



Australian Government

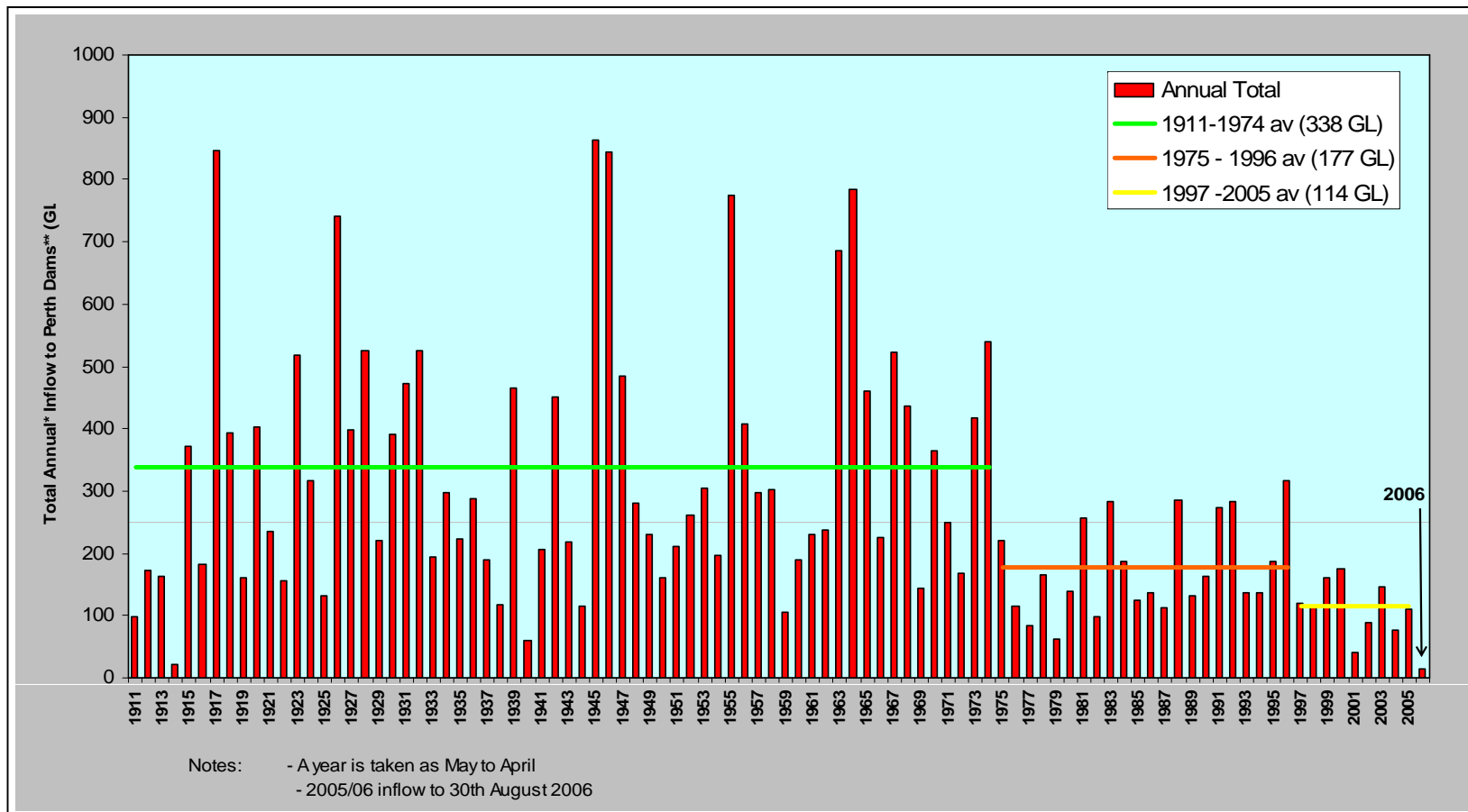
WATER for the FUTURE

Water resource management – sustainable
futures

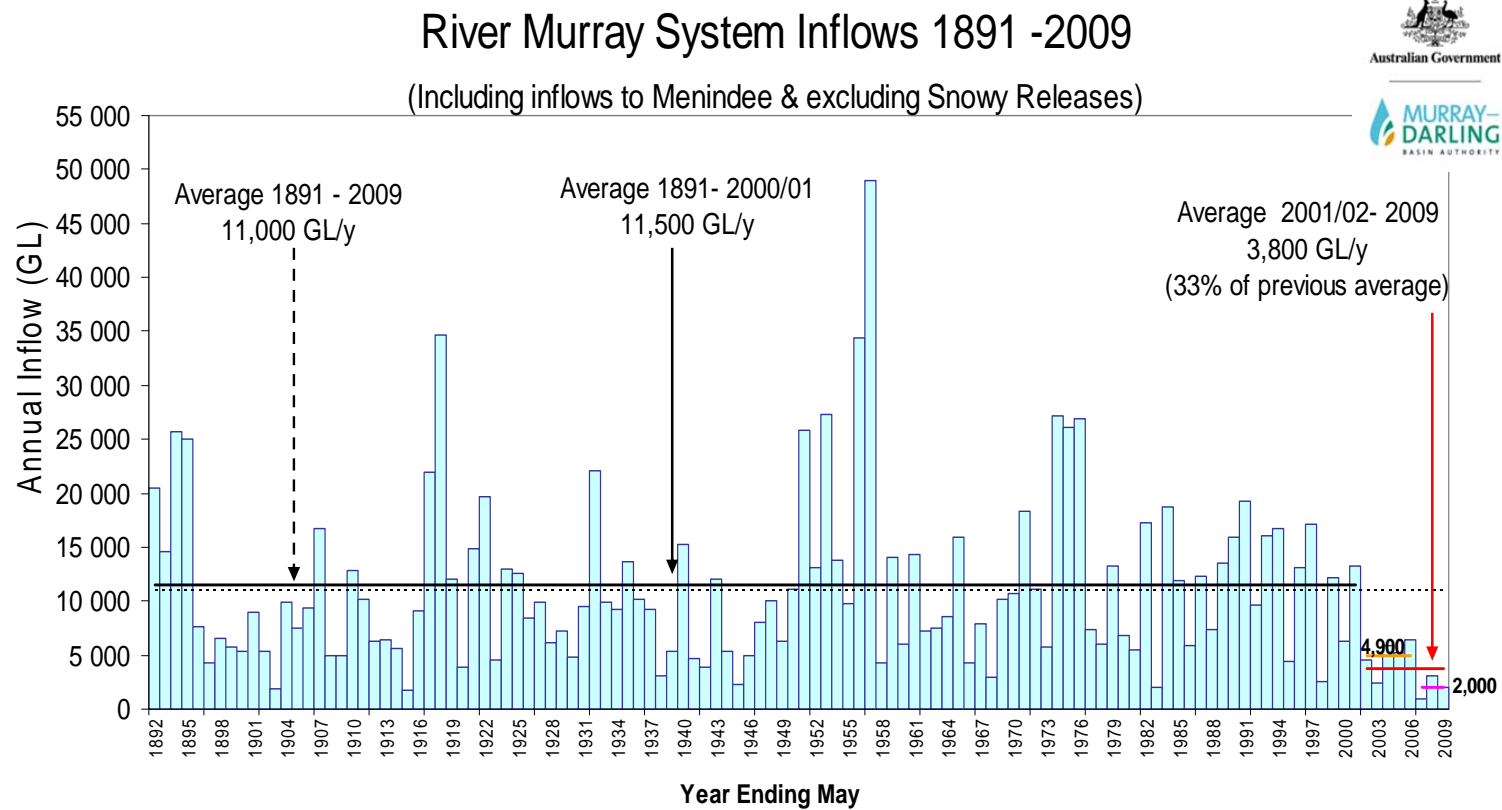
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Hydrological variability and climate change: south-western Australia



Emerging Impact of Climate Change?



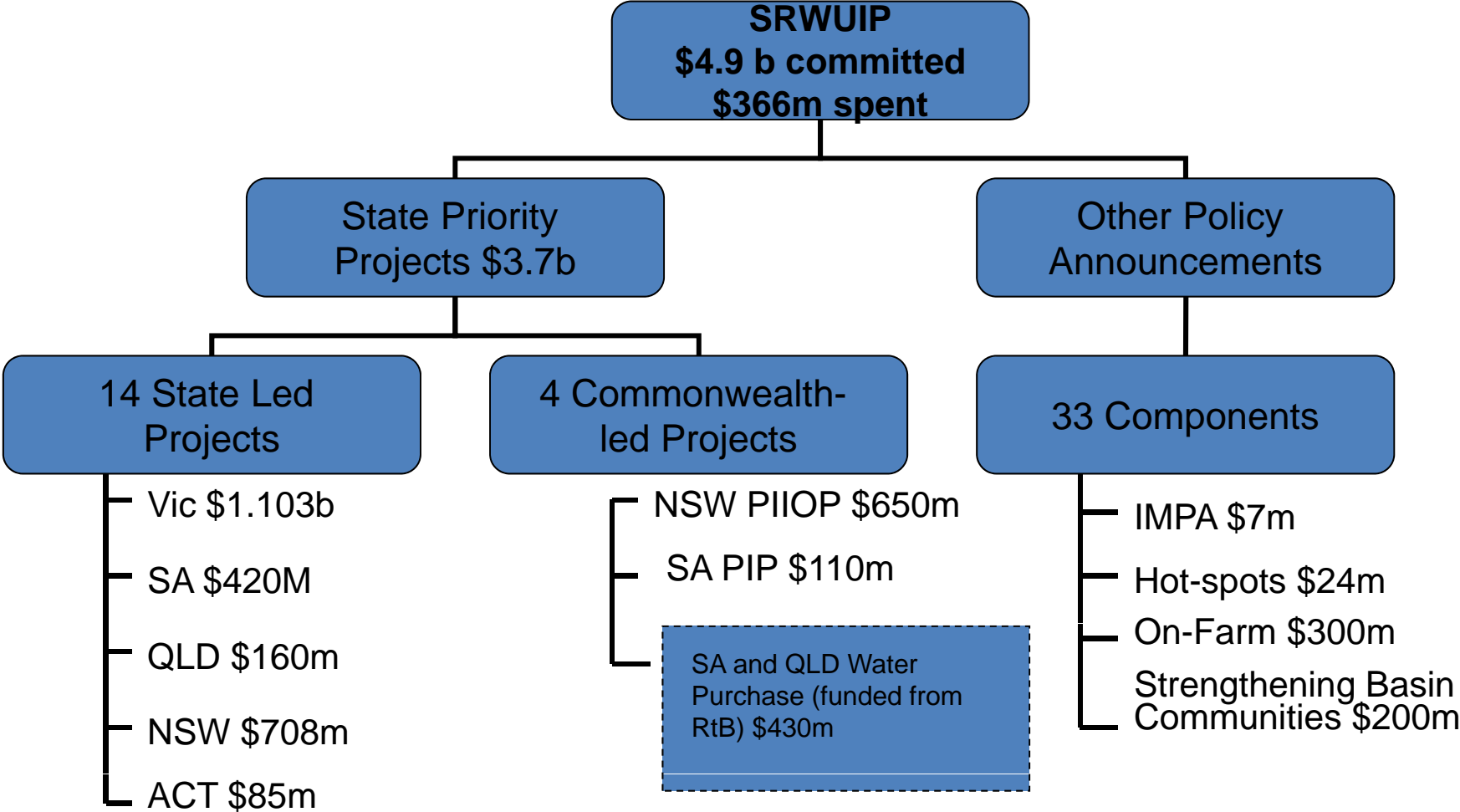
Key Elements of the NWI

- Entitlements and planning
- Water markets and trading
- Water pricing and institutional arrangements
- Environmental water
- Water resource accounting
- Urban water reform
- Community partnerships and adjustment
- Knowledge and capacity building

Water Policy Reform

- ❑ Significant water policy reform program under COAG auspices
 - Compliance and enforcement strategy implementation
 - National water market system staged roll out
 - Water planning guidelines before COAG shortly
 - Water pricing guidelines complete
 - National metering guidelines
 - National research strategy
 - National hydrological modelling strategy
- ❑ Strong new ACCC role in developing market, charge and trading rules
 - Rules on transformation and termination fees in place
 - Charge rules being considered by Minister
 - Advice on trading rules with MDBA
- ❑ Murray Darling Basin Plan

Sustainable rural water use and infrastructure program (SRWUIP)



Environmental watering

- ❑ Entitlements totalling around 650 billion litres (long term yield) already purchased
- ❑ Volume allocated to entitlements (billion litres)
 - 2008-09 13.7
 - 2009-10 187.0
 - 2010-11 (YTD) around 400
- ❑ 210 GL used to date, in 4 states, supplemented by state environmental water of around 120GL
- ❑ Early ecological responses including improving tree growth, reducing salinity, and benefits to many plant and animal species

Australia's strengths

- ❑ Policy framework – probably the defining feature
 - Water reform through robust markets
 - Developing secure entitlements
 - Developing regulatory framework
 - Developing compliance and enforcement
 - Assessment capability of EW needs (a developing strength)
- ❑ Developing science and information to drive outcomes
 - Establishing a water account, and making water data transparent
 - Impact of climate change on water inflows
 - Understanding groundwater to solve water security dilemmas
- ❑ Technology improvement to reduce demand for water
 - Metering
 - Irrigation technology and tools
- ❑ Strong urban water frameworks covering supply and demand management, covering non rainfall dependent sources of supply and role of price