



Australian Government

Commonwealth Environmental Water Office

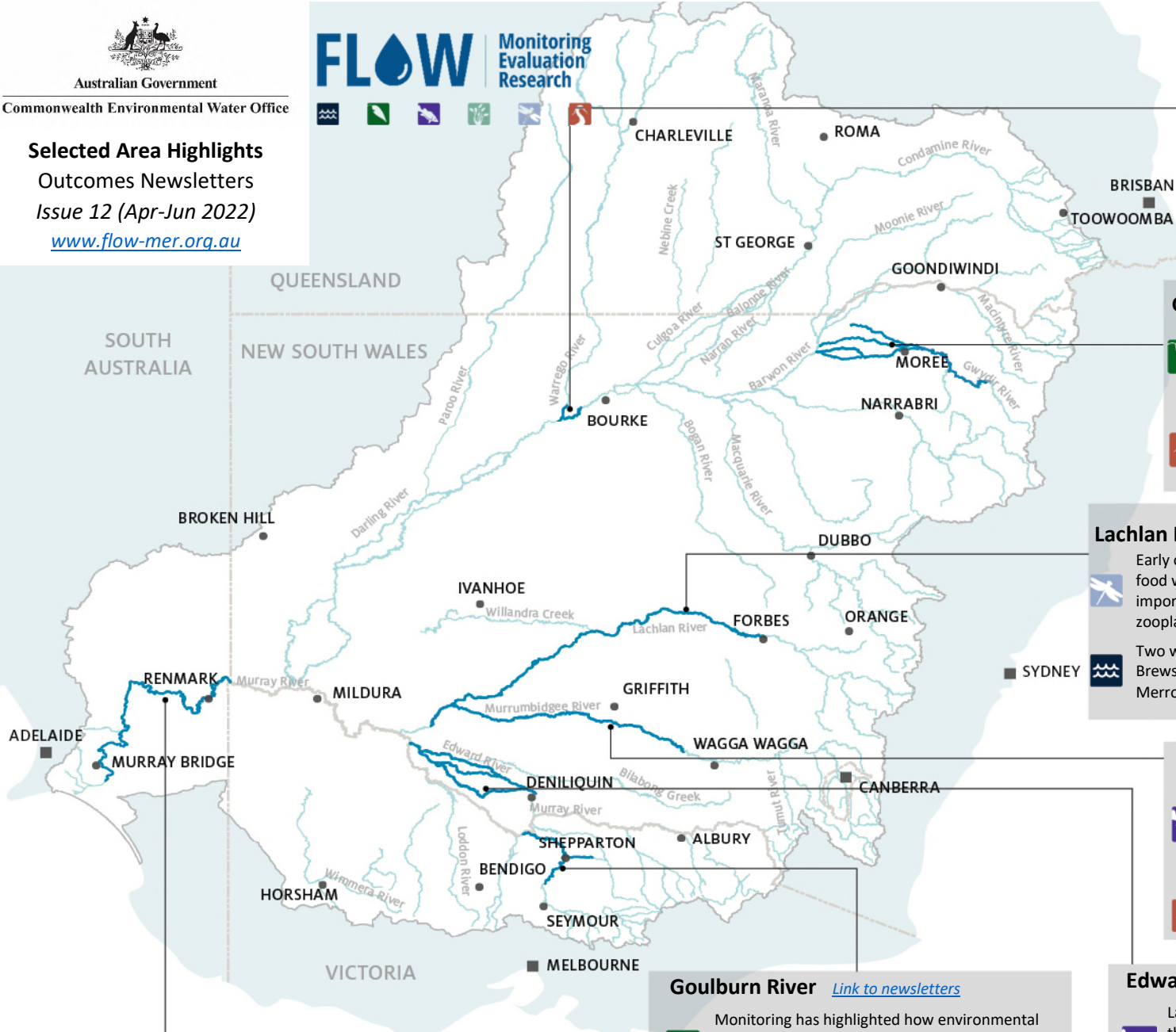


Selected Area Highlights

Outcomes Newsletters

Issue 12 (Apr-Jun 2022)

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Junction of Warrego and Darling [Link to newsletters](#)



Good numbers of juvenile spangled perch and golden perch were caught during March surveys between Bourke and Louth, suggesting recent recruitment.



Dissolved oxygen levels in the Barwon Darling River has consistently improved since the large flood event at the end of 2021. Levels have remained above 5 mg/L at most sites, which is considered within the normal range for the river.

Gwydir River System [Link to newsletters](#)



Vegetation continues to be in good condition. Evidence of a third coolibah recruitment event in the Gwydir wetlands since Autumn 2021 was also observed.



Breeding surveys for colonial nesting waterbirds observed 9 main colonies, with 8 located in the Gingham. This included 14 species and a total of 25,000 – 30,000 nests.

Lachlan River System [Link to newsletters](#)



Early observations from research projects focusing on river flow impacts on aquatic food webs suggest an abundance of glass shrimp during recent high flows, and the importance of slow-flowing water areas such as billabongs as critical habitat for zooplankton.



Two watering actions occurred to maintain water levels for pelican breeding in Lake Brewster and to maintain off-channel hydraulic and longitudinal connectivity along Merrowie-Box Creek from Cuba Dam to Chillichil Swamp.

Murrumbidgee River System [Link to newsletters](#)



April monitoring in Yanco Creek using fyke nets caught a juvenile freshwater catfish, once common in the area, but now considered an endangered population. 12 adult golden perch were caught in at Tala Creek and Lake.



14 colonial waterbird breeding species were confirmed across 29 active colony sites, including large pelican and ibis colonies in Gayini Wetlands. 8 Rakali were captured and released along Yanco Creek

Edward/Koety–Wakool river system [Link to newsletters](#)



Larval sampling has confirmed that river blackfish are expanding their range in the system. River blackfish are a little understood species of freshwater fish that occurs in the Murray-Darling Basin, a positive sign for the future of the population.



The extent of eelgrass in the Wakool River has increased at several sites, providing an important source of food and habitat for fish and other aquatic animals.



More than 75 people attended the Community Field Day at the Four Posts Camp in May. The day began with a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, followed by knowledge sharing about monitoring and research.

Lower Murray River [Link to newsletters](#)



Golden perch eggs and larvae have been found in most larval fish samples, and have been the most abundant native large-bodied fish identified so far.

The Indigenous Ecology in Action workshop was held on 21-22 June, where Indigenous students and teachers from Renmark high school spent time on country learning about cultural values, western science and traditional knowledge.



Goulburn River [Link to newsletters](#)



Monitoring has highlighted how environmental water delivery before summer can assist in priming river banks for recovery during the growing season.



An abundance of native fish (trout cod, unspeckled hardyhead and obscure galaxias) were recorded – the highest number since monitoring started.



Shrimp abundance increased at upstream sites in Jan/Feb with Kirwans Bridge supporting the largest number, suggesting the importance of vegetation.