



## Murray River System: Regional Knowledge Exchange Mulwala Services Club 3 April 2007

Notes from Presentations:

### Capacity Building

- **Murray CMA** (Liz Symes)
  - *Meeting in the Middle* – soil health program being developed by landholders
  - money is available for “bandaids” but the problems are still there – the issues and long term management needs to be developed and supported
  - participatory action research project meant that the community decided that *Meeting in the Middle* is all about soil health
  - next step is “soil under microscope”
  - DVD available via Liz
- **North Central CMA** (Paula Camenzuli)
  - Landcare model for capacity building
  - over 160 landcare groups
  - in 2002 Landcare dedicated Coordinators employed within Local Govt (funded by NHT/NAP). Seven Landcare Coordinators based in shires and one overall Landcare Facilitator – council’s top up costs, provide computer desk/admin
  - each Landcare area has a committee (CMA/Agency/LGA/community) to formulate annual work plan of Landcare Coordinators
  - this model is about to be reviewed
  - Landcare Coordinators meet monthly and have regular training
- **Murrumbidgee CMA** (Geoff Simpson)
  - engaging with aboriginal people in NRM
  - deliver onground works with Indigenous work crews/community
  - *Traditional Owner River Restoration* project \$310,000
  - *Increasing Indigenous Community Involvement in NRM* project \$450K
  - working with councils on public land and work-for-the-dole type program (in other areas it's the Aboriginal Co-Ops instead of Council)
  - training is accredited
  - strong partnerships between CMA, WWCC, TAFE, Indigenous and Traditional Owners
  - 40 participants in Murrumbidgee
  - possible future work with the Roads & Traffic Authority on the Hume Hwy Tarcutta to Albury work
- **Mallee CMA** (Trent Wallis)
  - Mallee River Health Strategy (2005)
  - statutory role in riparian/waterway/wetland management
  - 2 x The Living Murray Significant Ecological Assessts (Hatta Lakes and Lindsay-Wallpolla)
  - work very close with public land manager (DSE and Parks Victoria)
  - Murray River Frontage Action Plan (NSW LMD CMA are about to start a complementary one to make it a whole of Murray River management plan)
  - comprehensive M&E that is reporting successes and failures
  - “irrigation donation” (6.9GL over 2yrs) to allow emergency flooding of red gum forests

- 10 years on, and still building a CMA identity
- **Lower Murray Darling CMA (Bill Tatnel)**
  - capacity building is difficult when the institutional arrangements are not quite right (eg Balranald is merger zone of 5 CMAs)
  - Tri State NRM forum (SA MDB, Mallee and LMD) supported by technical groups for cross border works – the funds (NAP) are shared across border and project management responsibilities shared
  - Lake Victoria Region Committee
  - Water Sharing Plans are a challenge
- **North East CMA (Jeff Taylor)**
  - communication (newsletters, media article eg “Nessie” a salt update into priority areas)
  - community engagement
    - standing community committees
    - program extension and technical support
    - catchment focussed community workshops
    - workshops at social catchments to develop themes for next RCS. The aim is to have ten across the catchment (eg Corryong)
      - sub committee formed to identify “social network” VicFF, footy clubs, fishing clubs
      - targeted invitees (24 people for this social network)
      - info pack sent prior to workshop
      - 18 attended (exit poll showed it worked to increase knowledge of RCS)
  - education programs – waterwatch, soil health
  - Landcare support
    - base funding provided \$4,000 per group (approx \$270,000 spent across the catchment)
    - provision of Landcare coordinators (30% increase in Landcare membership)
    - Landcare is not a service delivery arm of government
- **Goulburn Broken CMA (Rebecca Lukies)**
  - Local Area Plans (LAP)
  - local communities making local decision on NRM
  - developing plan takes approx 2years
  - community planning group meet every 2 weeks with the LAP Coordinator (with agency feedback and community feedback)
  - implementation (based on community decided priorities)
  - clear link to RCC
  - Goal Attainment Measure to assess whether there was/is community capacity building following the LAP process
  - LAP works funded by what grants they can attract
  - LAP = 20yr plan
- **South Australia Murray-Darling Basin NRM (Sarah Lance)**
  - \$1.7M “Program 12” of Regional Investment Strategy + \$5M inkind
  - Local Action Planning
    - 11 groups
    - 31 project staff (11 are dedicated to community engagement)
  - monthly meetings – governance/HR/training needs/paddock walks etc
  - 2 x EFT “Catchment Care” school based education (56 schools); whole of school approach not just single projects like Murder Under the Microscopes
  - River Murray Youth Council (14 – 17 yo extra curricula activity)
    - youth led
    - staff given training on how to be a mentor to these youth

- Indigenous partnerships program
- LGA – assisting with training and funding for NRM
- Interstate water management tour – 40 irrigators visited 14 industries over 4 days
- NRM Levy