

# Inquiry into the Management, Governance and Use of Environmental Water



**NORTH CENTRAL**  
Catchment Management Authority

*Connecting Rivers, Landscapes, People*

# Outline

- Our engagement framework
- Working waterways
- Enabling and complementary measures
- Beneficial black water vs toxic blackwater events
- Return on the investment of environmental water



# Our engagement framework



- We engage our community through six EWAGs
- Members nominate through public EOI process – review biannually
- Diverse range of stakeholders including:
  - Local community
  - Irrigators
  - VRFish
  - FGA and other hunters
  - Birdlife Australia
  - Agencies

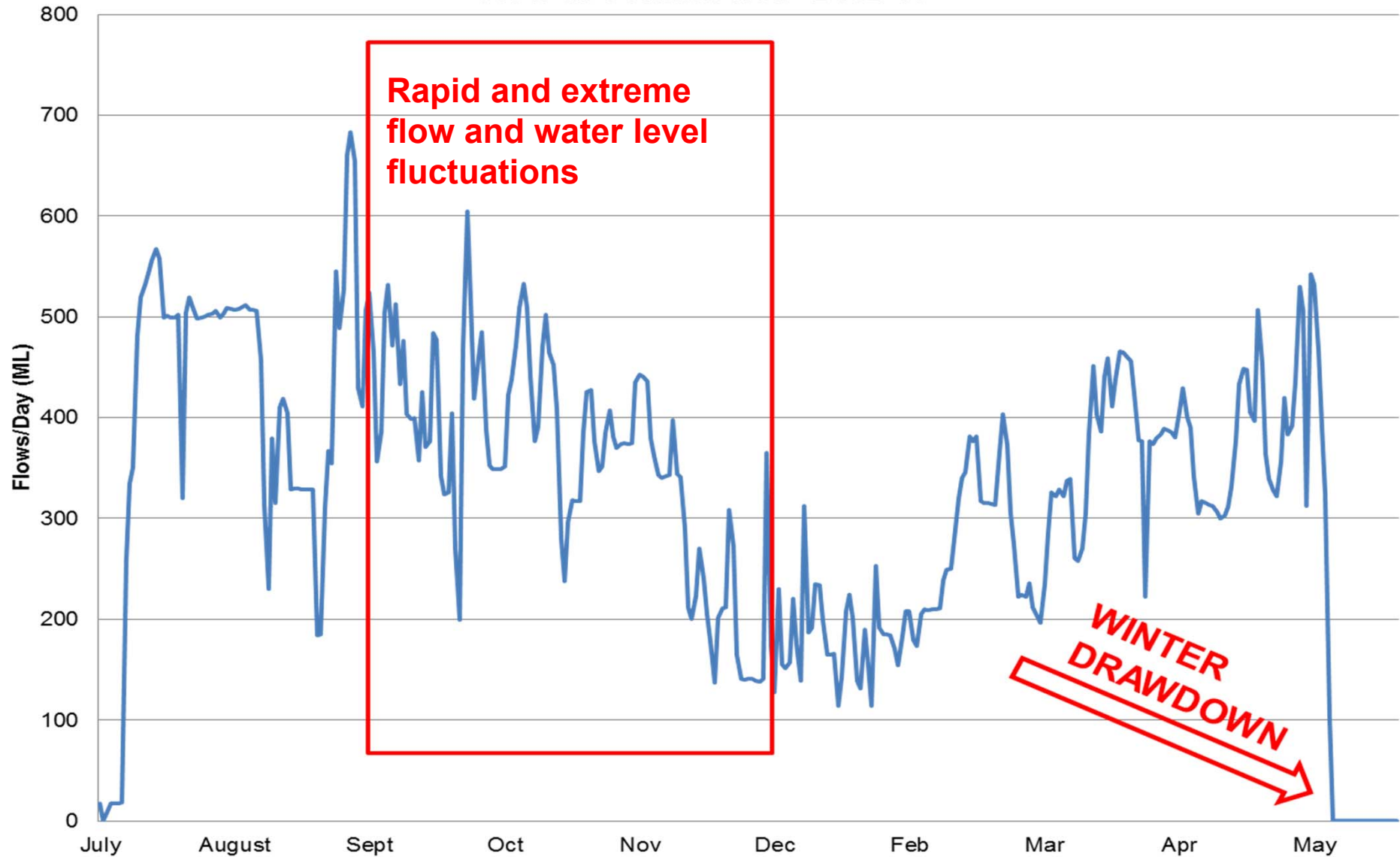
# Our engagement framework



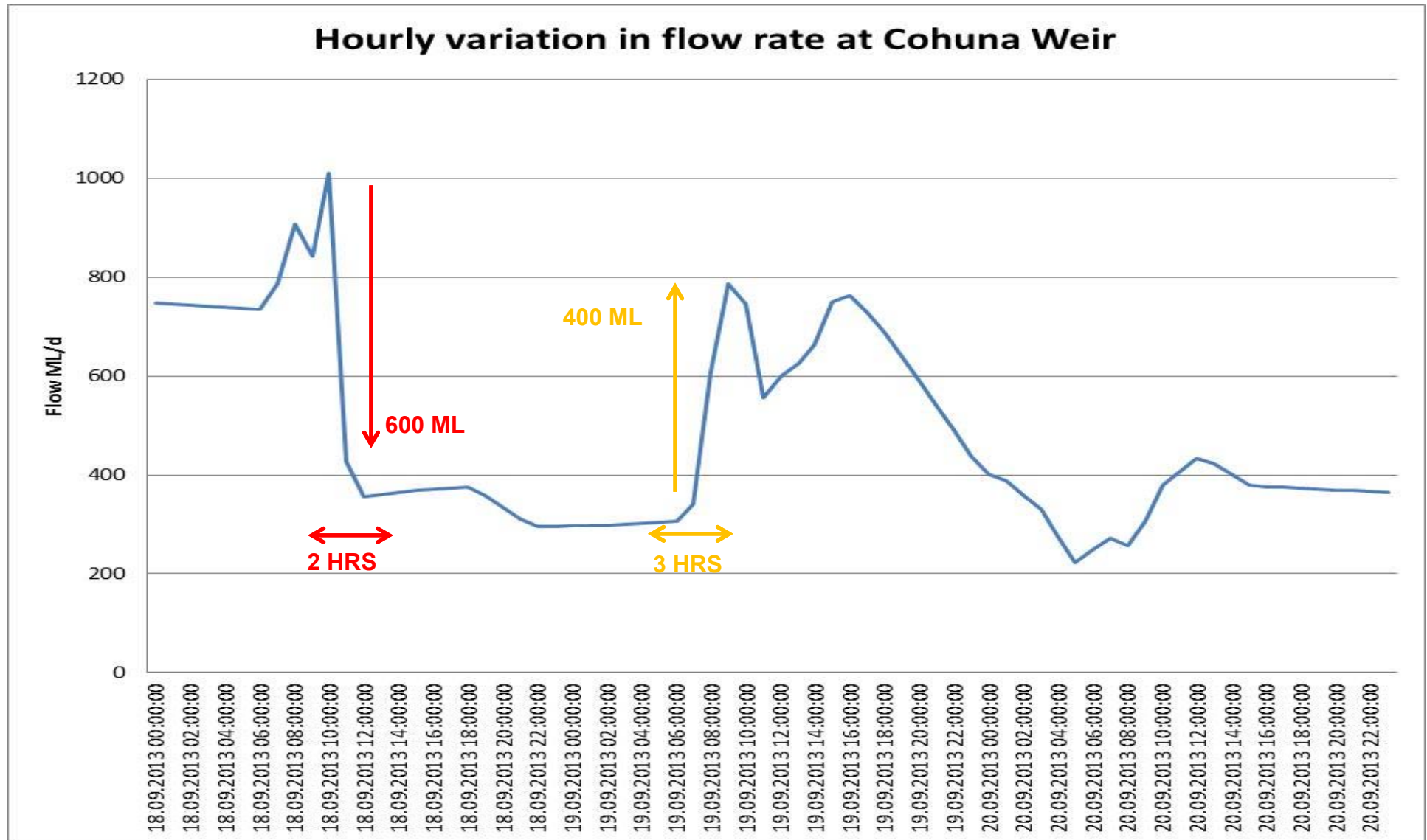
- Input to annual water planning includes:
  - Local knowledge and experience of:
    - Environmental, social and economic values
    - How these systems have behaved hydrologically historically
    - changes over time and threats and input to risk assessment
  - Opportunities for shared benefits

# Achieving outcomes in working rivers

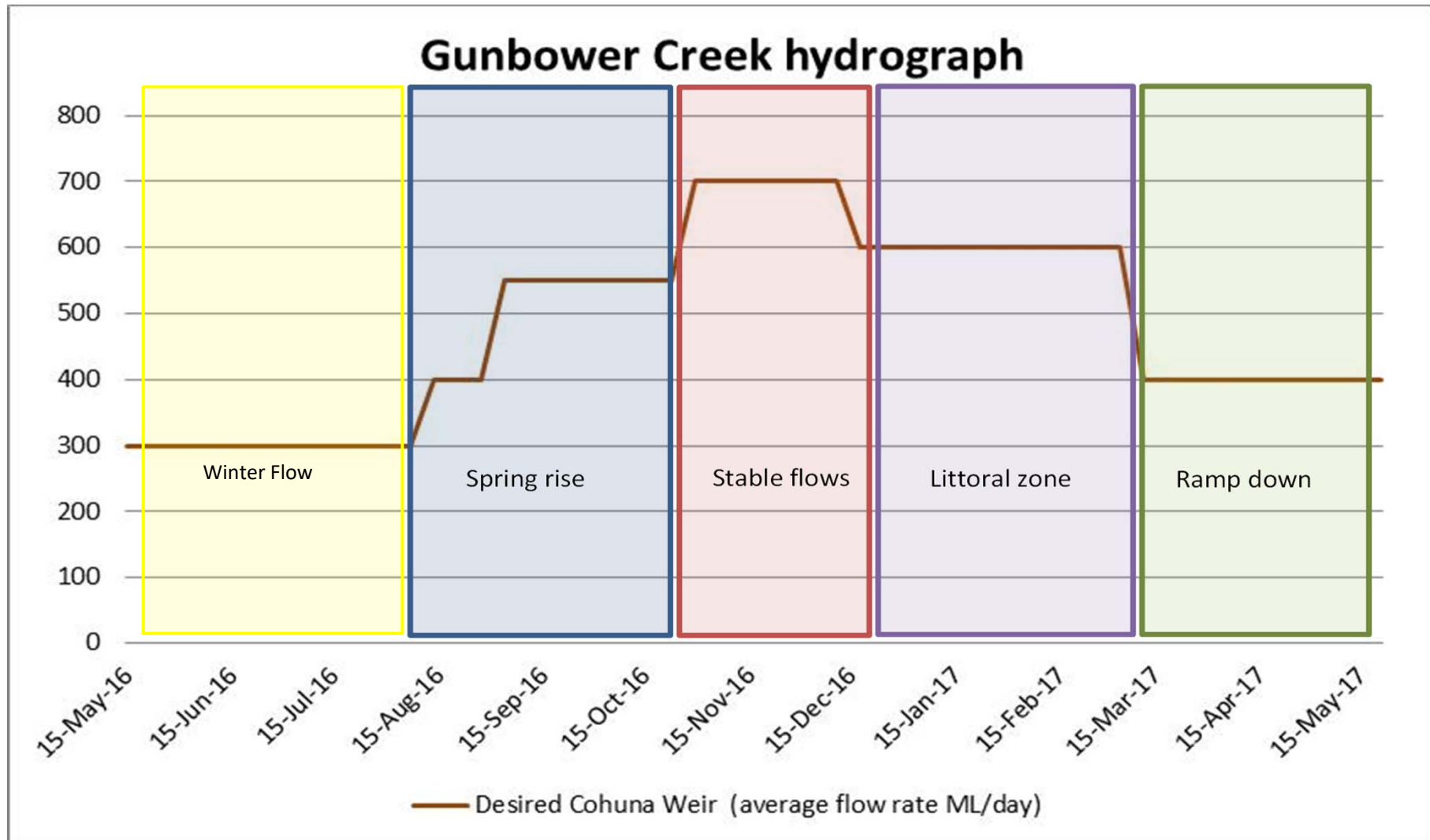
Flow at Cohuna Weir 2012-13



# Achieving outcomes in working rivers



# Achieving outcomes in working rivers



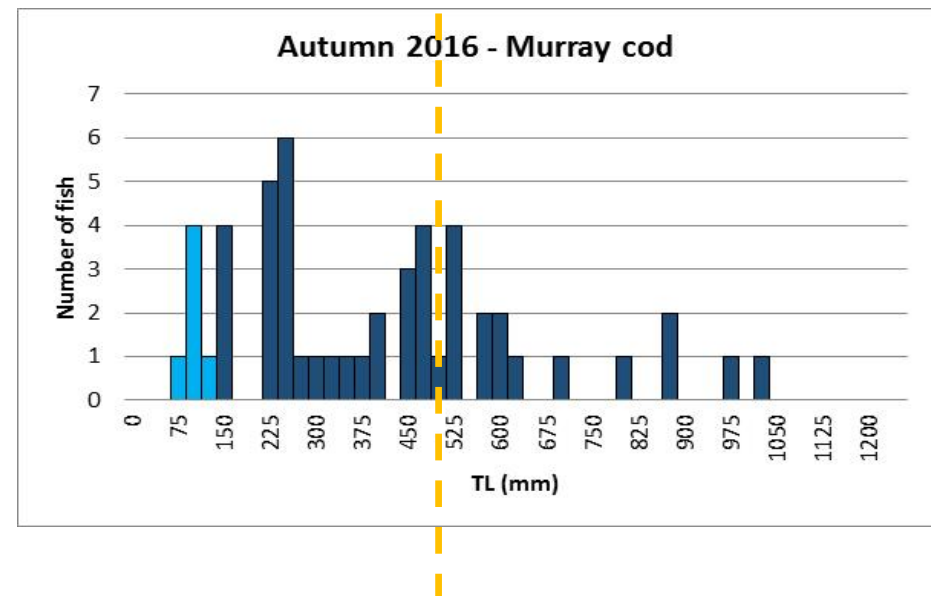
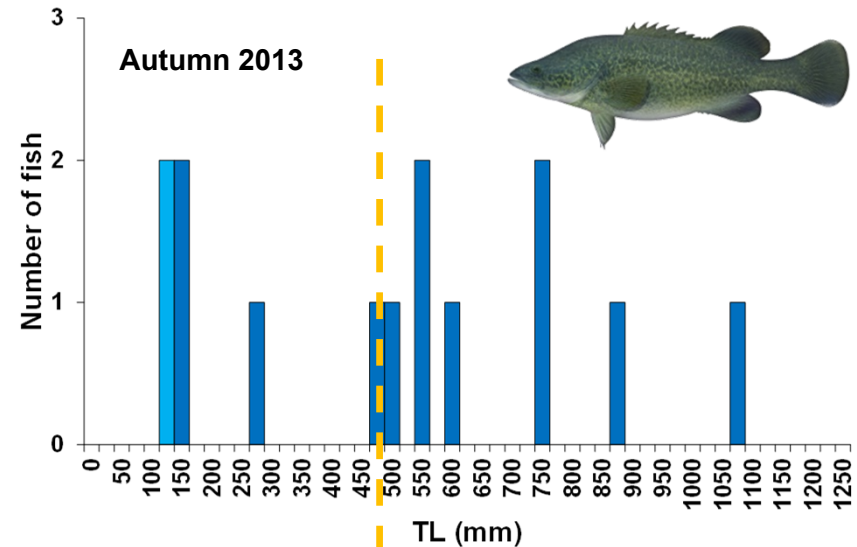
# Achieving outcomes in working rivers

## LENGTH FREQUENCY DISTRIBUTION

- Murray cod

Key:

- TL: total length
- Light blue: young-of-year
- Orange dash: mature fish on right





# Enabling and complementary measures



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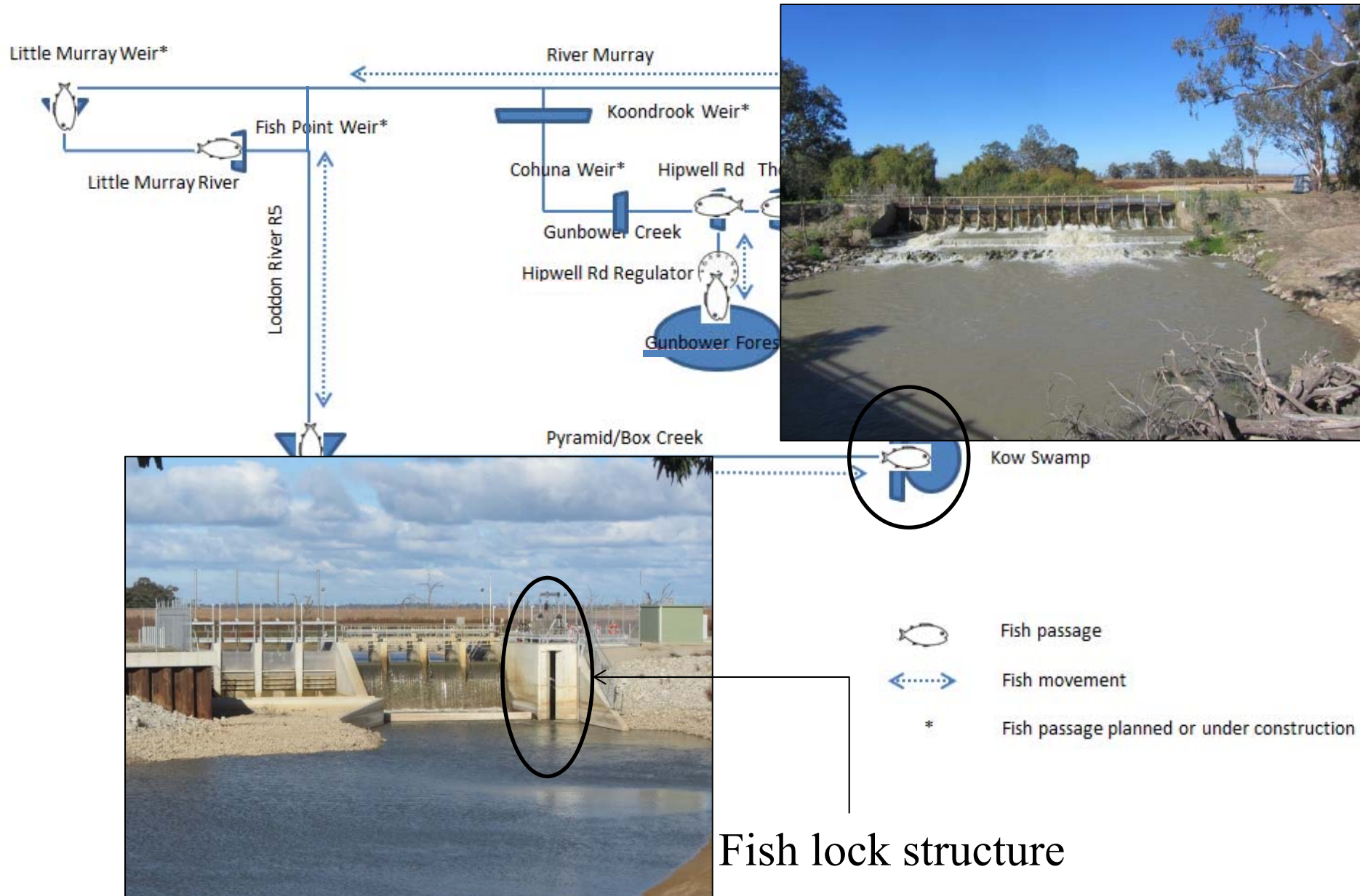
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# Habitat

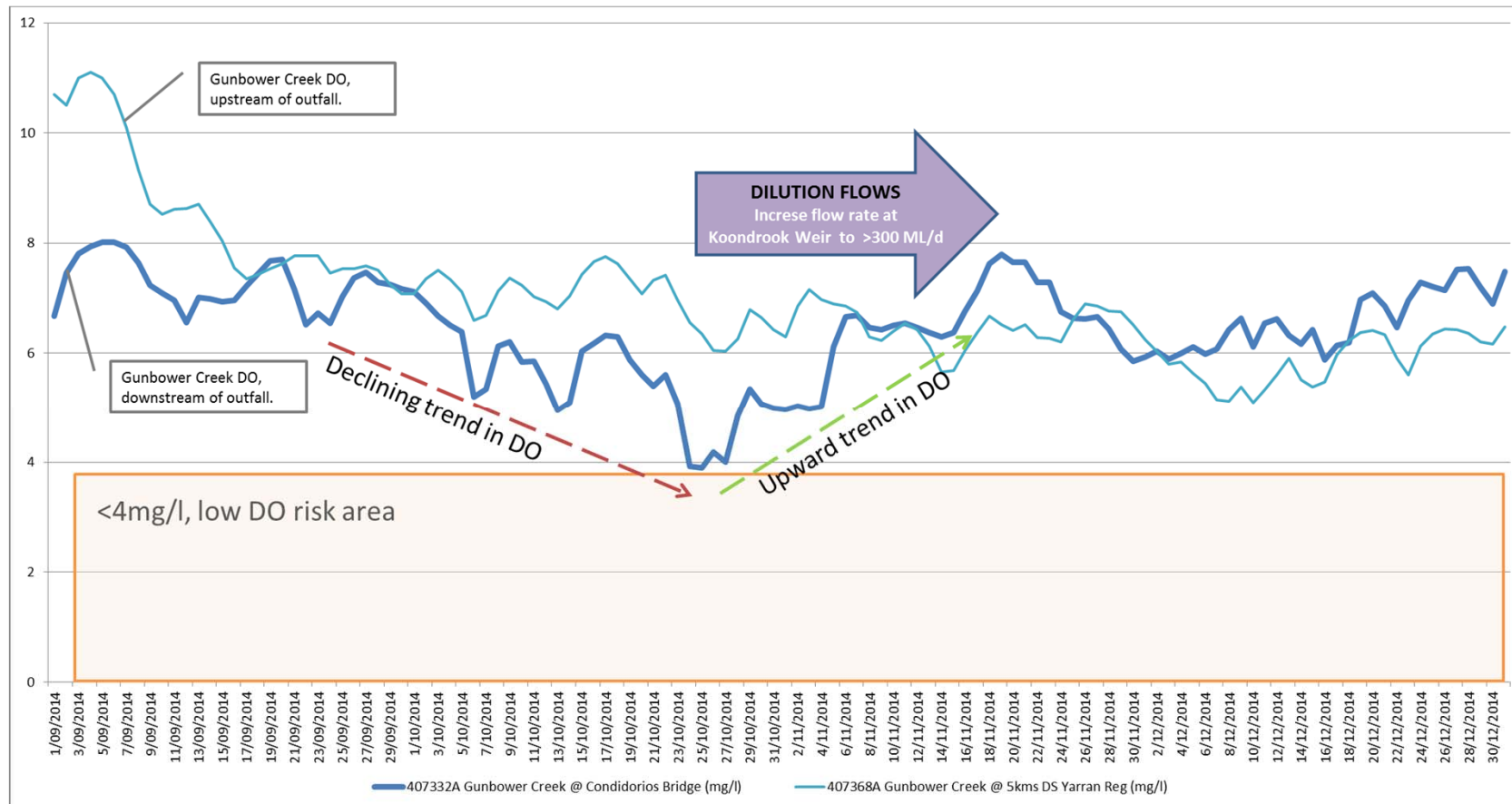


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# Connectivity & movement



# Beneficial blackwater and risk management



# Beneficial blackwater vs Toxic blackwater events



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# Return on investment

- Environmental outcomes – rehabilitation of habitats to support high abundances and diversity of native species
- Recreational benefits – hunting, fishing, boating, amenity for camping and enjoying the outdoors
- Economic benefit to our regional communities
- Cultural benefits – traditional owners practicing culture

