

Water engagement

Past stakeholder and community engagement activities from January to December 2023

Water is one of our most valuable natural assets. The department has a responsibility to the people of NSW to ensure that our water is managed equitably and transparently now and into the future. Our stakeholders are those groups and individuals who could be affected by our activities.

We regularly create opportunities to hear from and meet with our stakeholders to build shared understanding, hear insights on water matters, and to provide input on policies, plans, and other relevant documents. Our [engagement policy](#) describes how we will complete this engagement.

An overview of our past meetings, exhibitions, and other public engagement activities is provided below. This is a snapshot of our activities at a point in time and updated quarterly.

To see our current engagements, please visit to [our website](#).

Key dates	Description	Location
18 – 20 December 2023	Reconnecting River Country Program regional community forum stakeholder engagement Basin Plan	Murrumbidgee
18 December 2023	Norther basin fish passage Tilpa site visit	Tilpa
7-8 December 2023	Wilcannia Weir meetings with community and stakeholder consultation about Wilcannia Community River Place design	Wilcannia
4 – 8 December 2023	Reconnecting River Country Program broad community engagement for the Options Evaluation Framework's social pillar survey, across various sites between Balranald and Gundagai	Murrumbidgee areas
24 November – 5 December 2023	Lostock to Glennies Dam Pipeline project meetings with community and first nations groups	Various
28 – 29 November 2023	Public meeting for the draft water sharing plan for NSW Border Rivers Unregulated River Water Sources replacement held in Goondiwindi, Tenterfield and Inverell	Northern NSW

Key dates	Description	Location
21 November 2023	Public meeting for the NSW Border Rivers Unregulated River Water Sources Water Sharing Plan replacement webinar	Online
20 November 2023	Public meeting for the Healthy Floodplains Improved Floodplain Connection with Macquarie and Namoi landholders webinar	Macquarie and Namoi
15 November 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on the topic of NSW 2023 water year in review, current public consultations and engagement activities	Online
13 – 14 November 2023	Public meetings for the Metering Framework Review - Northern Basin, Southern Basin and coastal regions (3 webinars)	Online
6 November – 17 December 2023	Public Exhibition of draft water sharing plan for NSW Border Rivers Unregulated River Water Sources 2024	Various
1 November 2023	Public meeting on changes to the Upper Murrumbidgee temporary water restrictions (s324) webinar	Online
31 October and 12 November 2023	Healthy Floodplains – identified stakeholders?? meetings for Improving Floodplain with Macquarie, Upper Namoi and Lower Namoi community representatives, environmental groups and peak industry bodies	Namoi region and online
30 October – 26 November 2023	Public Exhibition of Metering Review	Online
30 October – 2 November 2023	Northern Basin Toolkit Fish Passage public consultation, site investigations to inform fish passage site design	Bourke, Walgett and Moree Shire
25 – 26 October 2023	Annual National Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Borenore
25 October 2023	NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee Regional Water Strategies public information sessions and industry meetings and two webinars held 24 & 30 October	Deniliquin
24 October 2023	Public meeting for the Lower Murray-Darling Unregulated River Water Source water sharing plan replacement	

Key dates	Description	Location
23 October – 17 November 2023	Public exhibition of the draft NSW Murray and Murrumbidgee Regional Water Strategies, including various meetings and online community survey	Various
21 October 2023	Murrumbateman Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Murrumbateman
19 October 2023	Murray Unregulated River Water Sources water sharing plan replacement – webinar	Online
18 October 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on the topic of NSW Floodplain management, current public consultations and engagement activities	Online
17 October 2023	Public meeting for the Lower Murray-Darling Unregulated River Water Source water sharing plan replacement – webinar	Online
16 – 19 October	Public meetings for the Lachlan Regional Water Strategy held in Hillston, Lake Cargelligo, Forbes, Cowra	Various
10 and 13 October	and two webinars	Online
12 October 2023	Henty Field Day - inform water users about water laws	Henty
10 - 11 October 2023	Public meetings for the Castlereagh Unregulated River Water Sources plan replacement	Coonabarabran, Gilgandra
9 October – 17 November 2023	Public Exhibition - Murray Unregulated River Water Sources water sharing plan replacement	Various
3 October – 11 November 2023	Public Exhibition - Lower Murray-Darling Unregulated River Water Source water sharing plan replacement	Various
October – November 2023	Nyngan to Cobar Pipeline public meetings with local community, first nations, industry bodies and small business groups	Nyngan and Cobar
September – November 2023	Southern Floodplain Management Plan meetings for Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System in Murrin Bridge, Balranald, Lake Cargelligo, Moama and Cummeragunja LALCs, Forbes, Condobolin, Deniliquin, Darlington Point and Narrandera	Southern region

Key dates	Description	Location
28 September – 2 October 2023	Aboriginal Water Program community engagement at the 51 st Koori Knockout	Central Coast
27 September 2023	Update on the Castlereagh Unregulated River Water Sources plan replacement webinar	Online
26 – 27 September 2023	Healthy Floodplains - Floodplain management plans First Peoples engagement sessions for Murray, Murrumbidgee and Lachlan regions	Hay and Balranald
22 September – 12 November 2023	Public exhibition of the draft Lachlan Regional Water Strategy	Various
20 September 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on the topic of NSW Groundwater Strategy, current public consultations and engagement activities	Online
19 September 2023	Public meeting for the Intersecting Streams Unregulated River Water Sources plan replacement	Lightning Ridge
18 September – 29 October 2023	Public exhibition of the Castlereagh Unregulated River Water Sources plan replacement	Various
14 September 2023	Update on the Intersecting Streams Unregulated River Water Sources plan replacement webinar	Online
10 – 14 September 2023	Public meetings to inform the community of the government's response to recent and potential future fish kill events, and river health update	Menindee
10 September 2023	Lostock to Glennies Pipeline information sessions to update community on proposed amendments	Singleton
8 – 22 September 2023	Public meetings on whether to expand recreation activities at Prospect Reservoir, a suite of community consultation at Blacktown, Wetherill Park, Merrylands, Bungarribee Park and Prospect Reservoir	Prospect and surrounding areas
7 and 13 September 2023	Public meetings on whether to expand recreation activities at Prospect Reservoir – Have your say webinar	Online
7 September 2023	Local Water Utilities roadshow online meetings with Councils	Online

Key dates	Description	Location
7 September 2023	Update on the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources proposed plan amendments webinar	Online
4 September – 13 October 2023	Public Exhibition of the Intersecting Streams Unregulated River Water Sources water sharing plan replacement	Various
31 August – 3 September 2023	Agri-Show Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Moss Vale
29 – 30 August 2023	Healthy Floodplains Project Aboriginal cultural considerations engagement to discuss Floodplain Harvesting, Improving Floodplain Connections and Floodplain Management Plans	Northern Basin
24 August – 6 October 2023	Public Exhibition of Local Water Utilities performance indicators - Have your say	Various
17 August - 30 September 2023	Public Exhibition of proposed amendments to improve regulations for joint private works schemes - Have your say	Various
22 – 29 August 2023	Healthy Floodplains Project First Nations information sessions to discuss southern basin floodplain management plans and cultural assets	Various
22 – 23 August 2023	Lostock to Glennies Pipeline information sessions to update community on proposed amendments in Tocal and Singleton	Hunter Valley
22 August 2023	AgQuip Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Gunnedah
22 August – 21 November 2023	Domestic and stock rights survey to help inform a review about how this type of basic landholder right is regulated	Online
21 August – 1 October 2023	Public exhibition of proposed amendments to the NSW Great Artesian Basin Groundwater Sources water sharing plan	Online
21 August – 30 September 2023	Public exhibition for community feedback on whether to expand recreation activities at Prospect Reservoir – Have your say	Various
16 August 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on Water Science's Environmental Outcomes Monitoring and Research Program current public consultation and engagement activities	Online

Key dates	Description	Location
9 – 10 August 2023	Floodplain Harvesting Property Measurement Plan sessions in the Border Rivers Valley	Border Rivers
5 August 2023	Nyngan Ag Expo - inform community and water users about Nyngan to Cobar project (pump stations and pipeline)	Nyngan
27 July 2023	Improving Floodplains Connections Program webinar to update landholders in Border Rivers, Gwydir and Baron-Darling valleys	Online
25 – 26 July 2023	Aboriginal engagement for North Western Unregulated and Fractured Rock Water Source water sharing plan replacement	Nort Western region
25 July 2023	Aboriginal engagement for the Southern Floodplain Management Plans in Balranald, Moulamein and Tooleybuc	Western region
20 July 2023	Update to Upper Macquarie Groundwater Users Association on Bore Extraction Limits	Online
19 July 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on NSW Water Allocations, current public consultation and engagement activities	Online
18 July 2023	Update on North Western Unregulated and Fractured Rock Water Source water sharing plan replacement webinar	Online
7 July 2023	Mudgee Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Mudgee
30 June – 10 August 2023	Public Exhibition of the North Western Unregulated and Fractured Rock Water Source water sharing plan replacement	North Western Region
21 June 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on Water Licensing Improvement Program, current public consultation and engagement activities	Online
27 – 29 June 2023	NSW Healthy Floodplains Project - Improving Floodplain Connections information session and webinar for the Gwydir, Namoi and Barwon-Darling regions	Various

Key dates	Description	Location
14 – 28 June 2023	NSW Healthy Floodplains Project – Floodplain Management Plan information sessions in Barham, Moama and Deniliquin; Forbes, Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo and Hillston; and Darlington Point, Narrandera, Moulamein and Hay	Southern Basin
13 June – 3 July 2023	Public exhibition on proposed changes to Natural Resources Access Regulator (NRAR) Regulation Amendment 2023	Online
1 June 2023	Healthy Floodplains Project – Improving Floodplain Connection consultation with identified peak stakeholders in Border Rivers, Gwydir and Barwon-Darling valleys	Online
30 May 2023	Update Healthy Floodplains Project - Southern Floodplain Management Plans webinar	Online
30 May 2023	Healthy Floodplains Project - Southern Floodplain Management Plans meetings with identified key water users in Murray, Murrumbidgee, Lachlan and Billabong Creek	Online
29 May 2023	Southern inland Floodplain Management Plans webinar	Online
22 May – 1 June 2023	Local Water Utilities roadshow meetings with Councils officers in Dubbo, Tamworth, Coffs Harbour, Griffith and Queanbeyan	Various
21 May 2023	NRAR Education Punjabi Community Resilience workshop	Woolgoolga
17 May 2023	DPE Water Engagement Roundup webinar on Inland water sharing plans and Southern floodplain management plans	Online
13 May 2023	Australian Cotton Research Institute Field Day - inform water users about water laws	Narrabri
12 May 2023	Reconnecting River Country Program regional community forum stakeholder engagement Basin Plan outlook	Albury
11 – 13 May 2023	Primex Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Casino
10 – 11 May 2023	Aboriginal Water Programs Aboriginal Women's Water Conference – One Water One Community	Williamstown
10 May 2023	Stock Water Field Day - inform water users about water laws	Emmaville
9 – 23 May 2023	Southern Basin Non-Urban Metering information sessions in Cowra, Condobolin, Wagga Wagga, Yanco, Deniliquin, Mildura and an online webinar	Various

Key dates	Description	Location
5 – 7 May 2023	Total Field Days - inform water users about water laws	Total
19 April 2023	Improving Floodplain Connections meeting with Border Rivers community and environmental groups, and industry peak bodies	Online
5 April 2023	Regional Leakage Reduction Program updates on grants for local water utilities	Online
30 March 2023	Aboriginal Water Programs Aboriginal Water Program: Yarn with La Perouse Local Aboriginal Land Council	La Perouse
27 March 2023	Floodplain Harvesting webinar to update landholders on the Barwon – Darling licensing framework	Online
23 March 2023	NSW Healthy Floodplains information sessions with Macquarie landholders	Warren
14 – 23 March 2023	Improving Floodplain connections and management cultural considerations meetings with local groups in Brewarrina, Walgett, Mungindi, Narrabri, Gunnedah, Trangie and Nyngan	Various
27 February – 1 March 2023	Floodplain Harvesting landholder information sessions to provide updates on measurement obligations	Macquarie and Barwon-Darling
7 February 2023	Namoi Water Sharing Plan update to draft rules for floodplain harvesting licences in the Namoi valley	Gunnedah
30 January 2023	Lower North Coast Unregulated Water Sharing Plan update to Water Users Association	Gloucester
23 – 24 January 2023	Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project meeting with community and Central Darling Shire Council	Wilcannia
20 January 2023	Aboriginal Outcomes Strategy meeting with Barkandji Maraura Elders Council	Wentworth

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