

Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study

Consultative Committee Meeting Summary (March 2024)

What was discussed

- A recap of the case for change in the Broken System and BRFS success criteria
- Funding opportunities and context as to where BRFS sits in the lifecycle of a project
- Potential water entitlement owner profiles formed through early engagement
- Consultative committee observations on community sentiment
- Zone-based scenario packaging, including scenario assessment & modelling process. Zone-based analysis where a range of reconfiguration scenarios were applied across zones (different stretches of the Broken River and the upper Broken creek) to assess the impacts and benefits reconfiguration would have on them
- An overview of the zone-based scenario assessment results, including overview of how the assessment may look for some zones to validate the approach
- Recent community engagement effort – launch of the online mapping tool and plans for next round of face to face direct and public engagement
- An overview of the Sustainable Division Limit framework.

What we heard

- The consultative committee are keen to understand more on funding options and how this relates to Commonwealth Government initiatives.
- It is important to identify patterns and seasonality trends in inflows and timing of rainfall received when considering the case for change and long-term modelling.
- It is important for customers to understand variability of rainfall, when and how long droughts are expected for their own well-informed planning purposes.
- The consultative committee were comfortable with the profiles presented.
- It would be helpful to see some of the options and scenarios include a measure of D&S reliability, environmental flows and future demands requirements where applicable.
- Secure access to Domestic and Stock (D&S) provisions is paramount and the types of D&S considered should be absolutely clear across the feasibility study i.e. D&S diverted from the regulated system, unregulated diversions, bore sourced D&S, etc.

Next Steps

- BRFS team to extract seasonality trends from the modelling, to test if reconfiguration will be robust in different seasonal patterns (e.g. drought)
- Begin direct landowner engagement to improve input into draft options in development.
- Continue to develop and refine the zone-based suites of options.

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To find out more about the Broken Reconfiguration Feasibility Study or its Consultative Committee, go to yoursay.gmwater.com.au/brfs or contact Goulburn-Murray Water Diversions Services East Manager Stephen Gemmill on reception@gmwater.com.au or **1800 013 357**.

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