

Implementing Water Reform in the Murray–Darling Basin

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule						
Parties	Commonwealth Queensland					
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 June 2028.					
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the continued delivery of Murray–Darling Basin water reforms by Basin States through implementation of the Murray–Darling Basin Plan and associated water reform.</p> <p>The Schedule is further to the work completed or underway by Basin States under the <i>National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray–Darling Basin</i> which expired on 30 June 2020, and the <i>Implementing Water Reform in the Murray–Darling Basin (2021/22 – 2023/4)</i> schedule to the <i>Federation Funding Agreement – Environment</i> which was due to expire on 30 June 2024 (subject to completion of the initiative, including final performance reporting and processing of final payments against milestones).</p>					
Estimated financial contributions	The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to Queensland of up to \$6.915 million in respect of this Schedule.					
	Table 1 - (\$ million)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Total
	Estimated total budget	2.070	2.070	1.735	1.040	6.915
	Less estimated Commonwealth Payments	2.070	2.070	1.735	1.040	
	• Queensland	2.070	2.070	1.735	1.040	6.915
	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0	0	0	0	0

Additional terms	<p>Milestones and Key Performance Indicators</p> <p>Basin States will respond to requests for advice or guidance on the development of policy, regulatory or standards instruments to support the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in Table 2C.</p> <p>Reporting & Payment Process</p> <p>The reporting period is listed in the header of table below (Table 2C). Each Basin State will report to the Commonwealth on or before the reporting date listed in the header of the table below against all milestones and key performance indicators (KPIs) as listed in Table 2C.</p> <p>Using these reports and any supporting information (including that provided by the Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, the Inspector-General of Water Compliance (IGWC)), the Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau), and the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the Department)) will assess each Basin State’s progress against its KPIs.</p> <p>The Commonwealth will take into account where one Basin State has completed all actions required to fulfill an outcome (or output), but another Basin State or Commonwealth entity has not fulfilled their actions required to complete the outcome or output.</p> <p>All milestones and KPIs are subject to acceptance and satisfaction by the Commonwealth that they have been ‘met.’ Basin States will receive payment upon fulfillment of the milestones and KPIs in Table 2C.</p> <p>The Department will advise the Commonwealth Minister with portfolio responsibility for water (the Minister) of its assessment. The Minister’s delegate exercising delegation authority under clause 41 of the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment will authorise payment to be made to each Basin State based on the funding arrangements in Table 1, and performance milestones and KPIs in relevant Basin State tables.</p> <p>Basin States will be advised by the Department as to the outcomes of the assessment as soon as possible.</p> <p>After payment is authorised, and Basin States have been notified, the Department will prepare an annual assessment report for publication on its website. The Basin States will be provided with an opportunity to comment before the report is published.</p> <p>Roles and responsibilities of Commonwealth agencies</p> <p>As the administrator of the Schedule, the Department (including the Water Divisions, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, and other relevant areas) is responsible for monitoring, evaluation and final reporting on performance by the Basin States. The annual assessment report is made public for increased transparency and accountability.</p> <p>Basin States will work closely with the Department, MDBA, the IGWC and the Bureau to deliver several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The Department,</p>
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	<p>MDBA, IGWC and the Bureau will act as an assessors of performance under the Schedule during reporting periods for the relevant KPIs.</p>
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Table 2C: Queensland – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Year 1: 2024-2025			
Milestone report due: 28 February 2025			
Reporting period: 01 July 2024 – 28 February 2025			
Output	Performance milestones	Key Performance Indicators	Payment
Water recovery	1. Work with the Commonwealth to deliver all remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets relevant to Queensland.	1.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on addressing the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray–Darling Basin Plan. This includes supporting the Commonwealth to meet the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray–Darling Basin Plan- through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> provision of technical advice in relation to entitlements 	\$ 90,000
		1.b Basin States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify options to deliver the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets. Contribute to a report on options to Basin Officials Committee (BOC). 	\$ 90,000
	2. Work with the Commonwealth to assist with the delivery of the 450 GL/year target for enhanced environmental outcomes via the Restoring our Rivers framework.	2.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on approaches* to deliver water recovery programs towards reaching the 450 GL/year target of additional environmental water under the Restoring our Rivers Framework. *This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing advice on the establishment of the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program with the Commonwealth, and delivering on infrastructure projects, or other mechanisms to recover water for enhanced environmental outcomes (particularly those associated with Schedule 5 of the Basin 	\$180,000

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Water recovery (cont'd)		<p>Plan).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing advice during the establishment and the implementation of the Commonwealth's Voluntary Water Purchase Program towards recovery of 450 GL target on specific matters requested by the Commonwealth. 	
Coordinated environmental water use	3. Deliver an agreed Basin-wide Environmental Water Protection Strategy and Implementation Plan.	<p>3. a All Basin States and the Commonwealth via the Environmental Water Committee (EWC) are to agree upon an annual forward work plan of priority collaborative activities to finalise delivery of the Environmental Water Protection Strategy (the Strategy) where relevant to the jurisdiction.</p> <p>Basin States are also to actively engage in EWC processes to agree and deliver annual collaborative activities to further improve protection of environmental water and contribute to connectivity.</p>	\$ 45,000
	4. Deliver against mechanisms for the protection of Held Environmental Water (HEW).	4. a Queensland to assist the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder in the development of their event-based mechanisms to utilise environmental held water.	\$ 45,000
	5. Deliver environmental water accounting data and information	5. a Accounting for unsupplemented held environmental water (HEW) under entitlement, including the volume of HEW accounted as passing the Queensland/NSW border provided to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder for adaptive management purposes.	\$ 45,000
	6. Improve environmental watering plans and strategies, including by updating Long-Term Watering Plans (LTWPs) within agreed timeframes.	6.a Develop annual environmental watering priorities or plans, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and First Nations, that operationalise the long-term watering plan.	\$ 60,000
		6.b Provide input to the next edition of the Basin-wide Environmental Watering Strategy, including input on climate adaptation approaches and techniques.	\$ 45,000
		6.c Review and update the long-term watering plan (or alternatively agreed tool) in line with the next edition of the	\$ 60,000

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		Basin-wide environmental water strategy within agreed timeframes.	
Water Quality	7. Support the review of Basin Plan water quality targets and objectives	7.a Basin States are to contribute to the review of Basin Plan water quality and salinity targets and objectives as led by the Water Quality Advisory Panel.	\$ 45,000
	8. Deliver a new or updated Cold Water Pollution Strategy	8. a Qld are to develop a new or renewed Cold Water Pollution Strategy for Beardmore Dam.	\$ 45,000
Implementation of the Basin Plan	9. Contribute to delivery of the MDBA-led SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy 2020-2025 work plan or future work plans	9.a Contribute to developing a work plan to implement current and future iterations of the Sustainable Diversion Limit (SDL) Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy led by the MDBA and agreed by Basin Officials Committee Alternates (BOCA).	\$ 60,000
		9.b Support * the MDBA to implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan. *provide technical support and modelling advice to the MDBA and independent reviewers on request, and participate in intergovernmental committees including the Run-off Dams working group (RDWG), Surface water advisory panel (SAP) and groundwater advisory panel (GAP).	\$ 60,000
	10. Deliver required Basin Plan monitoring, evaluation, science and reporting.	10.a Deliver Basin Plan monitoring and reporting under Schedule 12.	\$ 60,000
		10. b Review the draft Findings and Recommendations of the 2025 Basin Plan Evaluation.	\$ 90,000
		10.c Support the MDBA to deliver on agreed strategic activities under the Basin Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Working Group annual work plan as endorsed by Basin Officials Committee Alternates (BOCA).	\$ 45,000
11. States support the MDBA in delivery of its Sustainable Yields Project up until 31 December 2025 by attending interjurisdictional meetings and provide advice where required.	11.a Basin States to work with MDBA on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of advice and guidance to support project planning and outcomes review. • Provision of ongoing advice for the development of reference and hydroclimate scenarios for the purposes of the Basin Plan 	\$ 60,000	

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		Review	
Statutory Review Processes	12. Contribute to statutory review processes	<p>12. a Basin States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a minimum of 90% of meetings as organised by the MDBA (as required) on the Basin Plan review. • provide information to the MDBA as requested by the MDBA towards the Basin Plan review. 	\$ 90,000
Water Market Improvement	13. Contribute to the implementation of water markets reforms as specified in the <i>Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report (2022)</i> .	<p>13. a NSW, SA, Qld and Victoria are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that up-to-date information on all relevant Commonwealth statutory instruments giving effect to water market reforms is posted on the appropriate Basin state website and communicated to stakeholders within each jurisdiction. • Engage with the Commonwealth, throughout the development of statutory instruments prescribed under the <i>Restoring Our Rivers Act 2023 (Cth)</i> (the Act) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Water Markets Intermediaries Code and associated regulations under Part 5 of the Act ○ Water markets decisions under Part 5A of the Act ○ Water market information under Part 7A of the Act. • Review and provide comment into policy papers and Exposure Drafts for Commonwealth consideration, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Policy papers: Water Markets Decisions, Water Markets Information and Water Markets Intermediaries Code and associated regulations, including educational materials 	\$ 75,000

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Water Market Improvement (cont'd)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exposure draft: Water Markets Intermediaries Code and associated regulations <p>(These requirements contribute to recommendations 1-5 and 9 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report).</p>	
		<p>13.b Provide an implementation plan or other documentation clearly setting out steps and timelines required to transfer data (including the form, timeframe and frequency of data provision) to the Bureau to implement the Water Markets Data Standards and other regulatory instruments under Part 5A and Part 7A of the <i>Restoring Our Rivers Act 2023</i> (Cth) Act.</p> <p>Provide evidence that Queensland has worked with the Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau) to determine the "fit-for-purpose" Basin state system enhancements and/or modifications that will be required to transfer data to the Bureau of Meteorology.</p> <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendation 10 of the <i>Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report</i>)</p>	\$ 150,000
		<p>13.c During development of the Bureau of Meteorology's (the Bureau) new water markets website, and the Murray–Darling Basin Water Information Portal, provide written input and advice as requested by the Bureau on Queensland's definitions, business rules and methodology that underpin the calculation and reporting of trade approval times.</p> <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendation 12 of the Water Reform: Final Roadmap Report)</p>	\$ 60,000
		<p>13.d Subject to the Basin Officials Committee (BOC) nominating a committee to progress outcomes under recommendation 18 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report,</p>	\$ 60,000

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<p>Water Market Improvement (cont'd)</p>		<p>Basin states must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide relevant jurisdictional information to contribute to the preparation of a public report which will be coordinated by the relevant BOC committee in consultation with the Trade Working Group. The report will detail how to increase transparency around how environmental water trade, transfer and delivery is managed (to help with public perceptions and confidence in the water management system). • Assist and provide input into the preparation of a paper which details next steps to improve environmental water data transparency and timeliness, including environmental water trade, transfer and delivery, as well as other water flows in the system (data improvements) for BOC agreement. <p>(These requirements contribute to recommendation 18 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report.)</p>	
<p>Improved compliance and reporting</p>	<p>14. Implement revised Metrological Assurance Framework (MAF2)</p>	<p>14.a Qld is to develop and maintain its non-urban water metering policy to conform with the relevant MAF2 rules and guidelines.</p> <p>Note: Where a jurisdiction's non-urban metering policy does not conform to MAF 2 (or subsequent agreed Framework), then the jurisdiction will develop an implementation plan, and implement that plan.</p>	<p>\$ 45,000</p>
	<p>15. Work with the Inspector General of Water Compliance (IGWC) in an effective and efficient manner to provide compliance and performance data and reports to support improved monitoring in the Murray–Darling Basin.</p>	<p>15.a The submission of compliance performance data in accordance with requests made by the IGWC under the Compliance Reporting Framework and in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.</p>	<p>\$ 60,000</p>
		<p>15.b The submission of measurement</p>	<p>\$ 60,000</p>

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Improved compliance and reporting (cont'd)		data and narrative in accordance with requests made by the IGWC, including metering data and data relating to floodplain harvesting / overland flows, in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	
		15.c Report to the IGWC against MAF2 Chapter 15 at least annually or in accordance with IGWC guidelines.	\$ 30,000
		15 d Provide input to the IGWC on the development of new IGWC-issued guidelines and standards.	\$ 45,000
	16. Water Resource Plan (WRP) Compliance	16.a Active participation in the development of fit-for-purpose annual WRP compliance reporting requirements and associated reporting guidelines, specifications and reporting framework in accordance with requests made by the IGWC (either directly or via the MDBA).	\$ 45,000
Enhanced and coordinated consultation and engagement with all Basin communities	17. States to undertake consultation and strategic engagement in collaboration with the Commonwealth and other Basin governments.	17.a Develop a communications and engagement plan to support strategic consultation, coordination and engagement with Basin communities.	\$ 60,000
First Nations Water	18. Improve outcomes for First Nations Australians in relation to holding water.	18.a Provide advice to the Commonwealth's implementation of the Aboriginal Water Entitlements Program and First Nations (strategic land and water acquisitions partnership) programs as relevant to the jurisdiction.	\$ 45,000
		18. b Provide advice and support to create and identify opportunities and enabling reforms for First Nations Australians (including non-Native Title Holders) to hold water entitlements in the Murray-Darling Basin.	\$ 60,000
	19. Undertake engagement, consultation, and partnerships with First Nations Australians within the Basin.	19.a Develop a communications and engagement plan to support partnerships and shared decision making through strategic consultation, coordination and engagement with Basin First Nations communities.	\$ 60,000
<i>Total payment for Queensland for Year 1 if all KPIs are met</i>			\$ 2,070,000

Table 2C: Queensland – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary**Year 2: 2025-2026****Milestone report due: 28 February 2026****Reporting period: 01 March 2025 – 28 February 2026**

Output	Performance milestones	Key Performance Indicators	Payment
Water recovery	1. Work with the Commonwealth to deliver all remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets relevant to Queensland.	<p>1.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on addressing the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray–Darling Basin Plan.</p> <p>This includes supporting the Commonwealth to meet the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray-Darling Basin Plan-through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of technical advice in relation to entitlements 	\$ 90,000
	2. Work with the Commonwealth to assist with the delivery of the 450 GL/year target for enhanced environmental outcomes via the Restoring our Rivers framework.	<p>2.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on approaches* to deliver water recovery programs towards reaching the 450 GL/year target of additional environmental water under the Restoring our Rivers Framework.</p> <p>*This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing advice on the establishment the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program with the Commonwealth, and delivering on infrastructure projects, or other mechanisms to recover water for enhanced environmental outcomes. • Providing advice during the establishment and implementation of the Commonwealth's Voluntary Water Purchase Program towards recovery of the 450GL target on specific matters requested by the Commonwealth. 	\$ 150,000.
Coordinated environmental water use	3. Deliver an agreed Basin-wide Environmental Water Protection Strategy and Implementation Plan.	<p>3. a All Basin States and the Commonwealth via the Environmental Water Committee are to agree upon an annual forward work plan of priority collaborative activities to finalise delivery of the Environmental Water Protection Strategy (where relevant to the jurisdiction).</p> <p>Basin States are also to actively engage in EWC processes to agree and deliver annual</p>	\$ 60,000

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Coordinated environmental water use (cont'd)		collaborative activities to further improve protection of environmental water and contribute to connectivity.	
	4. Deliver against mechanisms for the protection of Held Environmental Water.	4. a Queensland to assist the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder in the development of their event-based mechanisms to utilise environmental held water.	\$ 60,000
	5. Deliver environmental water accounting data and information	5. a Accounting for unsupplemented held environmental water (HEW) under entitlement, including the volume of HEW accounted as passing the Queensland/NSW border provided to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder for adaptive management purposes.	\$ 60,000
	6. Improve environmental watering plans and strategies, including by updating Long-Term Watering Plans (LTWPs) within agreed timeframes.	6. a Develop annual environmental watering priorities or plans, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and First Nations, that operationalise the long-term watering plan.	\$ 110,000
6. b Review and update the long-term watering plan (or alternatively agreed tool) in line with the next edition of the Basin-wide environmental water strategy within agreed timeframes.		\$ 60,000	
Water quality	7. Support the review of Basin Plan water quality targets and objectives	7.a Basin States are to contribute to the review of Basin Plan water quality and salinity targets and objectives via the Water Quality Advisory Panel.	\$ 60,000
	8. Deliver a new or updated Cold Water Pollution Strategy	8. a Qld are to develop a new or renewed Cold Water Pollution Strategy for Beardmore Dam.	\$ 60,000
Implementation of the Basin Plan	9. Contribute to delivery of the MDBA-led SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan or any future work plan	9.a Contribute to developing a work plan to implement current and future iterations of the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy led by the MDBA and agreed by BOC Alternates.	\$ 60,000
		9.b Support * the MDBA to implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan. *provide technical support and modelling advice to the MDBA and independent reviewers on request, and participate in intergovernmental committees including the Run-off Dams working group (RDWG), Surface water advisory panel (SAP) and groundwater advisory panel (GAP).	\$ 60,000

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Implementation of the Basin Plan (cont'd)	10. Deliver required Basin Plan monitoring, evaluation, science and reporting.	10.a Deliver Basin Plan reporting under Schedule 12.	\$ 60,000
		10.b Review the draft Findings and Recommendations of the 2025 Basin Plan Evaluation.	\$ 85,000
		10.c Support the MDBA to deliver on agreed strategic activities under the Basin Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Working Group annual work plan as endorsed by BOCA.	\$ 60,000
	11. States support the MDBA in delivery of its Sustainable Yields Project up until 31 December 2025 by attending interjurisdictional meetings and provide advice where required.	11.a Basin States to work with MDBA on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of advice and guidance to support project planning and outcomes review. • Supporting development of reference and hydroclimate scenarios for the purposes of the Basin Plan Review 	\$ 60,000
Statutory Review Processes	12. Contribute to statutory review processes	12.a Basin States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a minimum of 90% of meetings as organised by the MDBA (as required) on the Basin Plan Review. • provide information to the MDBA as requested by the MDBA towards the Basin Plan Review. 	\$ 85,000
		12. b Basin States to produce the input required for the review of the role Inspector-General of Water Compliance commencing on 01 July 2025 as referenced in s215Z of the <i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth).	\$ 60,000
Water market improvement	13. Contribute to the implementation of the water market reform recommendations specified in the <i>Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report (2022)</i>	13.a NSW, SA, Qld and Vic are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that up-to-date information on all relevant Commonwealth statutory instruments giving effect to water market reforms is posted on the appropriate Basin state website and/or communicated to stakeholders within each jurisdiction • Engage with the Commonwealth, throughout the development of statutory instruments prescribed under the <i>Restoring Our Rivers Act 2023</i> (Cth) (the Act) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Water Markets Intermediaries Code and associated regulations under Part 5 of the Act 	\$ 85,000

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<p>Water Market Improvement (cont'd)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Water markets decisions under Part 5A of the Act ○ Water market information under Part 7A of the Act. ● Review and provide comment into policy papers and Exposure Drafts for Commonwealth consideration, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Exposure Drafts: Water Markets Decisions and Water Markets Information ○ Educational materials: Water Markets Intermediaries Code, Water Markets Decisions, Water Markets Information insider trading and market manipulation prohibitions. <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendations 1-5 and 9 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report).</p>	
		<p>13.b Queensland to work with the Bureau of Meteorology by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● providing input and advice as requested and required for the development of the Bureau of Meteorology's new water markets website and the Murray–Darling Basin Water Information Portal (the portal). ● undertaking required user testing of the Bureau of Meteorology's new website and/or materials published through the portal. <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendation 6 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report.)</p>	<p>\$ 75,000</p>
		<p>13.c During development of the Bureau of Meteorology's (the Bureau) new water markets website, and the Murray–Darling Basin Water Information Portal, Basin States to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● review the consolidated materials prepared by the Bureau and provide written feedback within Bureau specified timeframes prior to publication to ensure information is accurately reported. <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendation 12 of the Water Market</p>	<p>\$ 60,000</p>

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Water Market Improvement (cont'd)		Reform: Final Roadmap Report).	
		13. d Subject to Basin Official Committee's (BOC) agreement to the paper, implement the measures outlined in the paper to improve environmental water data transparency and timeliness, including environmental trade, transfer and delivery, as agreed by BOC. (These requirements contribute to Recommendation 18 of the Water Markets Reform: Final Roadmap Report.)	\$ 60,000
Improved compliance and reporting	14. Implement revised Metrological Assurance Framework (MAF2)	14.a Qld is to develop and maintain its non-urban water metering policy to conform with the relevant MAF2 rules and guidelines. Note: Where a jurisdiction's non-urban metering policy does not conform to MAF 2 (or subsequent agreed Framework), then the jurisdiction will develop an implementation plan, and implement that plan.	\$ 50,000
	15. Work with the Inspector General of Water Compliance (IGWC) in an effective and efficient manner to provide compliance and performance data and reports to support improved monitoring in the Murray-Darling Basin.	15.a The submission of compliance performance data in accordance with requests made by the IGWC under the Compliance Reporting Framework and in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$60,000
		15.b The submission of measurement data and narrative in accordance with requests made by the IGWC, including metering data and data relating to floodplain harvesting / overland flows, in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$60,000
		15.c Report to the IGWC against MAF2 Chapter 15 at least annually or in accordance with IGWC guidelines.	\$ 50,000
		15. d Provide input to the IGWC on the development of new IGWC-issued guidelines and standards.	\$ 50,000
	16. Water Resource Plan (WRP) Compliance	16.a Active participation in the development of fit-for-purpose annual WRP compliance reporting requirements and associated reporting guidelines, specifications and reporting framework in accordance with requests made by the IGWC (either directly or via the MDBA).	\$ 50,000

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Enhanced and coordinated consultation and engagement with all Basin communities	17.States to undertake consultation and strategic engagement in collaboration with the Commonwealth and other Basin governments.	17.a Develop a communications and engagement plan to support strategic consultation, coordination and engagement with Basin communities.	\$60,000
First Nations	18. Improve outcomes for First Nations Australians in relation to holding water.	18.a Support the Commonwealth implementation of the Aboriginal Water Entitlements Program and First Nations (strategic land and water acquisitions partnership) programs as relevant to the jurisdiction.	\$ 50,000
		18. b Create opportunities and enabling reforms for First Nations Australians (including non-Native Title Holders) to hold water entitlements in the Murray-Darling Basin.	\$60,000
	19.Undertake engagement, consultation, and partnerships with First Nations Australians within the Basin.	19.a Implement actions and evaluation plan as per agreed in the Strategic Consultation, Engagement and Partnerships Strategy.	\$60,000
<i>Total payment for Queensland for Year 2 if all KPIs are met</i>			\$ 2,070,000

Table 2C: Queensland – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Year 3: 2026-2027			
Milestone report due: 28 February 2027			
Reporting period: 01 March 2026-28 February 2027			
Output	Performance milestones	Key Performance Indicators	Payment
Water recovery	1. Work with the Commonwealth to deliver all remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets relevant to Queensland.	<p>1.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on addressing the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray–Darling Basin Plan.</p> <p>This includes supporting the Commonwealth to meet the remaining 'Bridging the Gap' targets (i.e. the 2075 GL/year target) for water recovery outlined in the Murray-Darling Basin Plan- through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provision of technical advice in relation to entitlements. 	\$ 100,000
	2. Work with the Commonwealth Government to assist with the delivery of the 450 GL/year target for enhanced environmental outcomes via the Restoring our Rivers framework.	<p>2.a Provide advice when requested to the Commonwealth on approaches* to deliver water recovery programs towards reaching the 450 GL/year target of additional environmental water under the Restoring our Rivers Framework.</p> <p>*This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing advice on the establishment the Resilient Rivers Water Infrastructure Program with the Commonwealth, and delivering on infrastructure projects, or other mechanisms to recover water for enhanced environmental outcomes. • Providing advice during the establishment and implementation of the Commonwealth's Voluntary Water Purchase Program towards recovery of the 450GL target on specific matters requested by the Commonwealth. 	\$ 200,000

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<p>Coordinated environmental water use</p>	<p>3. Deliver an agreed Basin-wide Environmental Water Protection Strategy and Implementation Plan.</p>	<p>3. a All Basin States and the Commonwealth via the Environmental Water Committee are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate evidence of work completed under the 2025-26 forward work plan (or similar plan). • agree upon an annual forward work plan of priority collaborative activities to finalise delivery of the Environmental Water Protection Strategy (where relevant to the jurisdiction). <p>Basin States are also to actively engage in EWC processes to agree and deliver annual collaborative activities to further improve protection of environmental water and contribute to connectivity.</p>	<p>\$ 50,000</p>
	<p>4. Deliver against mechanisms for the protection of Held Environmental Water (HEW).</p>	<p>4. a Queensland are to deliver an independent assessment report evaluating implementation of event-based mechanisms, and any other mechanisms for the protection of Held Environmental Water (HEW), including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensland should seek endorsement from the Commonwealth about the nominated party to conduct the report. • This report will be an independent external assessment of performance with specific and detailed recommendations for improvement. • The report will examine whether Queensland are meeting targets to implement event-based mechanisms for the protection of HEW. • States will also provide environmental water accounting data towards the report. 	<p>\$ 50,000</p>

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Coordinated environmental water use (cont'd)	5. Deliver environmental water accounting data and information.	5.a Accounting for unsupplemented held environmental water (HEW) under entitlement, including the volume of HEW accounted as passing the Queensland/NSW border provided to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder for adaptive management purposes.	\$ 50,000
	6. Improve environmental watering plans and strategies, including by updating Long-Term Watering Plans (LTWPs) within agreed timeframes.	6. a Develop annual environmental watering priorities or plans, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and First Nations, that operationalise the long-term watering plan.	\$ 110,000
		6.b Review and update the long-term watering plan (or alternatively agreed tool) in line with the next edition of the Basin-wide environmental water strategy within agreed timeframes.	\$ 50,000
Water Quality	7. Support the review of Basin Plan water quality targets and objectives	7.a Basin States are to contribute to the review of Basin Plan water quality and salinity targets and objectives via the Water Quality Advisory Panel	\$ 50,000
Implementation of the Basin Plan	8. Contribute to delivery of the MDBA-led SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan, including supplying data and quality assurance documentation.	8.a Implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan, led by the MDBA and agreed by BOC Alternates (BOCA).	\$ 60,000
Implementation of the Basin Plan (cont'd)		8.b Support * the MDBA to implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan. *provide technical support and modelling advice to the MDBA and independent reviewers on request, and participate in intergovernmental committees including the Run-off Dams working group (RDWG), Surface water advisory panel (SAP) and groundwater advisory panel (GAP).	\$ 60,000
	9. Deliver required Basin Plan monitoring, evaluation, science and reporting.	9.a Deliver Basin Plan reporting under Schedule 12.	\$ 60,000
		9.b Deliver on agreed strategic activities under the Basin Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Working Group annual work plan as endorsed by Basin Officials Committee Alternates (BOCA).	\$ 100,000

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Statutory Review Processes	10. Contribute to statutory review processes	10.a Basin States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend a minimum of 90% meetings on the Basin Plan Review as organised by the MDBA (as required). provide information as requested by the MDBA towards the Basin Plan review. 	\$ 100,000
		10.b Basin States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> attend a minimum of 90% meetings with Water Act reviewers (as required). provide information as requested by the reviewers towards the Water Act review. 	\$ 60,000
Water market improvement	11. Contribute to the implementation of the water market reform recommendations specified in the <i>Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report (2022)</i> .	11.a NSW, SA, Qld and Vic are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that up-to-date information on all relevant Commonwealth statutory instruments giving effect to water market reforms is posted on the appropriate Basin state website and/or communicated to stakeholders within each jurisdiction. Engage with the Commonwealth, throughout the development of statutory instruments prescribed under the <i>Restoring Our Rivers Act 2023 (Cth)</i> (the Act) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water markets decisions under Part 5A of the Act Water market information under Part 7A of the Act. Review and provide comment into policy papers and Exposure Drafts for Commonwealth consideration, including, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educational materials: Water Markets Decisions, Water Markets Information, insider trading and market manipulation prohibitions. <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendations 1-5 and 9 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report).</p>	\$ 85,000
		11. b Subject to Basin Officials Committee	\$ 60,000

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Water market improvement (cont'd)		<p>(BOC) agreement, deliver public information on how environmental water is delivered and measured throughout the system.</p> <p>(These requirements contribute to Recommendation 18 of the Water Market Reform: Final Roadmap Report.)</p>	
Improved compliance and reporting	12. Implement revised Metrological Assurance Framework (MAF2)	<p>12.a Qld is to develop and maintain its non-urban water metering policy to conform with the relevant MAF2 rules and guidelines.</p> <p>Note: Where a jurisdiction's non-urban metering policy does not conform to MAF 2 (or subsequent agreed Framework), then the jurisdiction will develop an implementation plan, and implement that plan.</p>	\$ 50,000
	13. Work with the Inspector General of Water Compliance (IGWC) in an effective and efficient manner to provide compliance and performance data and reports to support improved monitoring in the Murray–Darling Basin.	13.a The submission of compliance performance data in accordance with requests made by the IGWC under the Compliance Reporting Framework and in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$ 60,000
		13.b The submission of measurement data and narrative in accordance with requests made by the IGWC, including metering data and data relating to floodplain harvesting / overland flows, in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$ 60,000
		13.c Provide input to the IGWC on the development of new IGWC-issued guidelines and standards.	\$ 40,000
13.d Report to the IGWC against MAF2 Chapter 15 at least annually or in accordance with IGWC guidelines.	\$ 50,000		
Enhanced and coordinated consultation and engagement with all Basin communities	14. States to undertake consultation and strategic engagement in collaboration with the Commonwealth and other Basin governments.	14.a Implement communications and engagement to support strategic consultation, coordination and engagement with Basin communities, as per agreed communications and engagement plan.	\$ 60,000

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First Nations	15. Improve outcomes for First Nations Australians in relation to holding water	15.a Provide advice on the implementation of the Aboriginal Water Entitlements Program and First Nations (strategic land and water acquisitions partnership) programs as relevant to the jurisdiction.	\$ 50,000
		15. b Create opportunities and enabling reforms for First Nations Australians (including non-Native Title Holders) to hold water entitlements in the Murray-Darling Basin.	\$ 60,000
	16. Undertake engagement, consultation, and partnerships with First Nations Australians within the Basin.	16.a Implement actions and evaluation plan as per agreed in the Strategic Consultation, Engagement and Partnerships Strategy.	\$ 60,000
<i>Total payment for Queensland for Year 3 if all KPIs are met</i>			\$ 1,735,000

Table 2C: Queensland – Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary			
Year 4: 2027-2028 Milestone report due: 29 February 2028 Reporting period: 01 March 2027-29 February 2028			
Output	Performance milestones	Key Performance Indicators	Payment
Coordinated environmental water use	1. Deliver an agreed Basin-wide Environmental Water Protection Strategy and Implementation Plan.	1.a All Basin States and the Commonwealth via the Environmental Water Committee are to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrate evidence of work completed under the 2026-27 forward work plan. agree upon an annual forward work plan of priority collaborative activities to finalise delivery of the Environmental Water Protection Strategy (where relevant to the jurisdiction). Basin States are also to actively engage in EWC processes to agree and deliver annual collaborative activities to further improve protection of environmental water and contribute to connectivity.	\$ 40,000
	2. Deliver environmental water accounting data and information.	2.a Accounting for unsupplemented held environmental water(HEW) under entitlement, including the volume of HEW accounted as passing the Queensland/NSW border provided to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder for adaptive management purposes.	\$ 40,000
	3. Improve environmental watering plans and strategies, including by updating Long-Term Watering Plans (LTWPs) within agreed timeframes	3.a Develop annual environmental watering priorities or plans, in consultation with relevant stakeholders and First Nations, that operationalise the long-term watering plan.	\$ 60,000
		3.b Review and update the long-term watering plan (or alternatively agreed tool) in line with the next edition of the Basin-wide environmental water strategy within agreed timeframes.	\$ 120,000

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Implementation of the Basin Plan	4. Contribute to delivery of the MDBA-led SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan, including supplying data and quality assurance documentation.	4.a Implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan, led by the MDBA and agreed by BOC Alternates (BOCA).	\$ 60,000
		4.b Support * the MDBA to implement the SDL Accounting Framework Improvement Strategy work plan. *provide technical support and modelling advice to the MDBA and independent reviewers on request, and participate in intergovernmental committees including the Run-off Dams working group (RDWG), Surface water advisory panel (SAP) and groundwater advisory panel (GAP).	\$ 60,000
	5. Deliver required Basin Plan monitoring, evaluation, science and reporting.	5.a Deliver Basin Plan reporting under Schedule 12.	\$ 60,000
		5.b Deliver on agreed strategic activities under the Basin Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Working Group annual work plan as endorsed by BOC-A.	\$ 100,000
Statutory Review Processes	6. Contribute to statutory review processes	6.a Basin States to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attend a minimum of 90% of meetings with Water Act reviewers (as required). • provide information as requested by the reviewers towards the Water Act review. 	\$ 100,000
Improved compliance and reporting	7. Implement revised Metrological Assurance Framework (MAF ₂)	7.a Qld is to develop and maintain its non-urban water metering policy to conform with the relevant MAF ₂ rules and guidelines. Note: Where a jurisdiction's non-urban metering policy does not conform to MAF ₂ (or subsequent agreed Framework), then the jurisdiction will develop an implementation plan, and implement that plan.	\$ 40,000
	8. Work with the Inspector General of Water Compliance (IGWC) in an effective and efficient manner to provide compliance and performance data and reports to support improved monitoring in the Murray–Darling Basin.	8.a The submission of compliance performance data in accordance with requests made by the IGWC under the Compliance Reporting Framework and in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$ 60,000

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		8.b The submission of measurement data and narrative in accordance with requests made by the IGWC, including metering data and data relating to floodplain harvesting / overland flows, in accordance with applicable reports, frameworks and guidance documents.	\$ 60,000
		8.c Provide input to the IGWC on the development of new IGWC-issued guidelines and standards.	\$ 40,000
		8.d Report to the IGWC against MAF2 Chapter 15 at least annually or in accordance with IGWC guidelines.	\$ 40,000
First Nations	9. Improve outcomes for First Nations Australians in relation to holding water	9.a Support the implementation of the Aboriginal Water Entitlements Program and First Nations (strategic land and water acquisitions partnership) programs as relevant to the jurisdiction.	\$ 40,000
		9. b Create opportunities and enabling reforms for First Nations Australians (including non-Native Title Holders) to hold water entitlements in the Murray-Darling Basin.	\$ 60,000
	10. Undertake engagement, consultation, and partnerships with First Nations Australians within the Basin.	10.a Implement actions and evaluation plan as per agreed in the Strategic Consultation, Engagement and Partnerships Strategy.	\$ 60,000
<i>Total payment for Queensland for Year 4 if all KPIs are met</i>			\$ 1,040,000

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The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

*Signed for and on behalf of the
Commonwealth of Australia by*

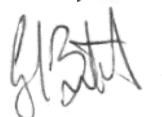


The Honourable Tanya Plibersek MP
Minister for the Environment and Water

[Day] [Month] [Year]

8 9 2024

*Signed for and on behalf of the
State of Queensland by*



The Honourable Glenn Butcher MP
Minister for Regional Development and
Manufacturing and Minister for Water

[Day] [Month] [Year]

01 / 10 / 2024