



Lachlan Valley Water e-News

PO Box 819, Forbes 2871

September 2023

MDBP Legislation

The deadline for submissions to the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee on the proposed changes on the Murray Darling Basin plan are due Friday 29 September and anyone can make a submission. Among other changes, the **Water Amendment (Restoring our Rivers) Bill 2023** proposes to enable buybacks, remove socio-economic conditions, and decouples water recovery from on-ground environmental outcomes. LVW has made a submission on behalf of our members opposing these changes. If you would like to add your voice to ours a make individual submissions you can do so by [Clicking Here](#).

The Federal Coalition is hosting a tour of basin towns next week, being led by Senator Perin Davey, who will then report back to the Senate Committee. The towns being visited are Mildura, Griffith, and Moree. The details for the Griffith session are:

Wednesday 4 Oct 23, at 10am in the Griffith Regional Theatre, 1 Neville Place Griffith.

River Operations

Wyangala Dam is currently sitting at 99.1%, releasing 140mg per day. Lake Brewster is at 73.3% and Lake Cargelligo while sitting at 50.9% should start receiving additional water from 1 Oct 23 to increase the level over the next 1-3 months. Representatives from each area along the Lachlan River are meeting with WaterNSW very fortnight (at this stage) to discuss forecasts, usage, and any water-related issues users in their respective areas may be experiencing. More Information regarding flows etc can be found on [WaterNSW's WaterInsights website](#).

Wyangala Wall Project Announcement

No doubt you would have seen the announcement earlier this month by the State Water Minister that the Wyangala Dam wall raising project will not proceed to due costs and environmental impacts. While this was disappointing, it wasn't unexpected however we were surprised at the timing if the announcement given that we'd written to the Minister in the month prior requesting an update. We have since secured a meeting with the Minister in late October where we'll prioritise and raise Lachlan Valley related issues. For more information on the Wyangala Wall raising project decision and business case, [Click Here](#)

Lachlan Valley Regional Water Strategy

The draft Lachlan Regional Water Strategy was published last Friday and will be on public exhibition until 12 November 2023. DPE Water will be holding two web information seminars and four face-to-face sessions along the Lachlan.

Online Sessions:

Tuesday 10 Oct 23 5pm-6.30pm
Friday 13 Oct 12pm – 1.30pm

Face to Face Sessions:

Hillston Clubhouse Hotel, Mon 16 Oct 23, 10am-1pm
Lake Cargelligo Bowling Club, Tues 17 Oct 23, 2pm-5pm
Forbes Services Club, Wed 18 Oct 23, 2pm-5pm
Cowra Bowling Club, Thurs 19 Oct 23, 2pm -5pm

For more information and to register for the sessions, [Click Here](#). To view and download the consultation paper, [Click Here](#).

Surveys

You may have seen a couple of surveys doing the rounds on social media, one from Water DPIE regarding Stock & Domestic Water and the other from WaterNSW regarding their pricing proposal for 2025-2030. These surveys are open to the entire community not just water users. This means that the data they derive can be skewed depending on who from the community complete the surveys and their water literacy levels, and motivations/interests.

If you have time, please complete the surveys so as to get a good spread of educated water users responses who have the industry's best interests at heart. As someone recently said at a meeting I was at, "if you're not at the table, you're on it".

To view/complete the Stock & Domestic Survey, [Click Here](#).

To view/complete the Pricing Survey, [Click Here](#).

AGM

Thanks to everyone who attended our AGM in Hillston on the 7th of September. We had a reasonable turnout and some great guest speakers covering off topics such as fish in the Lachlan River, Lachlan Fish Screening Project (see below for more info), River Operations, and an overview of the potential impacts of the proposed changes to the MDBP.

Fish Screening Project

Expressions of Interest for the Lachlan River Modern Fish Protection Screens Project close Friday, 6th of Oct 23. The project covers the cost of purchase and installation of approved fish screens at selected sights. For more information and to register your interest (obligation free) [Click Here](#).



Membership Renewals

Membership renewals should be hitting your mailboxes starting next week and are due for payment by the end of October. Lachlan Valley Water Inc is funded purely through membership fees, which allow us to advocate on behalf of water users in the Lachlan Catchment area. If you would like to receive your membership renewal electronically, please email your contact details and WAL/Licence No. to admin@lvw.com.au

LVW Social Media

Hopefully you would have noticed an increase in our social media activity. If you're not following us, please do so! It's a month between newsletters so I'll use social media to post points of interest, non-urgent notices, and related workshops and activities.

Please visit our FaceBook page, follow us, like and share posts, and encourage your network to follow us by [Clicking Here](#).

Events

Rural Crime Workshop Cowra. NSW Farmers' Cowra Branch invites you to attend a Rural Crime workshop designed to raise concerns involving Rural Crime on 18 October from 6pm at the Cowra Bowling Club, including a BBQ Dinner. Friends, family members, and neighbours are also invited. NSW Farmers in conjunction with WFI Insurance have special guests from:

- Rural Crime Prevention Team, NSW Police Force
The Rural Crime Prevention Team will provide information on how to report rural crime and methods to use to reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime. Followed with the opportunity to ask questions and talk to the team.
- Integrity Systems
Integrity Systems are attending events to provide farmers with an overview and assistance with the NLIS database.
- NSW Farmers' Regional Services Manager
Introduction to NSW Farmers' member benefits including our Workplace Relations offerings, member savings then discuss what NSW Farmers are doing to support you, plus how you can get involved to drive change via our advocacy.

To book your spot, [Click Here](#).

ECS 2023 Grower Information Afternoon

3pm Thursday 5th of Oct 23 at the Canowindra Bowling Club. Q&A session with East Coast Stockfeeds staff for harvest 2023. Nibbles and drinks provided. RSVP to Aime on 0402 284 355

Hyper Yielding Crops – NSW Annual Field Day. The "Hyper Yielding Crops" NSW Annual Field Day is being held on 10th of October 2023, 10am-4pm, at the NSW Crop Technology Centre Wallendbeen NSW.

[Click Here](#) for more details and to register.



Please get in contact if you have any comments or questions about any issues in this newsletter.

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