



Southern Connected
— Basin Communities —

Communities doing what government refuses



SCBC Aim: a collective and united approach to inform the public on basin issues and negotiate with decision makers to achieve positive water outcomes on economic, social and environmental levels for everyone in the southern connected basin communities.

Southern Connected Basin Communities (SCBC) is the voice of irrigators and communities from the Darling River, through the Riverina in NSW and along the Murray River to Victoria and South Australia.

SCBC communities are united in their pain; caused by the devastating impact of poor water policy following the implementation of the \$13 billion Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

Key principles of the basin plan include a connected river system, a thriving socio, economic and environmental triple bottom line.

The current direction of the plan is failing across every single one of these objectives.

SCBC's combined footprint is about the fabric of life in regional Australia. It weaves together local business, industry, community and environment—and represents more

than 10,000 irrigators and approximately 4600 gigalitres of productive water.

Every irrigation dollar spent in the SCBC micro-community has a flow-on effect of \$5, supporting local business, education, community, health and environmental opportunities. Conservatively it generates tens of billions of dollars in agricultural production supporting 24,000 jobs in the Riverina alone.

Impending licensing of floodplain harvesting in northern NSW (June 30, 2021) of 390 GL—plus a 500 per cent carryover in any given year—has the potential to rip a staggering 721,000 ML of productive water from Victorian and NSW allocations—shared 50-50.

FOREVER

This proposed licensing far exceeds the sustainable 1994 legislated cap diversion limits under which the southern basin have been operating under for many years—and it must be stopped.

The southern basin has already contributed 74.5 per cent of physical water buybacks under the plan.

We have contributed more than our fair share and our communities have suffered enough.

SCBC demands an end-of-system flow for the Darling-Baaka River system of at least 721,000 ML as part of the FPH licensing process to protect the environment and community of the southern basin.



SCBC is fighting for you; for your environment, your communities, your industry and business, and your families future.

Politicians and government departments including the MDBA have inflicted enough pain on our precious communities.

Join our fighting fund today and help us to advocate for a better southern basin for everyone.

Representing: Central Murray Environmental Floodplains Group, Murrumbidgee Valley Food and Fibre, Murrumbidgee Industry and Agriculture Communities, Southern Riverina Irrigators, Upper Goulburn River Catchment Association, Murray Valley Private Divertors, Speak Up Campaign, Sunraysia Horticulture Industry, Darling River Action Group.

admin@southernconnectedbasincommunities.com.au
www.southernconnectedbasincommunities.com.au



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