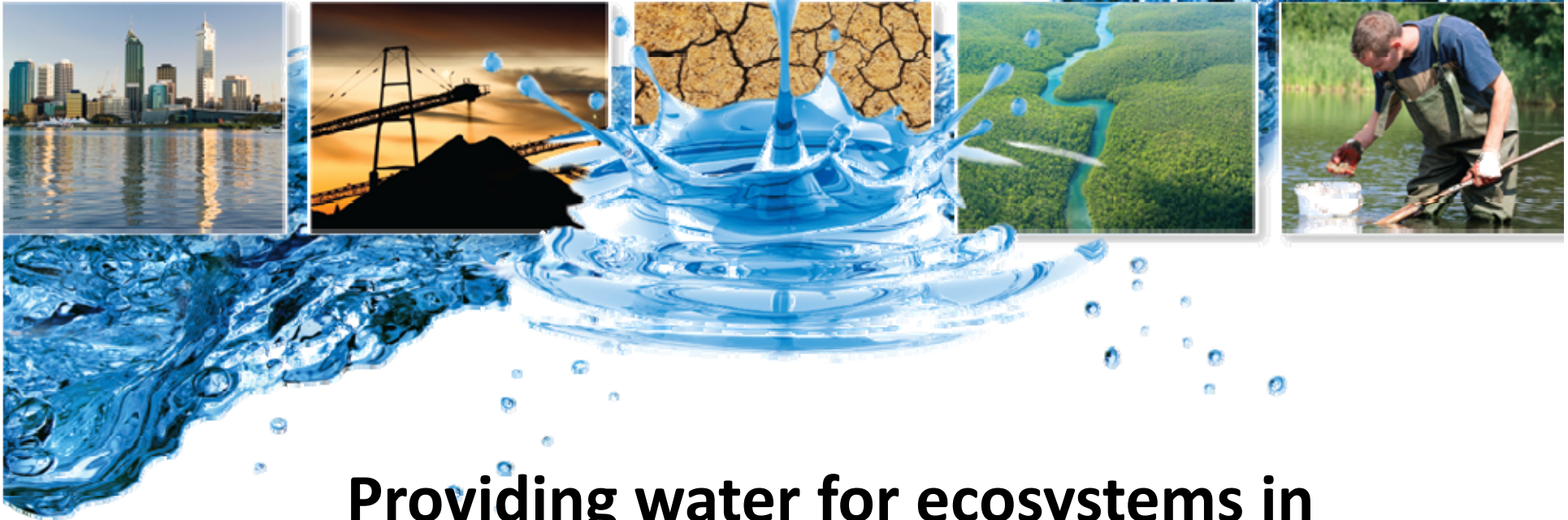


13th International Riversymposium

Perth - Australia 11 - 14 October 2010



**Providing water for ecosystems in
unregulated areas – how well are we doing?**

Wilf Finn

National Water Commission, Australia

The National Water Initiative

... a nationally compatible, market, regulatory and planning based system of managing surface and groundwater resources for rural and urban use that optimises economic, social and environmental outcomes ...

Paragraph 85 ii) of the NWI

... annual reporting arrangements to include reporting on the environmental water rules, whether or not they were activated in a particular year, the extent to which rules were implemented and the overall effectiveness of the use of resources in the context of the environmental and other public benefit outcomes sought and achieved.

2009 Biennial Assessment

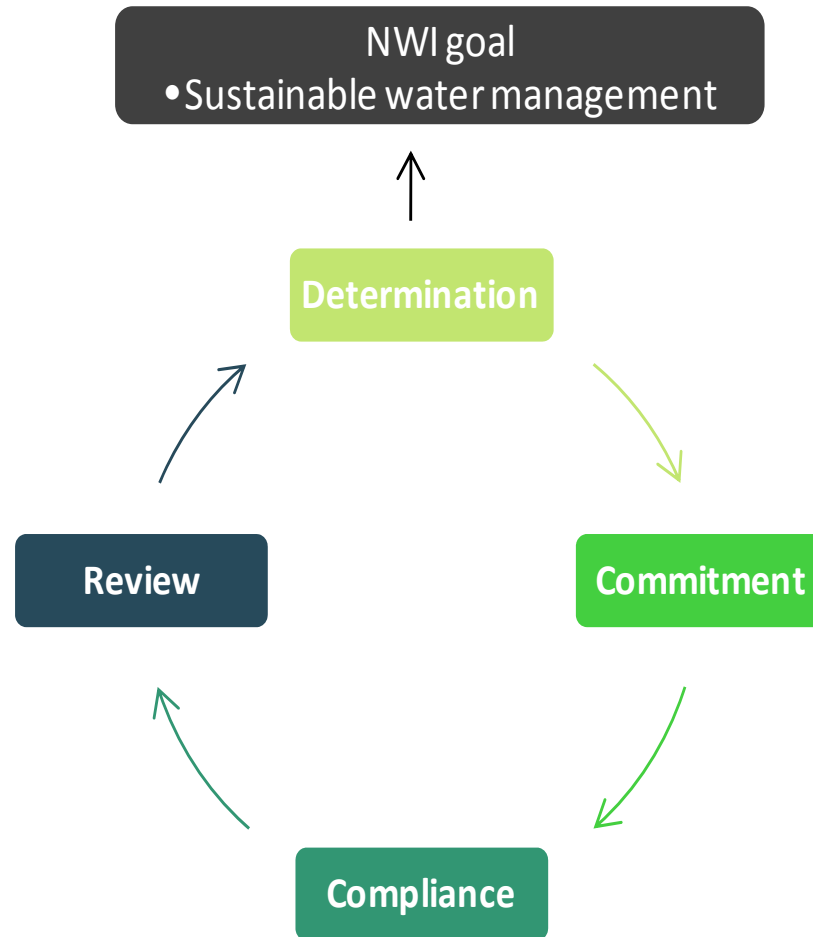
Recommendation 4.6:

... annual public reporting of the existence, delivery and outcomes of environmental water.

Australian Environmental Water Management Report 2010

- Statement of environmental water management arrangements around Australia in 2010.
- Part of a three year National Water Commission project to promote improved environmental water reporting.

Report framework



Unregulated areas

- Planned environmental water:
Victorian stream-flow management plans.
- Held environmental water:
Commonwealth unregulated (un-supplemented) entitlements.
- Bulk entitlements:
River Murray Flora and Fauna

Plans for unregulated water sources

Potential environmental provisions include:

- visible flow;
- cease to pump;
- extraction related to flow levels;
- recognition of connectivity;
- environmental flow objectives;
- sustainable diversion limit /
permissible annual volume.

How well are we doing?

Australian Environmental Water Management Report 2010

Difficulties with unregulated areas:

- temporal and spatial issues
- monitoring and reporting
- condition monitoring

... DEFINITELY IMPROVING.

Further contact

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