

## FACT SHEET 2: WATER IN THE LACHLAN VALLEY

The Lachlan River rises near Yass and flows over 600 km to terminate in the Great Cumbung Swamp, a nationally listed wetland northwest of Hay. Water from the Lachlan reaches the River Murray System only in a major flood. The average annual flow is 1,200,000 ML, but this is highly variable, with annual flows from 4% to 520% of average.

The towns of Cowra, Forbes, Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo and Hillston are situated on the Lachlan River. Canowindra is situated on the Belubula River.

The Lachlan catchment has an area of 84,700km<sup>2</sup> ranging from tablelands country in the east to riverine plains in the west. Approximately 1% of the area is irrigated.

### Major storages - Lachlan

Wyangala Dam	1,217,000 ML
Lake Cargelligo	36,000 ML
Lake Brewster	145,000 ML
Carcoar Dam (Belubula River)	36,000 ML

### Surface water licences

	<u>Lachlan</u>	Belubula
Town water supply	15,545 ML	
High security	27,679 ML	1,095 ML
General Security	592,801 ML	22,454 ML
Conveyance	17,911 ML	
Domestic and Stock	12,969 ML	222 ML
Supplementary		3,125 ML

Average annual usage allowed under the Lachlan River Water Sharing Plan is 305,000 ML = 25% of average annual surface flow.

### Groundwater licences

Lower Lachlan	108,000 ML
Upper Lachlan Alluvial	171,000 ML