

Healthy Rivers,  
Healthy Communities

## Supporting native fish recovery in the Namoi River

### Water for the environment is being delivered to:



Support native fish breeding and movement opportunities



Maintain connection between the lower Namoi River and Barwon River

**Timing:** Spring 2023

Following 2 wet years in the Namoi River valley, drier and warmer conditions are forecast for the rest of spring 2023. A return to drought conditions is possible.

In spring 2023, water for the environment will be used to help build a healthy environment for native fish. This will improve opportunities for them to breed and grow and help native fish populations survive the next drought.



Lower Namoi River at Bugilbone Bridge. Photo: DCCEEW

Up to 10 gigalitres of Commonwealth water for the environment may be used. We will adapt the delivery in response to changing conditions and other water in the system.

Commonwealth water for the environment will provide a flow of water (called a 'pulse') at Goangra on the lower Namoi River in early October. This would provide more opportunities for native fish to move around, increase food options and improve living conditions available to them.

This will be followed by a lower, more stable flow of water (called a 'baseflow') at Goangra. This stable flow will support native fish, including Murray cod, to remain on nests and successfully breed.

Delivering water for the environment will keep connection between the lower Namoi River and the Barwon River. This will improve water quality and allow native fish to move between the two river systems.



Releasing a Murray cod into the Namoi River. Photo: NSW DPI – Fisheries

## Our partners

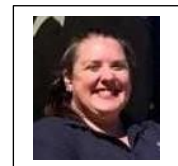
The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) works closely with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) – Environment and Heritage Group, NSW Department of Primary Industries – Fisheries, NSW DPE – Water, and WaterNSW to manage water for the environment in the Namoi Valley. The CEWH works in partnership with communities, scientists, Traditional Owners and government agencies to achieve the best outcomes for the environment. The CEWH gratefully acknowledges these partners and their contributions.

### Welcome to our new CEWH Local Engagement Officer:

**Chrissy Jeffries** (Tamworth, NSW)

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the Murray–Darling Basin. We pay our respects to them and their elders past, present, and emerging.*