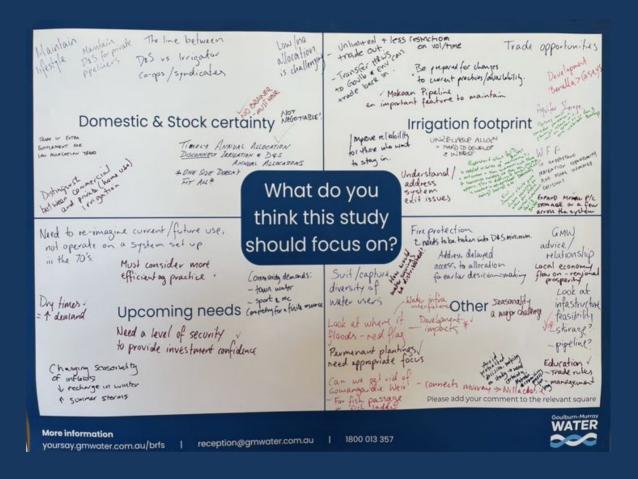
Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study



Community Workshop and Drop-in Sessions Engagement Summary

Mokoan Hub & Café, 652 Lake Mokoan Road, Winton North Tues 21, Wed 22 & Mon 27 November 2023





Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study

Who we heard from

- D&S Syndicates
- Private Pipeline Co-ops
- · Permanent Planting Irrigators
- Traditional Owner
- Ecologist
- BRFS Consultative Committee applicants and members
- GMW customers (via email and SMS)
- BRFS contact list (via email and phone)
- Local newspaper and social media audiences

What we heard

The following dot points summarise the various perspectives shared by participating community members:

- Attendees were keen to get an understanding of entitlement holder patterns of usage, including where water is being used vs traded.
- Clarity sought on what classifies as 'environmental water' to dispel possible misunderstanding that all water in rivers that isn't being diverted for irrigation on consumptive purposes is environmental water.
- Suggestion private (non-commercial) irrigation and D&S water users should be considered differently to properties that are using water for commercial purposes.
- Suggestion community with reliable water supply (e.g. D&S) are unlikely to engage unless there's a pressing issue to address.
- Agricultural producers need to have consistent access to water to be considered a reliable supplier and maintain livelihood.
- Want to understand the volume of HRWS in the system owned by non-landowners are there any other than environment?
- Want to understand how committed and engaged the Minister is and what this study will lead to.
- Strong preference to ensure water is not taken from entitlement owners on the basis of underutilisation.
- Querying the impact water being traded out has on reliability.





Energy, Environment and Climate Action



- Keen to see regular engagement throughout the study. Suggestion phone calls be made to reach irrigation customers not checking their emails.
- Properties with permanent plantings have different needs which should be represented in the study discussions.
- Questions around if and how costs/benefits will be shared. e.g. Will the government fund the work and hand over recovered water to the environment.
- There is a need to assist new users on understanding the system who may be unfamiliar with rural living. Important health items such as the need to treat water coming out of the tap may not be universally understood.

The following dot points summarise the various perspectives shared by participating community members specific to suggestions for additional options for consideration:

- Solutions for D&S and non-commercial irrigation should be considered differently.
- Decommission Gowangardie Weir or add a fish ladder for fish passage.
- Remove or change the restrictions for the trade cap.
- Increase the capacity of the Mokoan Pipeline storage lagoon.
- Support a whole farm planning program (supports transition to dry-land through informed decisions).

Next steps

- BRFS team to add newly suggested options / solutions to the list of options to be considered under the options assessment criteria.
- BRFS team to consider options that address pain points and priorities identified by community.
- Upload recording of online information session to the BRFS Yoursay web page for the benefit of interested community who weren't able to attend engagement sessions.
- Launch map based feedback software on the BRFS Yoursay web page to capture community comments outside of formally scheduled engagement sessions.
- Report engagement activities and insight to the BRFS Consultative Committee for contextual consideration in discussions regarding development of options.
- Seek input from interested stakeholders as options development progresses.
- Prepare zone-based engagement series once options are developed to sense check suitability within specific localities.

