overseeing appropriate assurance and audit plans; and informing the Commission of any emerging contemporary issues such as changes in legislation or best practice.

During 2019-2020, the Committee reviewed the

- Risk Management Framework
- Risk Register
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan
- Legislative service obligations including compliance
- 2020 Asset revaluations

- Governance Framework

Work continues on

- Annuity Fund Management

## **Remuneration and Nomination Committee**

The Remuneration and Nomination Committee assists the Commission in fulfilling its responsibilities in regard to remuneration and employment, including any New South Wales and Queensland State Government requirements with respect to remuneration and any other State policies that need to be considered. The Committee's Charter outlines its role and responsibilities.

The Committee continues to investigate

- Each State's requirements for the Chair's remuneration
- Succession planning activities

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## Our Management Team

Ms Donna Hodgson was appointed as Chief Executive Officer on 17 December 2018 for a period of two years. Ms Hodgson is an employee of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

Business support to the Commission was provided by its Accountant, Mr David Sandercock, engagement of a Business and Governance Officer, Ms Tania Komene in September 2019 for a period of up to two years, and its Secretary, Mr Brian Cook up until October 2019.

Mr Sandercock is an employee of the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Mr Cook is an employee of the Qld Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. Ms Komene is a non-payroll employee of that department.

## Remuneration

By statute, the salary fees or allowances and expenses of each Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner, with exception of the Chair or Deputy Chair, are paid by their relevant States and not borne by the Commission.

The salary fees or allowances of the Chair or Deputy Chair and the independent member of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee are considered Commission expenses with the States funding 50:50. The Chair is paid a base allowance of \$24,000 per annum, 9.5% superannuation and reimbursed meeting travel expenses. A Deputy Chair is not currently appointed. The independent committee member is paid a \$5,000 per annum allowance.

As invoiced by the relevant government entity, the States equally fund all other labour expenses for services undertaken for the Commission. All service providers' labour expenses, with exception of Sunwater Ltd, are based on a cost pass through arrangement. All labour charges include organisational overheads and employment statutory on-cost provisions such as superannuation, leave loading and payroll tax. Sunwater is engaged on commercial terms.

# Meetings held

Table 3 Meetings held between 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

Member	Commission Meetings		Service Delivery & Asset Committee		Finance, Risk & Audit Committee		Remuneration & Nomination Committee	
A or B indicator	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Mr Shaun Cox	5	5			1	1		
Mr Mitchell Isaacs	5	5					1	1
Mr Paul Sanders	5	5			5	5	1	1
Mr Peter Hyde <sup>1</sup>	5	3			5	4		
Ms Stephenie Hogan <sup>2</sup>	3	2	3	0				
Ms Emma Howey <sup>3</sup>			5	5				
Mr Rob Welsh			5	5				
Mr Peter Brownhalls			5	5				
Ms Ainslee Hempseed			5	5				
Mr John Kelly			5	4				
Mr Andrew Scott <sup>4</sup>			1	1				
Mr John George					5	4		

A = Number of meetings held / eligible for; B = Number of meetings attended

<sup>1</sup> Peter Hyde is the NSW Deputy Commissioner. Whilst eligible to attend Commission meetings it is not mandatory, except in the absence of the NSW Commissioner.

<sup>2</sup> Stephenie Hogan Qld Deputy Commissioner membership term started in November 2019. Whilst eligible to attend Commission meetings it is not mandatory, except in the absence of the Qld Commissioner. Ms Hogan is the Commission nominated observer, but not a member, on the Service Delivery and Asset Committee.

<sup>3</sup> Chairs of the Commission's committee are to present verbal reports of their committee's activities at each Commission meeting. With exception of Emma Howey, the other committee Chairs are Commissioners.

<sup>4</sup> Andrew Scott membership term started June 2020.

All Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners, not formally appointed to a committee are eligible to attend the Service Delivery and Asset and Finance, Risk and Audit Committee meetings.

Only State Commissioners are entitled to attend the Remuneration and Nomination Committee meetings.

# Annual Water Catchment services and performance

Operating in the upper Murray Darling Basin, the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission came into existence when the *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946* (Qld) and *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947* (NSW) (the Acts) was assented in the Queensland and New South Wales Parliaments. Its role is to carry out the *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Agreement 1946* (the Act Agreement) and Acts provisions.

Approximately 470km of the New South Wales-Queensland Border is formed by rivers plus several tributaries flow into, along and out of these 'border' rivers from Queensland and of New South Wales.

On behalf of the States, and in accordance with the Act Agreement, **the Commission retains oversight and management of \$158 million worth of jointly owned States' infrastructure (including design, construction, operation, maintenance, repairs, and improvements) to allow it to determine, monitor and ensure compliance for each State's eligible water share into and along the border.**

As legislated in the Acts, services are delivered by the States' Controlling Authorities, who

were the departments responsible for water. Institutional changes and water reforms in both States, and in accordance with COAG 1994, required separation of regulatory and operational roles. Services are now delivered by one or more of the four government entities that are responsible for water management:

- Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (DNRME) – a Queensland department and under the Acts the State Controlling Authority
- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) – a New South Wales department
- WaterNSW – a New South Wales State Owned Corporation and under the Acts the State Controlling Authority
- Sunwater Ltd – a Queensland Government Owned Corporation

The Commission is funded jointly by the States through the call-up provision. At the beginning of each financial year, each State deposits to the Commission's bank account, the estimated total service costs on a 50:50 basis. In turn, the Commission pays for services provided by the States' government entities as they are undertaken.

## Dam and weirs infrastructure

[Budget \$2,145k | Actual \$1,804k]

On behalf of the two States, the Commission has control of the construction, operation, and maintenance of works constructed, or taken over by it under the Act Agreement. The Commission has an obligation in the Border

Rivers Catchment for dams and weirs to be constructed on those portions of the Dumaresq, Macintyre and Barwon Rivers which constitute part of the border between the States of New South Wales and Queensland, on

certain effluents from those rivers and on certain tributaries of the Dumaresq River with a view to water conservation, water supply and irrigation. It also has certain obligations for the Intersecting Streams. Either State's Controlling Authority is able to undertake the services.

In 2000, Queensland water reforms resulted in operational and maintenance responsibilities being separated from Queensland's DNRME to Sunwater Ltd. Sunwater is a Queensland Government Owned Corporation and bulk water service provider. During 2019-20, DNRME was statutory recognised as the State's Controlling Authority. DNRME with support from the Commission has commenced negotiations with Sunwater Ltd to formalise contractual arrangements in 2020-21.

Sunwater undertakes asset management, operations and maintenance of the jointly States' owned Glenlyon Dam, located in Queensland, Boggabilla Weir located in New South Wales and several smaller weirs that straddle a border river; hence are located half in Queensland and half in New South Wales. In the Intersecting Streams, Sunwater also maintains four bifurcation weirs that were constructed on the Bokhara, Narran, Ballandool and Culgoa-Balonne Minor rivers under the Agreement.

Glenlyon Dam is a 254,000 megalitre storage, located on a tributary upstream of Mingoola gauging station. The dam was designed and constructed by the Water Conservation and

Irrigation Commission (NSW) and Irrigation and Water Supply Commission (Qld) respectively in the early to the mid-1970s. The dam consists of a 445m long earth and rock-fill embankment. It is located 97km west of Stanthorpe (Qld) and 67km from Tenterfield (NSW). The dam was constructed as a source of regulated water for the Carrier Rivers. The dam is generally operated by two staff. The dam provides recreational facilities including a leased caravan park. Drinking water supply and sewerage services are provided by a small water treatment facility and sewerage pond. The provision of these services triggers the requirement for the Commission to be registered as a water service provider under the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008* (Qld).

Boggabilla Weir is located near the Boggabilla township (NSW), 9km upstream of Goondiwindi (Qld). The weir was constructed in 1991. It is a 5,850 megalitre reinforced concrete structure with five vertical lift steel gates. Its purpose is to re-regulate releases from Glenlyon Dam and to conserve unregulated inflows.

Further details on infrastructure are published in the Annual Statistics report. This is available online on the Commission's website at <http://www.brc.gov.au/publications.html>. Dam and weir assets are held in the Commission's asset register with each States having 50% ownership.

## Operations and maintenance

[Budget \$1,471k | Actual \$1,280k]

Sunwater has reported the following Glenlyon Dam water statistics and performance against

planned operations and maintenance for 2019-20. Refer to Tables 4-8. Dry conditions prevail.

Table 4 Sunwater Glenlyon Dam Water Statistics 2019-2020

Glenlyon Dam Water Statistics	Megalitres	Number of days
Regulated water releases	15,090	18
Spillway discharge (Dam event details)	None occurred	-
Dam storage at start of 1 July 2019	23,012 / 9%	-
Dam storage at end of 30 June 2020	35,565 / 14%	-

Table 5 Routine Operation and Maintenance at Glenlyon Dam for 2019-2020

Routine O&M - Glenlyon Dam	Number planned	Number performed
Dam Safety monitoring	12	12
Preventative Maintenance	74	74
Corrective Maintenance	-	21
Water Quality Algae monitoring	24	24
Water Quality SDL	12	12
Drinking Water Quality Control Parameter testing <sup>1</sup>	104	104
Drinking Water Micro-Biological Control	23	23
Drinking Water Regulator notifications <sup>1</sup>	-	1

Table 6 Routine Operation and Maintenance at Boggabilla Weir for 2019-2020

Routine O&M - Boggabilla Weir	Number planned	Number performed
Preventative Maintenance	46	46
Corrective Maintenance	-	3

Table 7 Sunwater employee training for 2019-2020

Training	Number planned	Number attended	Number overdue
Operator training courses	15	15	0

Table 8 Sunwater Workplace Health and Safety reporting for 2019-2020

Workplace Health and Safety	Number identified	Number addressed <sup>2</sup>
Toolbox Talks including safety conversations	38	-
WPHS Incidents & Hazards - Glenlyon Dam	20	20
WPHS Incidents & Hazards - Boggabilla Weir	2	2
WPHS Incidents & Hazards - Other	0	-
WPHS Incidents requiring hospital treatment	0	-
Public Safety Incidents <sup>1</sup>	1	1

<sup>1</sup> March 2020 - Drinking water quality incident: Boil water notice as turbidity exceeded 5 NTU

<sup>2</sup> Hazards have either been eliminated or scheduled for further action in the Refurbishment and Enhancement program.

Table 9 Sunwater environmental incident reporting for 2019-2020

Environment incidents	Number identified	Details
Fish Kills	2	November 2019 – Dumaresq River downstream of Riverton Bridge. March 2020 - immediately upstream side of the Glenlyon Dam wall

## Refurbishments and enhancements

[Budget \$674k | Actual \$524k]

These works are major periodic maintenance and end of life replacement of assets to ensure ongoing service delivery ability of the system.

Sunwater has reported the following performance for 2019-20.

Table 10 Sunwater refurbishment and enhancement performance for 2019-20

Refurbishment and Enhancement program (R&E)	Number planned at 1Jul19	Added to program	Removed or deferred	Number completed 30Jun20	Number in progress at 30Jun20
Projects - Glenlyon Dam	5	4	0	7	2%
Projects - Boggabilla Weir	2	0	0	2	0
Projects - Intersecting Streams	2	0	1*	1	0
Projects - Other	4	1	1 <sup>#</sup>	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>

### Notes – Refurbishment and Enhancement program: Glenlyon Dam project in progress

% Manufacturer delay with the 600mm value delivery now expected September 2020.

### Notes – Refurbishment and Enhancement program: Intersecting Streams projects removal / deferral

\* The Commission is investigating a design for a long-term solution to extend the operational life of the bifurcation weirs. This will preserve and ensure their operational capabilities long-term.

### Notes – Refurbishment and Enhancement program: Other projects removal / deferral

# The Commission is developing an asset strategy decision-making framework which potentially may impact the current asset management plan. One project was deferred until this work has been completed.

Table 11 Sunwater dam safety inspections and training undertaken in 2019-20

Dam Safety	Number planned	Completed
Comprehensive 5 yearly inspection R&E project	1	August 2019
Emergency Action Plan operator training	Up to date. Two-yearly EAP training next due January 2021	N/A

# River gauging and groundwater monitoring

[Budget \$954k | Actual \$587k]

A network of gauging stations underpins the Commission's obligation to determine, monitor and ensure compliance for each State's eligible water share. The gauging provisions allow the Commission to establish quantities of water at various touch points in the system.

The Commission has a statutory duty to arrange for the construction, maintenance, operation, and control of an effective and uniform system of gauging. In accordance with the Acts, works and ongoing monitoring and reporting to the Commission is undertaken by the Controlling Authority of each State.

The total costs and expenses incurred by WaterNSW and Queensland DNRME are funded equally by the States through the Commission.

The river gauging and groundwater monitoring assets are not held in the Commission's asset

register, thus are excluded in the joint States' owned \$158 million asset base. Based on territory location, these hydrometric assets are held directly in the relevant State asset register.

The Commission has committed to developing a long-term financial plan setting out the Commission's costs for the future ten years. This will involve a review of future works planned. The aim is to ensure a prudent condition-based approach with work appropriately programmed over several years.

The Commission has a statutory obligation that certain investigations be made in respect of groundwater resources associated with the Carrier Rivers with a view to determining the proportions or quantities of groundwater that should be available to the States.

## River gauging network – Border Rivers Catchment

[Budget \$598k, Actual \$292k]

The Commission funds the operations and maintenance of twenty-six gauging stations in the Border Rivers Catchment. A high-level

breakdown by State is provided in Table 12. A summary of in-field services undertaken in 2019-20 is provided in Table 13.

Table 12 River gauging stations in the Border Rivers Catchment funded by the Commission

General location	Qld DNRME	Water NSW
At the Dumaresq Storage	2	-
Above Mingoola gauging station (other)	1	2
On the Carrier Rivers	2	9
Below Mingoola gauging station -NSW Territory water tributary or effluent	N/A	5
Below Mingoola gauging station -Qld Territory water tributary or effluent	5	N/A
<b>Total gauging station network funded by the Commission</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>

Table 13 In-field river gauging services undertaken in 2019-20 by the State Controlling Authorities in the Border Rivers Catchment

In-field services undertaken in 2019-20	Qld DNRME	Water NSW
Number routine inspections or servicing performed	10*	96
Number of manual gauging of flow undertaken	11*	73

In-field services undertaken in 2019-20	Qld DNRME	Water NSW
Number of maintenance or refurbishments performed	0	9

\*Queensland plan to undertake at least two inspections per year. Dry conditions and COVID19 travel restrictions impacted.

## River gauging network – Intersecting Streams

[Budget \$348k | Actual \$295k]

The Commission funds the operations and maintenance of twenty-three gauging stations across the Intersecting Streams. The Intersecting Streams encompass the Moonie, Bokhara, Narran, Culgoa, Ballandool, Warrego and Paroo Rivers and their effluents and tributaries, and any stream or watercourse which forms part of

the Darling River drainage system and crosses the New South Wales-Queensland border west of the town of Mungindi. A high-level breakdown by State is provided in Table 14. A summary of in-field services undertaken in 2019-20 is provided in Table 15.

Table 14 River gauging stations across the Intersecting Streams funded by the Commission

Stream	Qld DNRME	WaterNSW
Paroo River	1	1
Warrego River	1	2
Culgoa River	1	4
Ballandool River	1	-
Birrie River	-	2
Bokhara River	1	2
Briarie Creek	1	-
Narran River	1	2
Moonie River	1	1
<b>Darling River drainage system total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>
Other - Bulloo River	1	-
<b>Total gauging station network funded by the Commission</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>

Table 15 In-field river gauging services undertaken in 2019-20 by the State Controlling Authorities in the Intersecting Streams

In-field services undertaken in 2019-20	Qld DNRME	Water NSW
Number routine inspections or servicing performed	11*	77
Number of manual gauging of flow undertaken	14*	64
Number of maintenance or refurbishments performed	5	12

\*Queensland plan to undertake at least two inspections per year. Dry conditions and COVID19 travel restrictions impacted.

## Groundwater monitoring – Carrier Rivers

[Budget \$9k | Actual \$30k]

In accordance with the Acts, the Commission funds the operations and maintenance of the shared alluvial aquifers located between Mingoola Gauging Station and Keetah Bridge. Queensland DNRME currently undertakes the

collection of water level data on behalf of both New South Wales and Queensland.

The current groundwater network portfolio consists of sixty-six bore pipes from forty-six

bores. For data collection, operational requirements require a minimum number of observations across the portfolio to be undertaken each year. Table 16 provides details of the portfolio and resource management.

Several bores have exceeded their useful life expectancy. The Commission will continue to engage with the Controlling Authorities on the management of the resource.

Table 16 Details of the groundwater portfolio funded by the Commission for 2019-20

Description	Queensland	New South Wales
Groundwater usage 2019-20 (megalitres)	7,785	7,836
Number of Bores in portfolio	21	25
Number of Pipes in portfolio	31	35
Automatic recorder WL recorder installed	8	8
Number of pipes recorded	26	34
Number of manual readings	84	100
Current trend of pipes - Falling level	10	12
Current trend of pipes - Rising level	13	13
Current trend of pipes - Steady level	3	10
Number of pipes purged or cleaned*	7	-

\*Qld had planned to conduct more, however COVID19 restricted routine field work in the latter part of the year. NSW data is not captured.

## Water quality monitoring

[Budget \$152k, Actuals \$117k]

In the 1990s the Commission agreed to fund the collection of water quality samples on behalf of the States. Relevant government entities are responsible for undertaking any subsequent appropriate actions. Utilising WaterNSW, the program involves the monthly monitoring of sixteen sites in the Border Rivers Catchment (Budget \$97k | Actuals \$73k) and six sites in the Intersecting Streams (Budget \$55k | Actuals \$44k).

The parameters measured include water temperature, electrical conductivity, turbidity, total nitrogen, and total phosphorus. This

collected information forms part of a long-term water quality dataset that describes baseline water quality and helps to identify emerging water quality issues. The ongoing drought and dry river sites have impacted the planned program during 2019-20. Refer to Table 17.

A summary of the data results for the water quality monitoring program is published in the Annual Statistics report. This is available online on the Commission's website at <http://www.brc.gov.au/publications.html>.

A copy of WaterNSW's analysis report is available by contacting their Tamworth office.

Table 17 Water quality samples taken for 2019-20

Planned	Number of samples taken	Electrical Conductivity	Total Phosphorus	Nitrogen	Turbidity
192	Border Rivers Catchment	156	156	156	153
72	Intersecting Streams	40	40	40	35

# State's Wholesale Water Sharing Management

[Budget \$160k | Actual \$56k]

The overall intent of the legislative agreement between the States, for the portions of the Dumaresq, Macintyre and Barwon Rivers that form the border, is equitable sharing of water conservation infrastructure expenses, water supply and enabling irrigation. The Commission was charged with the duty of implementing the Acts. The Commission has a statutory obligation to determine the quantity of water available at Mingoola Gauging Station into the Carrier Rivers.

Monthly Resource Assessments were prepared by WaterNSW, confirmed by Queensland DNRME, and approved by the Commission in 2019-20. The Resource Assessments calculate the volume of regulated water in the Border Rivers to be shared between the two States. Continuous accounting has been permitted in the Border Rivers Catchment since the 2001 amendment bill was ratified by both Queensland and New South Wales Parliaments.

At the start of the water year on 1 July 2019, Glenlyon Dam was storing 9% of its full supply volume. Queensland and New South Wales share of the dam was 8,140 and 13,130 megalitres, respectively. Limited volumes of regulated water were available to be extracted with 3,520 and 4,440 megalitres being diverted by Queensland and New South Wales, respectively. Refer to Table 18 for breakdowns.

The dam catchment was relatively dry with extended periods of low or no inflow during the year. A rain event occurred in February 2020. At the end of the water year on 30 June 2020, the Queensland and New South Wales share of the dam was 11,710 and 22,150 megalitres, respectively. The dam is at 14% capacity.

With Glenlyon Dam remaining below full capacity throughout the year, there were no flows over the spillway. Subsequently, no emergency flow events were recorded.

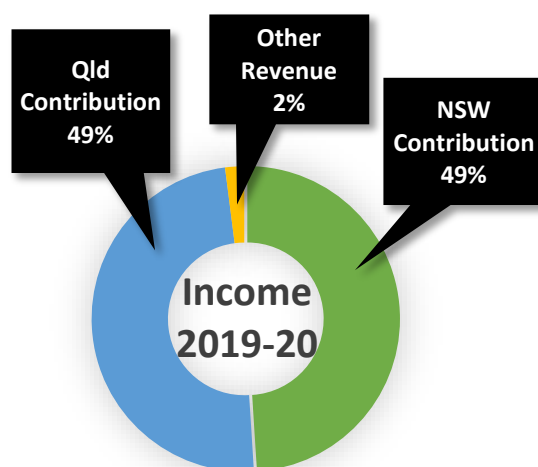
Table 18 State Wholesale surface water sharing 2019-20

State Wholesale surface water sharing 2019-20	Queensland (megalitres)	New South Wales (megalitres)	Glenlyon Dam net storage (megalitres)
State shares as at 1 July	8,140	13,130	21,270
State shares as at 30 June	11,710	22,150	33,860
Storage Loss	1,210	3,780	4,990
Essential Supplies minimum releases	0	0	0
Essential Supplies Accounts other	1,540	420	1,960
Essential Supplies delivery loss	740	230	970
General Use Accounts	20	10	30
General Use delivery loss	10	0	10
<b>Total reported diversions for 2019-20</b>	<b>3,520</b>	<b>4,440</b>	<b>7,960</b>

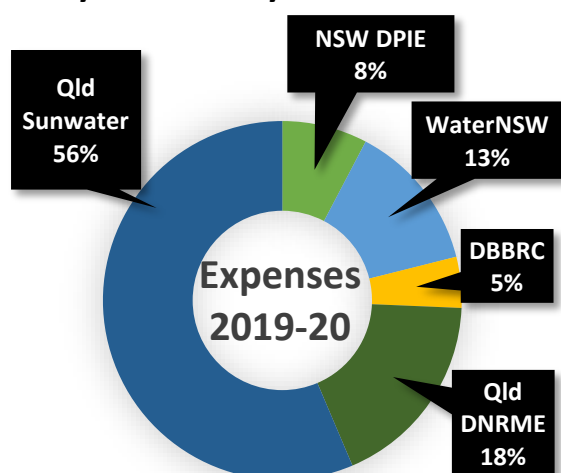
# Our Financial Performance

## Where does our money come from

During 2019-20, the Commission received a total revenue of \$3.67M comprising the call-up from the States of \$3.6M and interest and other revenue of \$0.07M. The States equally fund the Commission's estimated expenses to be incurred at the beginning of each financial year, with the output being equity sharing of the water between the States as per the Agreement. Subsequent individual water user sales, management and revenue collection is performed and retained by the relevant State.

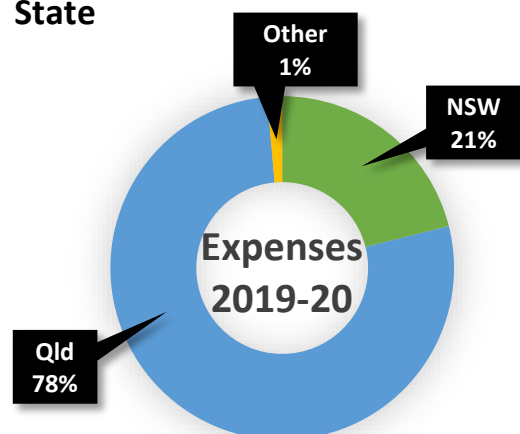


## By State Entity - Water



\* Excludes Depreciation Expense

## Government entity providers by State



\* Excludes Depreciation Expense

## Where was the money allocated

Total expenses, excluding depreciation, for 2019-20 was \$3.2M. The Commission engages the four state entities responsible for water management to fulfil its obligations to provide wholesale water services and manage assets between the State of Queensland and the State of New South Wales in the border rivers area and Intersecting Streams.

Sunwater Ltd (Qld) had the largest service provider expenses totalling \$1.8M. Through commercial arrangements, Sunwater provides asset management of the dam and several weirs, ensuring compliance with dam safety provisions and maintaining assets to agreed service levels. WaterNSW provides surface and groundwater monitoring, wholesale water sharing, and river management, with expenses totaling of \$0.4M. DNRME also provides surface water and groundwater monitoring totalling \$0.4M. Both DNRME and DPIE provide a range of support services to the Commission totalling \$0.5M.

# Financial performance summary

We are committed to improving our financial performance by undertaking a range of initiatives to ensure efficiencies and value from

the New South Wales and Queensland State entities and to continue providing services expected by the two States.

Table 19 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Five-Year Financial Results (FY 2016- FY 2020)

As at 30 June \$'000	2016 Result	2017 Result	2018 Result	2019 Result	2020 Result	2020 Budget	Budget variance
<b>Income</b>							
New South Wales Call-up / Contribution	1,100	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,800	1,800	0
Queensland Call-up / Contribution	1,100	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,800	1,800	0
States contribution Sub-total	2,200	2,600	2,600	2,600	3,600	3,600	0
Interest and other revenue	124	132	107	93	74	85	(11)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2,324</b>	<b>2,732</b>	<b>2,707</b>	<b>2,693</b>	<b>3,674</b>	<b>3,685</b>	<b>(11)</b>
<b>Expenses</b>							
NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment*	782	380	(69)	150	245	189	56
NSW WaterNSW*	37	723	835	1,000	428	925	(497)
Qld Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy	310	513	424	734	574	712	(138)
Qld Sunwater Ltd	830	842	1,343	2,193	1,804	2,145	(341)
Other Administration and expenses	121	124	121	140	147	297	(150)
Total operating expenses	2,080	2,582	2,654	4,217	3,199	4,268	(1,069)
Depreciation	1,782	1,886	1,886	1,975	1,968	1,975	(7)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>3,862</b>	<b>4,468</b>	<b>4,540</b>	<b>6,192</b>	<b>5,167</b>	<b>6,243</b>	<b>(1,076)</b>
<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>(1,537)</b>	<b>(1,736)</b>	<b>(1,833)</b>	<b>(3,499)</b>	<b>(1,492)</b>	<b>(2,558)</b>	<b>1,066</b>
<b>Assets and Liabilities</b>							
Current Assets	3,722	3,989	4,587	2,685	3,188	2,031	1,157
Non-Current Assets	136,771	133,581	135,732	135,780	158,139	135,780	22,359
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>140,493</b>	<b>137,570</b>	<b>140,319</b>	<b>138,465</b>	<b>161,327</b>	<b>137,811</b>	<b>23,516</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>662</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>139,947</b>	<b>136,908</b>	<b>139,111</b>	<b>137,635</b>	<b>160,472</b>	<b>136,961</b>	<b>23,511</b>
<b>Cash Flows</b>							
Net cash from operating activities	61	226	667	(1,973)	434	(583)	1,017
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	3,632	3,693	3,920	4,587	2,614	2,614	0
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>3,693</b>	<b>3,919</b>	<b>4,587</b>	<b>2,614</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>2,031</b>	<b>1,017</b>

## Notes – Financial Performance Summary

\*New South Wales water reforms resulted in a separation of regulatory and operational responsibilities. This is reflected from the 2016-17 charges as certain roles and responsibilities were transferred between the department and WaterNSW.

1. **Income** – \$11 thousand under budget: Lowering interest rates, experienced throughout the financial year, from 2.16% to 0.86% reduced the expected interest earned on the at call interest bearing investment held with the Queensland Treasury Corporation.
2. **Expenses** – WaterNSW \$0.5 million under budget: This is attributed to COVID19 travel restrictions preventing planned gauging station refurbishment work and a favorable

review of overhead charges applied. Sunwater \$0.3 million under budget: Attributable factors are R&E project deferrals and underspend in recreational facilities.

3. **Assets and Liabilities** - \$23.5 million over budget: An independent assessor is engaged at least every five years to revalue land, buildings, and water infrastructure assets. Cardno Ltd completed the assessment on 31 May 2020. Revaluation increments of \$24 million have been recognised.
4. **Cash flows** – 2019-20 Cash outflows for supplies and services were \$3,981 thousand: \$1,332 thousand lower than in 2018-19. Supplies and services expenses for 2019-20 were \$3,199 thousand; \$1,018 thousand lower than in 2018-19.

## Operating expenses by service

### 2019-20 Financial performance measures by service

Table 20 Operating expenses by service for 2019-20

Budget (\$'000)	Budget %	Service	Actual (\$000)	Actual %
1,471	34%	Infrastructure operations and maintenance <sup>1</sup>	1,280	40%
674	16%	Infrastructure refurbishment and enhancement <sup>1</sup>	524	16%
160	4%	Wholesale water sharing management <sup>2</sup>	56	2%
945	22%	Surface water hydrometrics <sup>3</sup>	587	18%
9	0%	Groundwater monitoring <sup>3</sup>	30	1%
152	4%	Surface water quality monitoring	117	4%
857	20%	Other services and administration	605	19%
<b>4,268</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>3,199</b>	<b>100%</b>
		Asset base <sup>5</sup> (Each State retains 50% shareholding base and ownership)	\$161,327	2%

## Notes – Financial performance by service

1. Values exclude groundwater monitoring and surface water hydrometrics.
2. EOFY19 accrual was overestimated. Actual service expenses for FY 2019-20 is \$128,000.
3. Values include any refurbishments and enhancement activities on gauging stations and groundwater bores.
4. Any surplus amounts are used to offset and pay for annuity deposits and reduce future year's States' Call-ups. This is in accordance with Act Agreement Clause 30.
5. Value represents total assets (cash \$3M + property, plant, and equipment \$158M). Since 2006, the Commission's Fixed Asset Register excludes gauging stations and groundwater bores. Whilst these assets are 100% funded by the Commission, they are retained directly in the relevant State's asset register based on geographic location.

### Payment of accounts and timing

At 30 June 2020, there were nine creditor invoices payable totalling \$522,000. These were all within current payment terms.

The Commission did not pay any penalty interest payments during 2019-20. All accounts during the year were paid in a timely manner.

### Consultants

No consultants were engaged on the Commission's behalf during 2019-20.

### Overseas travel

No overseas travel was undertaken on behalf of

the Commission by Commissioners, officers of the Commission, or employees of the State entities during 2019-20.

## Budget 2020-21

Table 21 Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission Budget 2020-21

Measure	Budget 2020-21 (\$'000)
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>3,653</b>
Total operating expenses	4,391
Depreciation	1,975
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>6,366</b>
<b>Operating Result</b>	<b>(2,713)</b>

### Future Renewals and Enhancements (R&E) expenditure

The Commission utilises an annuity to fund refurbishment and enhancement of dam and weir assets. The Commission funds this annuity through the annual call-up. Currently the Commission is implementing a new Asset Management Plan and once complete a review will be undertaken of the annuity against projected R&E expenditure into the future years. The Commission is anticipating that this may lead to an increase in future year contributions.

# Financial report

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# **DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

## **2019-20 Financial Statements**

## CERTIFICATE OF THE DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to section 62(1) of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* (the Act), sections 38(2) and 39(2) of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019* and other prescribed requirements. In accordance with section 62(1)(b) of the Act we certify that in our opinion:

- a) the prescribed requirements for establishing and keeping the accounts have been complied with in all material respects, and
- b) the financial statements have been drawn up to present a true and fair view, in accordance with prescribed accounting standards, of the transactions of the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission for the financial period ended 30 June 2020 and of the financial position of the Commission at the end of that year.

We acknowledge responsibility under s.7 and s.11 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019* for the establishment and maintenance, in all material respects, of an appropriate and effective system of internal controls and risk management processes with respect to financial reporting throughout the reporting period.

**Chairman**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. L. L.', written in a cursive style.

**Date:**

19/08/2020

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Statement of comprehensive income  
for the year ended 30 June 2020**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2020 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>
<b>Income from Operations</b>			
Grants and other contributions	2a	3,600	2,600
Interest Income	2b	40	78
Other income	2c	34	15
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>3,674</b>	<b>2,693</b>
<b>Expenses from Operations</b>			
Supplies and services	3a	3,141	4,187
Depreciation	3b	1,968	1,975
Other expenses	3c	57	30
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>5,166</b>	<b>6,192</b>
<b>Operating Result</b>		<b>(1,492)</b>	<b>(3,499)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
Items that will not be classified subsequently to operating result:			
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	7	24,329	2,023
<b>Total Other Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>24,329</b>	<b>2,023</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>22,837</b>	<b>(1,476)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to:</b>			
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment - NSW Office of Water (NSW)		<b>11,419</b>	<b>(738)</b>
Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy(Qld)		<b>11,419</b>	<b>(738)</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>22,837</b>	<b>(1,476)</b>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.*

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Statement of financial position  
As at 30 June 2020**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2020 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	3,048	2,614
Receivables	5	53	71
Prepayments	6	87	-
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>3,188</b>	<b>2,685</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	7	158,139	135,780
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>158,139</b>	<b>135,780</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>161,327</b>	<b>138,465</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	8	855	830
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>855</b>	<b>830</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>855</b>	<b>830</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>160,472</b>	<b>137,635</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated funds		(4,112)	(2,620)
Asset revaluation surplus	10	164,584	140,255
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>160,472</b>	<b>137,635</b>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.*

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Statement of changes in equity  
For the year ended 30 June 2020**

		<b>Accumulated Funds</b>	<b>Asset Revaluation Surplus</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Notes</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2019</b>		(2,620)	140,255	137,635
<b>Operating Result from Continuing Operations</b>		(1,492)		(1,492)
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>				-
Increase in Asset Revaluation Surplus	7		24,329	24,329
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>		<b>(4,112)</b>	<b>164,584</b>	<b>160,472</b>
<b>Balance at 1 July 2018</b>		879	138,232	139,111
<b>Operating Result from Continuing Operations</b>		(3,499)		(3,499)
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>				-
Increase in Asset Revaluation Surplus	7		2,023	2,023
<b>Balance at 30 June 2019</b>		<b>(2,620)</b>	<b>140,255</b>	<b>137,635</b>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.*

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Statement of cash flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2020**

	<b>Notes</b>	<b>2020</b> <b>\$'000</b>	<b>2019</b> <b>\$'000</b>
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>			
<b>Inflows</b>			
Grants and Other Contributions		3,600	2,600
Interest		40	78
Other		34	-
GST Collected from customers		360	260
GST input tax credits from ATO		381	402
<b>Outflow</b>			
Supplies and Services		(3,186)	(4,565)
Other		(57)	(47)
GST Paid to Suppliers		(378)	(441)
GST Remitted to ATO		(360)	(260)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>(1,973)</b>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		434	(1,973)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		2,614	4,587
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>2,614</b>

*The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.*

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### Objectives and Principal Activities of the Commission

Note 1	Summary of Significant Accounting Policies
Note 2	Income from Continuing Operations
Note 3	Expenses from Continuing Operations
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## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### Objectives and principal activities of the Commission

The objective of the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission (the Commission) is to implement the agreement made between the governments of Queensland and New South Wales in relation to:

- sharing the waters of the rivers and streams which either form or intersect the boundary between the two states and the associated groundwater resources;
- the investigation, construction and operation of works to conserve and regulate those waters where considered desirable.

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

##### (a) Statement of Compliance

The Commission was constituted by an agreement made in 1946 between the Governments of New South Wales and Queensland. The ratifying legislation is the *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946* (Queensland) and *New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947* (New South Wales).

Under Part IV Section 31 of the Agreement, the Commission shall be audited at least once in every year by the Auditors-General of New South Wales and Queensland or such one of them as may be agreed upon from time to time by the Premiers of New South Wales and Queensland. On October 8, 2012, the Premier of Queensland signed an instrument of agreement that the Auditor General of the State of Queensland shall conduct all financial audits for the 2011-12 and subsequent financial years.

As the Auditor General of Queensland took over responsibility to audit the Commission's financial statements from the year ended 30 June 2012, the Commission has prepared these financial statements in compliance with section 39 of *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*.

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements, and have been prepared on an accrual basis (except for Statement of Cash Flows which is prepared on a cash basis) in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations. In addition, the financial statements comply with Queensland Treasury's Minimum Reporting Requirements for the year ending 30 June 2020, and other authoritative pronouncements.

With respect to compliance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the Commission has applied those requirements applicable to not-for-profit entities, as the Commission is a not-for-profit Commission. Except for land, buildings and infrastructure systems, which are recorded at fair value, the historical cost convention is used.

New accounting standards early adopted and/or applied for the first time in these financial statements are outlined in note 1(x).

##### (b) The Reporting Entity and Authorisation of Financial Statements for Issue

The financial statements include the value of all revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity of the Commission.

The Commission is responsible for controlling the construction, operation and maintenance of the water infrastructure assets taken over by it or constructed under the Agreement and to regulate and implement the agreed sharing arrangements in relation to the Dumaresq, Macintyre and Barwon Rivers where they form the boundary between the States of Queensland and New South Wales. The main administrative office is currently located at L18, 275 George Street, Brisbane, Queensland 4000.

Under the current agreement embodied in the constituting legislation, the two states, being New South Wales and Queensland, will continue to share equally the costs associated with the Commission's activities. The Commission has current arrangements for Chief Executive Officer, secretarial and accounting support to be provided by the Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy, and the New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Commission at the date of signing the Management Certificate.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (c) Grants and Contributions

Grants, contributions, donations and gifts that are non-reciprocal in nature are recognised as revenue in the year in which the Commission obtains control over them. Where grants are received that are reciprocal in nature, revenue is recognised over the term of the funding arrangements.

##### (d) User Charges and Other Revenue

User charges and fees controlled by the Commission are recognised as revenues when the revenue has been earned and can be measured reliably with a sufficient degree of certainty. The following specific criteria must be met before revenue is recognised:

###### *(i) Interest*

Interest income is recognised as it accrues.

###### *(ii) Rental income*

Rental income is recognised on the basis of the contract and when the control of the right to receive the rentals has been attained.

##### (e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purpose of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Cash Flows, cash assets include all cash and cheques receipted but not banked at 30 June 2020 as well as deposits at call with financial institutions. It also includes the Queensland Treasury Corporation capital guaranteed cash fund investment that is readily convertible to cash on hand at the Commission's option and is subject to a low risk of a change in value.

##### (f) Receivables

Trade debtors are recognised at the amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery on agreed commercial terms.

##### (g) Acquisitions of Assets

Historical cost is used for the initial recording of all non-current physical asset acquisitions. Cost is determined as the value given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition, including all other costs incurred in getting the asset ready for use, including architects' fees and engineering design fees. However, any training costs are expensed as incurred.

Assets acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration are recognised at their fair value at date of acquisition in accordance with AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*.

##### (h) Property, Plant and Equipment

Items of property, plant and equipment with a cost or other value equal to or in excess of the following thresholds are recognised for financial reporting purposes in the year of acquisition:

Building and Infrastructure Assets	\$10,000
Land	\$1
Plant and Equipment	\$5,000

Items with a lesser value are expensed in the year of acquisition.

##### (i) Revaluations of Property, Plant and Equipment

Land, buildings and infrastructure are measured at fair value in accordance with AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*, AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* and Queensland Treasury's Non-Current Asset Policies for the Queensland Public Sector.

These assets are reported at their revalued amounts, being the fair value at the date of valuation, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and impairment losses where applicable. In respect of the abovementioned asset classes, the cost of items acquired during the financial year has been judged by management of the Commission to materially represent their fair value at the end of the reporting period.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (i) Revaluations of Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Plant and equipment is measured at cost in accordance with the Non-Current Asset Policies. The carrying amounts for such plant and equipment at cost should not materially differ from their fair value.

Property, plant and equipment classes measured at fair value (refer above) are revalued on an annual basis either by appraisals undertaken by an independent professional valuer or internal expert, or by the use of appropriate and relevant indices.

Revaluations using independent professional valuer or internal expert appraisals are undertaken at least once every five years. However, if a particular asset class experiences significant and volatile changes in fair value, that class is subject to specific appraisal in the reporting period, where practicable, regardless of the timing of the last specific appraisal. The revaluation in June 2020 was completed by Cardno.

The fair values reported by the Commission are based on appropriate valuation techniques that maximise the use of available and relevant observable inputs and minimise the use of unobservable inputs (refer note 1 (k)).

Where assets have not been specifically appraised in the reporting period, their previous valuations are materially kept up-to-date via the application of relevant indices. The Commission ensures that the application of such indices results in a valid estimation of the assets' fair values at reporting date. The State Valuation Service (SVS) supplies the indices used for the various types of assets. Such indices are either publicly available, or are derived from market information available to SVS. SVS provides assurance of their robustness, validity and appropriateness for application to the relevant assets.

Any revaluation increment arising on the revaluation of an asset is credited to the asset revaluation surplus of the appropriate class, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrement for the class previously recognised as an expense. A decrease in the carrying amount on revaluation is charged as an expense, to the extent it exceeds the balance, if any, in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset class.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life.

Materiality concepts (according to the *Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements*) are considered in deterring whether the difference between the carrying amount and the fair value of an asset is material (in which case revaluation is warranted).

Separately identified components of assets are measured on the same basis as the assets to which they relate.

##### (i) Maintenance

Day to-day servicing costs or maintenance are charged as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a part or component of an asset, in which case the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (k) Fair Value

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date under current market conditions (i.e. an exit price) regardless of whether that price is directly derived from observable inputs or estimated using another valuation technique. Fair value is determined using one of the following three approaches:

- The market approach uses prices and other relevant information generated by market transactions involving identical or comparable (i.e. similar) assets, liabilities or a group of assets and liabilities, such as a business.
- The cost approach reflects the amount that would be required currently to replace the service capacity of an asset. This method includes the current replacement cost methodology.

Where fair value is used, the fair value approach is disclosed.

Observable inputs are publicly available data that are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Observable inputs used by the Commission include, but are not limited to, published sales data for land and general office buildings.

Unobservable inputs are data, assumptions and judgements that are not available publicly, but are relevant to the characteristics of the assets/liabilities being valued. Significant unobservable inputs used by the Commission include, but are not limited to, subjective adjustments made to observable data to take account of the characteristics of the Commission's assets/liabilities, internal records of recent construction costs (and/or estimates of such costs) for assets' characteristics/functionality, and assessments of physical condition and remaining useful life. Unobservable inputs are used to the extent that sufficient relevant and reliable observable inputs are not available for similar assets/liabilities.

A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use.

All assets and liabilities of the Commission for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the following fair value hierarchy, based on the data and assumptions used in the most recent specific appraisals:

- level 1 – represents fair value measurements that reflect unadjusted quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities;
- level 2 – represents fair value measurements that are substantially derived from inputs (other than quoted prices included within level 1) that are observable, either directly or indirectly; and
- level 3 – represents fair value measurements that are substantially derived from unobservable inputs.

None of the Commission's valuations of assets or liabilities are eligible for categorisation into level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. There were no transfers of assets between fair value hierarchy levels during the period.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (l) Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Land is not depreciated as it has an unlimited useful life.

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis so as to allocate the net cost or revalued amount of each asset, less its estimated residual value, progressively over its estimated useful life to the Commission. The estimates of useful life and remaining useful life for each of the Commission's assets are reviewed annually and adjusted, if necessary, based on an assessment of the condition of the assets.

Assets under construction (work-in-progress) are not depreciated until they reach service delivery capacity. Service delivery capacity relates to when construction is complete and the asset is first put to use or is installed ready for use in accordance with its intended application. These assets are then reclassified to the relevant classes within property, plant and equipment.

Any expenditure that increases the originally assessed capacity or service potential of an asset is capitalised and the new depreciable amount is depreciated over the remaining useful life of the asset to the Commission.

For each class of depreciable asset the following useful lives are used:

Class	Category	Number of years
Buildings:	Buildings -workshop/depot	55
	Buildings- houses/office complex	80
Water Infrastructure:	Dam- structural components	75-150
	Dam - mechanical/electrical components	20-50
	Major weir- structural components	60-150
	Major weir- mechanical/electrical components	20-50
	Minor weir- regulator/structural components	40-75
	Signs	10
Plant and equipment:	Plant and equipment (at cost)	15
	Scientific Equipment	8

##### (m) Impairment of Non-current Assets

All non-current physical assets are assessed for indicators of impairment on an annual basis. If an indicator of possible impairment exists, the Commission determines the asset's recoverable amount. Any amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount is recorded as an impairment loss.

The asset's recoverable amount is determined as the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and current replacement cost.

An impairment loss is recognised immediately in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount. When the asset is measured at a revalued amount, the impairment loss is offset against the asset revaluation surplus of the relevant class to the extent available.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase.

##### (n) Payables

Trade creditors are recognised upon the receipt of the goods or services ordered and are measured at the nominal amount i.e. agreed purchase/contract price, gross of applicable trade and other discounts. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled within 14 to 30 day terms.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (o) Insurance

The Commission's non-current physical assets and other risks are insured jointly through the Queensland Government Insurance Fund and the New South Wales Treasury Managed Fund Scheme of self-insurance for government agencies.

##### (p) Employee Benefits

The Commission does not employ any staff on a permanent basis. The staff used by the Commission are employed by New South Wales and Queensland government agencies. The costs associated with the annual leave and long service leave of these staff are included in those agencies' claims for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of the Commission and are included in the Commission's financial statements in the expense item "Supplies and Services".

#### Key Executive Management Personnel, Remuneration and Related Party Transactions

Key executive management personnel and remuneration disclosures are made in accordance with section 5 of the *Financial Reporting Requirements* for Queensland Government Agencies issued by Queensland Treasury. Refer to note 11 for the disclosures on key executive management personnel, remuneration and related party transactions.

##### (q) Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of financial statements necessarily requires the determination and use of certain critical accounting estimates, assumptions, and management judgements that have that potential to cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year. Such estimates, judgements and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and in future periods as relevant.

Estimates and assumptions that have a potential significant effect are outlined in the following financial statement notes:

- Valuation of Property, Plant and Equipment - Note 7
- Contingent Liabilities - Note 12
- Depreciation Rates - Note 1(l)

##### (r) Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST: except:

- (i) where the amount of GST incurred by the agency as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense.
- (ii) where receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

##### (s) Taxation

The Commission is a statutory body as defined under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* and is generally exempt from Commonwealth taxation with the exception of fringe benefit tax (FBT) and goods and services tax (GST).

##### (t) Issuance of Financial Statements

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Commission at the date of signing the Management Certificate.

## DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

#### 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

##### (u) Rounding and Comparatives

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000 or, where that amount is \$500 or less, to zero, unless disclosure of the full amount is specifically required.

##### (v) Current/Non-Current Classification

Assets and liabilities are classified as either 'current' or 'non-current' in the Statement of Financial Position and associated notes.

Assets are classified as 'current' where their carrying amount is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities are classified as 'current' when they are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date, or the Commission does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date.

All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

##### (w) Financial Instruments

###### Recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position when the Commission becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

###### Classification

Financial instruments are classified and measured as follows:

- Cash and cash equivalents – held at fair value through profit and loss
- Receivables – held at amortised cost
- Payables – held at amortised cost

The Commission does not enter transactions for speculative purposes. Apart from cash and cash equivalents, the Commission holds no financial assets classified at fair value through profit and loss. The Commission has no borrowings for the financial year. All other disclosures relating to the measurement and financial risk management of financial instruments held by the Commission are included in the financial instruments note.

##### (x) New and Revised Accounting Standards

The Commission did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2019-20. Australian accounting standard changes applicable for the first time for 2019-20 have had minimal effect on the Commission's financial statements, as explained below.

The Commission is not permitted to early adopt a new or amended accounting standard ahead of the specified commencement date unless approval is obtained from the Queensland Treasury. Consequently, the Commission has not applied any Australian accounting standards and interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective. The Commission applies standards and interpretations in accordance with their respective commencement dates.

At the date of authorisation of the financial report, the impacts of new or amended Australian accounting standards with future commencement dates are as set out below.

###### **AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers**

AASB 15 establishes a new five-step model for recognising revenue from contracts with customers, there is no impact on the Commission, as the Commission has no contracts with customers.

###### **AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities**

AASB 1058 applies to the Commission's grants and contributions that are not contracts with customers, being all grants and contributions disclosed in Note 2. Revenue for these grants continues to be recognised upfront on receipt of the funding, consistent with prior accounting treatment. Overall there was no transitional impact from adopting AASB 1058.

###### **AASB 16 Leases**

AASB 16 requires all leases to be accounted for on the statement of financial position as right-of-use assets and lease liabilities, except for short-term leases and leases of low value assets. There is no impact on the Commission, as the Commission has no operating leases.

# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
<b>2 Income from Operations</b>		
<b>(a) Grants and other contributions</b>		
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - NSW Office of Water (NSW)	1,800	1,300
Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (QLD)	1,800	1,300
	<b>3,600</b>	<b>2,600</b>
<b>(b) Interest Income</b>		
Interest on QTC investment	40	78
	<b>40</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>(c) Other income</b>		
Rental income	34	15
	<b>34</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3 Expenses from Continuing Operations</b>		
<b>(a) Supplies and Services</b>		
Fees for services:		
Sunwater Limited (QLD)	-	2,193
Water NSW [Statewater] (NSW)	-	1,000
Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (QLD)	-	734
Department of Planning, Industry & Environment - NSW Office of Water (NSW)	-	150
Water Infrastructure		
Development	-	-
Water sharing management	56	-
Sunwater - routine operations and management	1,280	-
Sunwater - non-routine refurbishments and enhancements	525	-
Resource management		
Surface water hydrometrics	587	-
Surface water quality monitoring	117	-
Groundwater monitoring	30	-
Insurance	88	82
Administrative allowances		23
Chairpersons allowance	24	-
CEO allowance	193	-
Secretariat	152	-
Committee expenses	39	-
Superannuation	2	2
Legal expenses	48	3
	<b>3,141</b>	<b>4,187</b>
<b>(b) Depreciation</b>		
Infrastructure	1,934	1,941
Buildings	26	26
Plant and equipment	8	8
	<b>1,968</b>	<b>1,975</b>
<b>(c) Other expenses</b>		
Audit fee-financial statements*	14	16
Bank fees and charges	4	4
Contractors fees	31	-
Other expenses from ordinary activities	8	10
	<b>57</b>	<b>30</b>

\*Audit fees payable to the Queensland Audit Office to perform an audit of the Commission's transactions for 2019-20 are quoted to be \$16k (2019: \$15k). There are no non-audit services included in this amount.

# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

### 4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash at bank and on hand	575	177
At call interest bearing investment	2,473	2,437
<b>Closing cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>3,048</b>	<b>2,614</b>

Investments deposited with the Westpac Banking Corporation earned interest at rates 0.01%. (2018-19: Westpac Banking Corporation 0.01%).

Investments deposited with the Queensland Treasury Corporation capital guaranteed fund earned interest at rates between 0.86% to 2.16% (2018-19: Queensland Treasury Corporation 2.38% to 3.20%).

Refer Note 13 for details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk arising from financial instruments

### 5 Receivables

Goods and Services Tax recoverable from ATO	51	55
Receivables	2	16
	<b>53</b>	<b>71</b>

Details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, including financial assets that are either past due or impaired, are disclosed in Note 13.

### 6 Prepayments

Queensland Government Insurance Fund	87	0
	<b>87</b>	<b>-</b>

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**  
**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020**

**7 Property, Plant and Equipment**

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Buildings (at valuation)	1,758	1,677
less: accumulated depreciation	(1,013)	(888)
	<b>745</b>	<b>789</b>
Infrastructure (at valuation)	248,882	203,732
less: accumulated depreciation	(93,312)	(70,671)
	<b>155,570</b>	<b>133,061</b>
Land (at valuation)	1,800	1,914
	<b>1,800</b>	<b>1,914</b>
Plant and equipment (at cost)	55	55
less: accumulated depreciation	(31)	(39)
	<b>24</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>158,139</b>	<b>135,780</b>

Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliation	Buildings 2020 \$'000	Infrastructure 2020 \$'000	Land 2020 \$'000	Plant and Equipment 2020 \$'000	Total 2020 \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2019	789	133,061	1,914	16	135,780
Revaluation increments (decrements)	(17)	24,444	(114)	16	24,329
Depreciation	(26)	(1,934)	-	(8)	(1,968)
Disposals	(1)	-	-	(1)	(2)
<b>Net carrying amount at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>745</b>	<b>155,571</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>158,139</b>
	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>	<b>2019 \$'000</b>
Carrying amount at 1 July 2018	803	133,020	1,885	24	135,732
Revaluation increments (decrements)	12	1,982	29	-	2,023
Depreciation	(26)	(1,941)	-	(8)	(1,975)
<b>Net carrying amount at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>133,061</b>	<b>1,914</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>135,780</b>

Land, buildings and water infrastructure assets were revalued based on an independent assessment completed on 31 May 2020. Management has assessed the report provided by Cardno as appropriate for the Commission and have endorsed the use of the revaluation figures.

Categorisation of fair values recognised as at 30 June 2020

	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
Land	1,800	-	1,800
Buildings	745	-	745
Infrastructure	-	155,571	155,571

**Level 3 fair value reconciliation (refer note 1 (i))**

	Infrastructure \$'000	Total \$'000
Carrying amount at 1 July 2019	133,061	133,061
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	24,444	24,444
Depreciation/amortisation	(1,934)	(1,934)
<b>Carrying amount at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>155,571</b>	<b>155,571</b>
	<b>Infrastructure \$'000</b>	<b>Total \$'000</b>
Carrying amount at 1 July 2018	133,020	133,020
Revaluation increments/(decrements)	1,982	1,982
Depreciation/amortisation	(1,941)	(1,941)
<b>Carrying amount at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>133,061</b>	<b>133,061</b>

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020**

**7 Property, Plant and Equipment (cont.)**

**Level 3 significant valuation inputs and relationship to fair value**

Description			Fair value at 30 June 2020 \$'000	Type and amount for significant level 3 inputs	Possible alternative amounts for significant level 3 inputs	Impact of alternative amounts for significant level 3 inputs
Infrastructure			155,571	Condition rating / remaining useful life	1% - 5% \$1.6M - \$7.8M	Increase/decrease in condition rating / useful life would increase/decrease the fair value

Description			Fair value at 30 June 2019 \$'000	Type and amount for significant level 3 inputs	Possible alternative amounts for significant level 3 inputs	Impact of alternative amounts for significant level 3 inputs
Infrastructure			133,061	Condition rating / remaining useful life	1% - 5% \$1.3M - \$6.7M	Increase/decrease in condition rating / useful life would increase/decrease the fair value

During the financial year ended 30 June 2020, the Commission engaged an external independent review of the fair value of the fixed assets in accordance with the accounting policy at note 1(i).

The following key assumptions have been used to fair value the assets effective at the reporting date:

- Infrastructure assets were revalued based on replacement cost as a level 3 category asset, as there were no observable inputs available;
- The highest and best use of the infrastructure assets were deemed to be the existing use;
- Valuation unit rates for infrastructure assets were increased, given the specialised nature of the Commission assets and to provide for future increases to project commitments as detailed below;
 

Planning, survey, environmental, investigation	6.0%
Engineering design	6.0%
Procurement and project management	8.0%
Commercial consideration	20.0%
- Land and building assets have been determined as level 2 assets, as there are inputs (other than quoted prices) that are observable;
- Land and building assets have been estimated based on comparisons of recent sales of similar assets in the local region as observable inputs;
- All assets revalued by the Commission have been deemed to have no residual value - as these assets are not deemed fit for another purpose.

**DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION**

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020**

**8 Payables**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
Accrued expenditure	317	813
Creditors	522	-
Accrued audit fees	16	17
	<b>855</b>	<b>830</b>

Details regarding credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk, including a maturity analysis of the above payables are disclosed in Note 13

**9 Reconciliation of Operating Result to Net Cash provided by Operating Activities**

Operating result	(1,492)	(3,499)
Depreciation	1,968	1,975
(Increase) Decrease in receivable	14	(16)
(Decrease)/Increase in payable	27	(378)
(Increase)/Decrease in GST receivable	4	(55)
(Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(87)	-
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>(1,973)</b>

**10 Asset Revaluation Surplus by Class**

**Land**

Balance as at 1 July	961	932
Revaluation increments / (decrements)	(114)	29
Balance as at 30 June	<b>847</b>	<b>961</b>

**Buildings**

Balance as at 1 July	1,173	1,161
Revaluation increments / (decrements)	(17)	12
Balance as at 30 June	<b>1,156</b>	<b>1,173</b>

**Infrastructure**

Balance as at 1 July	138,121	136,139
Revaluation increments / (decrements)	24,444	1,982
Balance as at 30 June	<b>162,565</b>	<b>138,121</b>

**Plant & equipment**

Balance as at 1 July	-	-
Revaluation increments / (decrements)	16	-
Balance as at 30 June	<b>16</b>	<b>-</b>

**Total**

	<b>164,584</b>	<b>140,255</b>
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# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

## 11 Key Executive Management Personnel and Remuneration

### (a) Key Executive Management Personnel

The following details for key executive management personnel include those positions that had authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the agency during 2019-20. Further information on these positions can be found in the body of the Annual Report under the section relating to the Commission.

Position	Responsibilities	Current Incumbents	
		Appointment Authority	Date appointed to position (Date ceased in position)
Chair of the Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine the quantities of water available to the states, under the agreed water sharing arrangements, from the Border Rivers and from the shared dams and weirs</li> <li>Control the construction, operation and maintenance of works taken over or constructed by the Commission under the Agreement</li> <li>Investigate matters to enable the Commission to exercise the powers and discharge the duties conferred upon it by the Agreement</li> <li>Report and make recommendations to the governments of New South Wales and Queensland regarding the construction of works, sharing the waters of the Intersecting Streams, sharing groundwater and other matters</li> <li>Arrange for river flows and groundwater levels to be effectively monitored.</li> </ul>	Premiers of Queensland and New South Wales	19/4/18 to 7/10/21
Commissioner representing Queensland		Order in Council	30/6/16 to 29/06/21
Commissioner representing New South Wales		Order in Council	26/9/18 to 25/9/23
Deputy Commissioner representing Queensland		Order in Council	14/11/19 to 13/11/24
Deputy Commissioner representing New South Wales		Order in Council	26/9/18 to 25/9/23
Chief Executive Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leading and driving the necessary tasks to ready the Commission for a reform process to be undertaken by the joint State Governments.</li> <li>Responsible for the oversight of the operational management of the Commission including the implementation of effective corporate planning and governance frameworks</li> <li>Effective allocation of resources to ensure the Commission meets its legislative and strategic objectives.</li> </ul>	Resolution of Commission	17/12/18 to 17/12/20

### (b) Remuneration

With the exception of the Chair of the Commission, no commissioner has received or is entitled to receive remuneration from the Commission. The remuneration packages for the Chair of the Commission does not provide for any performance or bonus payments.

2019-20

Position	Short Term		Long Term Employee Benefits	Post Employment Benefits	Termination Benefits	Total Remuneration
	Base	Non-Monetary Benefits				
	\$'000	\$'000				
Chair of the Commission	24	-	-	2	-	26

2018-19

Position	Short Term		Long Term Employee Benefits	Post Employment Benefits	Termination Benefits	Total Remuneration
	Base	Non-Monetary Benefits				
	\$'000	\$'000				
Chair of the Commission	23	-	-	2	-	25

### (c) Related Parties

As outlined in note 1b, under the current agreement embodied in the constituting legislation, the two States, being New South Wales and Queensland, continue to share equally the costs associated with the Commission's activities.

With the exclusion of the Chair, all key management personnel are employees of either the Queensland or New South Wales Governments. The Commission has specific arrangements for secretarial and accounting support to be provided by employees of the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy (Queensland) and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (NSW).

During the year, material expenditure for the supply of goods and services has been incurred by the Commission and State Government Departments that employ the Commission's key management personnel or with a State Government Owned Corporation. The Chair and Management of the Commission receive no benefit other than an allowance/salary from their respective employer for duties conducted on behalf of the Commission.

# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

### 12 Contingent Liabilities

	2020	2019
Number of Cases	-	-

As at the date of signing the financial statements, no contingent assets or liabilities were identified by the Commission.

### 13 Financial Instruments

The Commission has the following categories

#### (a) Financial instrument categories

Financial Assets			Carrying Amount 2020 \$'000	Carrying Amount 2019 \$'000
	Note	Category		
<b>Class:</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	4		3,048	2,614
Receivables	5		53	71
			<b>3,101</b>	<b>2,685</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
	Note	Category	Carrying Amount 2020 \$'000	Carrying Amount 2019 \$'000
<b>Class:</b>				
Payables	8	Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	855	830
			<b>855</b>	<b>830</b>

#### (b) Financial Risk Management

The Commission's financial instruments arise directly from the Commission's operations or are required to finance the Commission's operations. The Commission does not enter into or trade financial instruments for speculative purposes. The Commission does not use financial derivatives.

The Commission's main risks arising from financial instruments are outlined below, together with the Commission's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk. Further quantitative and qualitative disclosures are included throughout these financial statements.

The Commissioners have overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of risk management and reviews policies for managing each of these risks. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Commission, to set risk limits and controls and to monitor risk.

Compliance with policies is reviewed by the Commissioners on a continuous basis.

# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

### 13 Financial Instruments (continued)

#### (c) Credit risk

Credit risk arises when there is a possibility of Commission's debtors defaulting on their contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Commission. Maximum exposure to credit risk is generally represented by carrying amount of financial assets. Credit risk arises from the financial assets of the Commission including cash, receivables, and authority deposits. No collateral is held by the Commission. The Commission has not granted any financial guarantees.

##### Cash

Cash comprises cash on hand and bank balances. Interest is earned on daily bank balances at the bank's annual effective rate.

##### Receivables - trade debtors

All trade debtors are recognised as amounts receivable at end of reporting period. Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Procedures as established in the Treasurer's Directions are followed to recover outstanding amounts. No interest is earned on trade debtors.

#### (d) Liquidity Risk

The Commission manages its liquidity risk as much as practicable through the effective application of cash management practices. These practices aim to reduce the exposure to liquidity risk by ensuring the Commission has sufficient funds available to meet supplier obligations at all times. This is achieved by ensuring that minimum levels of cash are held within the various bank accounts so as to match the expected duration of the various supplier liabilities.

The liabilities are recognised for amounts due to be paid in the future for goods or services received whether or not invoiced.

The following table sets out the liquidity risk of financial liabilities held by the Commission. It represents the contractual maturity of financial liabilities, calculated based on undiscounted cash flows relating to the liabilities at reporting date.

	Note	Maturity Dates			Total \$'000
		1 year or less \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Greater than 5 years \$'000	
30 June 2020					
Payables	8	855			855
		855	-	-	855
30 June 2019					
Payables	8	830	-	-	830
		830	-	-	830

	Note	Maturity Dates			Total \$'000
		1 year or less \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Greater than 5 years \$'000	
30 June 2020					
Receivables	5	53			53
		53	-	-	53
30 June 2019					
Receivables	5	71	-	-	71
		71	-	-	71

# DUMARESQ-BARWON BORDER RIVERS COMMISSION

## Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020

### 13 Financial Instruments (continued)

#### (e) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Commission's exposure to market risk is through interest rate risks in relation to its interest earning deposits. The Commission has no exposure to market risk related to borrowings or foreign currency dealings and it does not enter into commodity contracts.

#### *Interest rate risk*

Exposure to interest rate risk arises primarily through the Commission's interest earning deposits. The Commission minimises this risk by having the majority of its monies invested with the Queensland Treasury Corporation. The Commission uses a reasonably possible change of +1%/-1% to assess its exposure to interest rate risk, which is consistent with trends in interest rates. The Commission's exposure to interest rate risk is set out below.

	Carrying Amount \$'000		-1%		1%	
			Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
			\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2020						
Financial assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	3,048		(30)	(30)	30	30
Financial liabilities						
Payables	855		-	-	-	-
2019						
Financial assets						
Cash and cash equivalents	2,614		(26)	(26)	26	26
Financial liabilities						
Payables	830		-	-	-	-

### 14 Commitments for Expenditure

There are no other commitments for expenditure in 2019-20 or beyond.

### 15 After Balance Date Events

There are no known events occurring after balance date that would have an effect on the Commission's financial statements.

End of audited financial statements

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Commissioners of the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission

### Report on the audit of the financial report

#### Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of the Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2020, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019 and Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including summaries of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the management certificate.

#### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

I am independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the entity for the financial report

The Commissioners are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the Commissioners determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Commissioners are also responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the entity or to otherwise cease operations.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. This is not done for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls, but allows me to express an opinion on compliance with prescribed requirements.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the entity.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the entity's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. I base my conclusions on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Commissioners regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

## **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

### **Statement**

In accordance with s.40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2020:

- a) I received all the information and explanations I required.
- b) I consider that, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.

### **Prescribed requirements scope**

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, any other Act and the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the entity's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.



27 August 2020

Vaughan Stemmett  
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office  
Brisbane

# Glossary

Name	Description
<b>2019-20</b> <b>2019-2020</b>	Refers to the financial year commencing 1 July 2019 and ending 30 June 2020.
<b>2020-21</b> <b>2020-2021</b>	Refers to the financial year commencing 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2021.
<b>\$k   \$'000</b>	Values are in thousands. Currency Australian dollars.
<b>\$M</b>	Values are in millions. Currency Australian dollars.
<b>Act Agreement</b>	New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Agreement 1946 is the Schedule in both the New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946 (Qld) and New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947 (NSW). Act Agreement clauses between the States are the same.
<b>Acts</b>	Refers collectively to the New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1946 (Qld) and New South Wales-Queensland Border Rivers Act 1947 (NSW). Act provisions between the States differ.
<b>ASX</b>	Australian Stock Exchange
<b>Border Rivers</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means the parts of the Dumaresq, Macintyre, and Barwon Rivers constituting part of the boundary between the States of New South Wales and Queensland, the actual border for the purposes of this Agreement being the median line of the river in question.
<b>Bore pipe</b>	A bore can have several observation points for measuring piezometric pressures within an aquifer.
<b>Carrier Rivers</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means the parts of the Dumaresq, Macintyre, and Barwon Rivers constituting part of the boundary between New South Wales and Queensland and located between the Mingoola Gauging Station and the point where the Barwon River reaches the twenty-ninth parallel of south latitude
<b>CEO</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>COAG 1994</b>	Council of Australian Governments 1994 reform framework for the water industry.
<b>Commission</b>	The Dumaresq-Barwon Border Rivers Commission. The Commission came into being as a separate vehicle when the Acts were ratified in both the Queensland and New South Wales Parliaments in 1946 and 1947, respectively. It is a joint States' operation with powers to ensure water sharing equity between the parties as agreed in the Act Agreement. The Commission is recognised as a not-for-profit, unincorporated Statutory Body in both States.
<b>Controlling Authority</b>	<p>Current State Controlling Authorities are WaterNSW and DNRME.</p> <p>Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: where used in reference to a State means any Government Department or Authority of that State which under the laws of that State is authorised or required to exercise the powers and fulfil the obligations by this Agreement conferred or imposed upon a Controlling Authority.</p> <p>Act Agreement Clause 16(6) Functions of the Commission: The work of investigating, surveying, designing and constructing works on behalf of the Commission under this Agreement shall be carried out by the Controlling Authorities of New South Wales or of Queensland as arranged by the Commission and approved by the parties hereto. Unless the Commission, with the approval of the parties hereto, otherwise arranges, any work to be carried out on behalf of the Commission under this Agreement in a State shall be carried out by the Controlling Authority of that State.</p> <p>Act Agreement Clause 17 Operation and maintenance of works: The work of operating and maintaining any works constructed on behalf of or taken over by the Commission shall be carried out by the Controlling Authorities of New</p>

Name	Description
	South Wales or of Queensland or by the Commission's own servants as arranged by the Commission.
<b>Diversion</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: includes abstraction impounding and appropriation of water that diminishes or retards the volume of flow of a river.
<b>DNRME</b>	Queensland Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
<b>DPIE</b>	New South Wales Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
<b>Dumaresq Storage</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means the storage and basin or basins which at the relevant time are provided by any dam or dams constructed under this Agreement on Pike Creek or on the Dumaresq River upstream of the Mingoola Gauging Station or on a tributary of that river upstream of that station
<b>EAP</b>	Emergency Action Plan
<b>Entity</b>	For the purposes of this report, incorporates State Government Departments, Statutory Bodies and government owned businesses.
<b>FY20</b>	Refers to the financial year commencing 1 July 2019 and ending 30 June 2020.
<b>Groundwater</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means water occurring—(a) in a geological structure or formation; or (b) in an artificial landfill; under the surface of the ground in the groundwater area, excluding water from a formation in the Great Artesian Basin.
<b>Groundwater Area</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means the area comprising—(a) part of the State of New South Wales; and (b) part of the State of Queensland; overlying alluvium containing groundwater associated with the Carrier Rivers
<b>Hydrometric</b>	The process of measuring water quantity and quality.
<b>Intersecting Streams</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: means the Moonie, Bokhara, Narran, Culgoa, Ballandool, Warrego and Paroo rivers and the effluents and tributaries thereof and any stream or watercourse which forms part of the Darling River drainage system and crosses the New South Wales–Queensland border west of the town of Mungindi.
<b>Maintenance</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: includes repairs and improvements
<b>MDBA</b>	Murray Darling Basin Authority
<b>Mingoola Gauging Station</b>	In the 1968 amendment bill, this station became the geographic changeover point on the Dumaresq River as stated in the defined terms Dumaresq Storage and Carrier Rivers. The station was commissioned in 1954 and decommissioned in 1982. Act Agreement clauses references are read as the location of the decommissioned Mingoola Gauging Station. This site was located just upstream of the Hynes Bridge Road, approximately six kilometres south of where Pike Creek enters the Dumaresq River.
<b>NSW</b>	New South Wales, Australia
<b>Qld</b>	Queensland, Australia
<b>River and Tributary</b>	Act Agreement Clause 51 Interpretation: respectively include any affluent, effluent, creek, anabranch, or extension of and any lake or lagoon connected with the river or tributary
<b>Sunwater</b>	Sunwater Ltd, Queensland Government Owned Corporation
<b>WaterNSW</b>	WaterNSW, New South Wales State Owned Corporation
<b>Watershed of Dumaresq River, &amp;c.</b>	Act Agreement Clause 50a: For the purposes of this Agreement the Dumaresq River and its tributaries upstream of the Mingoola Gauging Station include every stream within the watershed of the Dumaresq River upstream of that station