

Australian Government

MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AUTHORITY



Murray-Darling Basin Authority  
Water Security

5<sup>th</sup> Australian Wine Industry Environment  
Conference – 23 Sep 2009

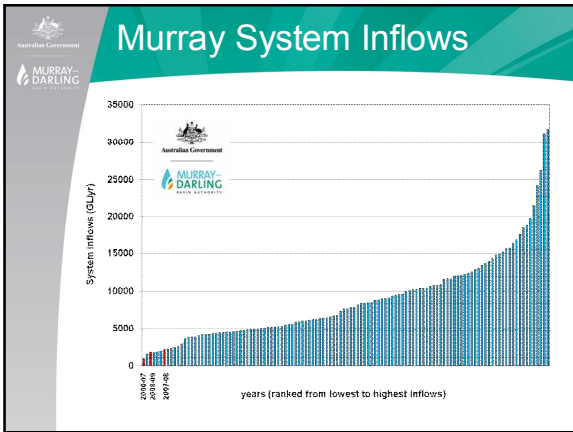
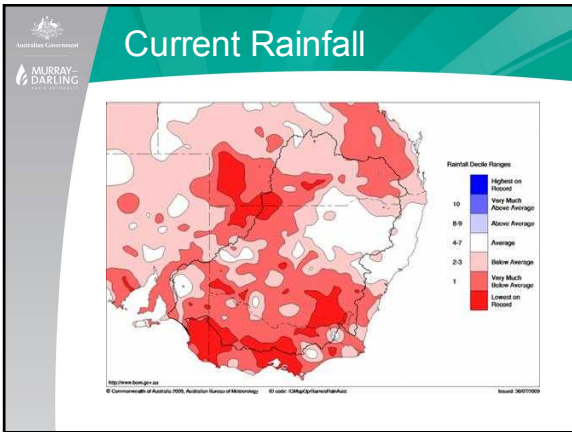
Rob Freeman, Chief Executive

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## Outline

- What is the problem?
- Why bother?
- The Solution.



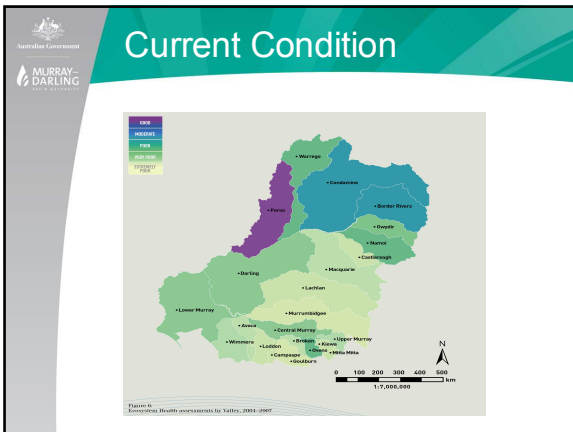
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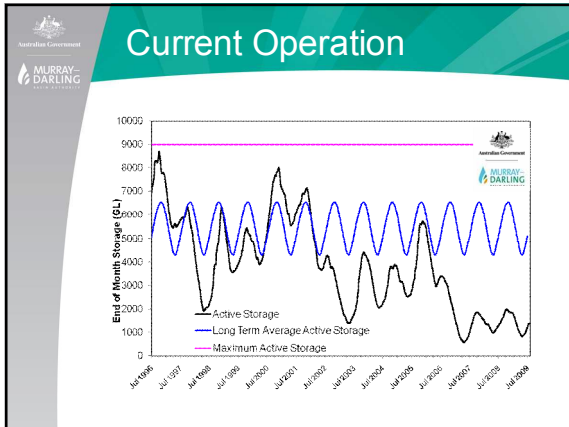
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## Current Planning

	Total Water	Water Use
Historical Climate	23,417	11,327 (48%)
2030 Median Climate	20,936	10,876 (52%)
2030 Dry Extreme	15,524	8,962 (58%)

(CSIRO Water Availability – 2008)



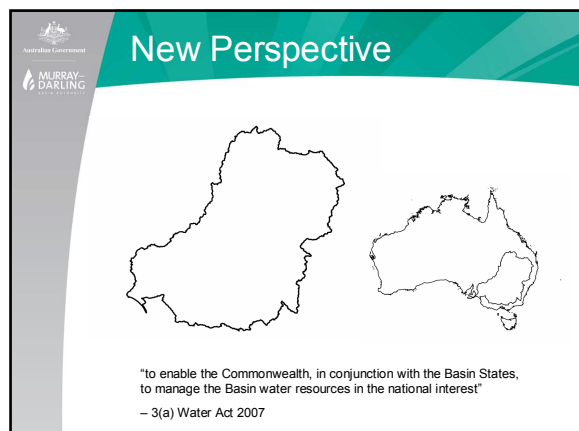


- ## Why bother?
- Directly supports 3 million people
  - Feeds approximately 20 million people
  - Significant environmental values
  - 14% of Australia
  - Australia's three longest rivers
  - 40% Australia's farmers
  - Exports earn \$9 bil/year

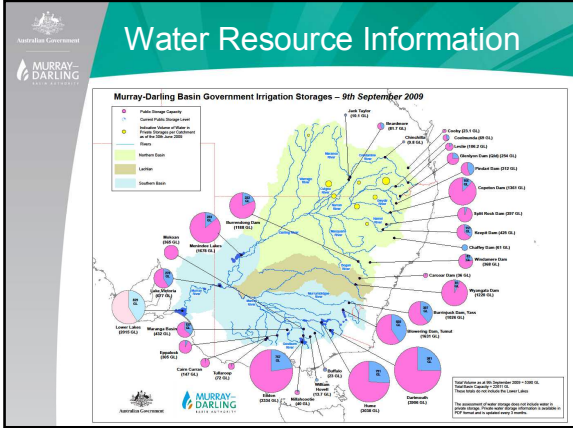
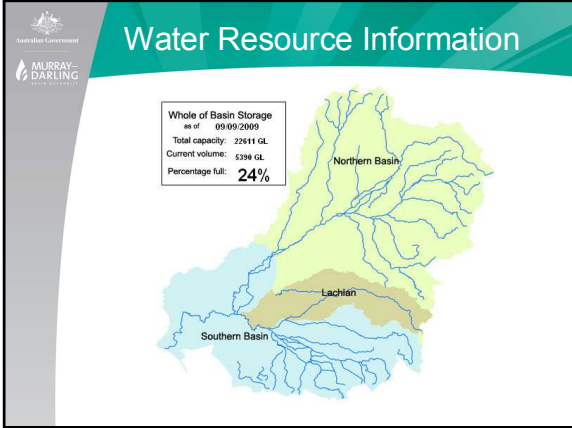
- ## The Solution
- A strategic plan for the Basin – The Basin Plan
  - Greater enforcement powers
  - An effective water market
  - More accessible information

- ## Murray-Darling Basin Authority
- Water Act establishes the MDBA
  - '... an independent Murray-Darling Basin Authority with the functions and powers, including enforcement powers, needed to ensure that Basin water resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable way'.

- ## Functions of the MDBA
- Prepare a strategic plan for the integrated and sustainable management of water resources in the Murray-Darling Basin for adoption by the Minister (Basin Plan)
  - Advise the Minister on accreditation of state water resource plans
  - Develop a water rights information service
  - Measure and monitor water resources
  - Gather information and undertake research
  - Engage the community
  - Undertake former MDBC functions







**The End**

[www.mdba.gov.au](http://www.mdba.gov.au)