



Editor's Note

Our 2018 AGM is being held in Condobolin next Wednesday 29th August, and we have an excellent panel of speakers, including Andrew Parkes from Customised Farm Management, Mark McKenzie from NSW Irrigators Council and Neil Fettell from CWFS. This is a great opportunity to get an update on what's happening in irrigation and water management. As usual the AGM will conclude with a BBQ lunch, and then move straight into the opening of the CWFS Research Innovation Hub, and all members are invited to attend the AGM and stay after lunch to inspect the current research trials.

We're also working with CWFS to run an irrigated cropping tour to northern NSW and southern Qld in September. However, we're aware the continued drought may make it very difficult for members to take the time out, so will assess in a couple of weeks and defer to a later date if there aren't enough numbers.

Water Metering

After the NSW Government issued their [Draft Metering Framework](#) in June there has been a fair amount of comment on the Framework seeking clarification, particularly around the accuracy verification procedure for existing meters and the telemetry requirements.

Irrigators with pump size 500mm or larger will need to comply with the new standards by December 2019, which effectively means doing the work next winter, so it's essential that the Framework is very clear what irrigators will need to do to comply. The NSW Government now intends to release draft regulations and draft policy through their [website](#) on 27th August, and start another round of community consultation in Moree on 30th August.

The closest consultation session to us will be in Dubbo on 12th September, at Club Dubbo, 83 Wylandra St, from 3pm to 5.30pm. LVW will be attending and will keep members informed as new information rolls out.

WaterNSW Usage Survey

If you received a survey from WaterNSW recently about predicted usage over summer, please complete and return it to help WaterNSW in planning the delivery of water to the lower Lachlan this year, given that delivery will need to be managed from Wyangala Dam.

Irrigation Technology & Cubbie Station Bus Tour

18 - 20 September, 2018

Includes:

**Cotton Research Institute, Narrabri
IA Watson Grains Research Centre,
Narrabri**

Cubbie Station, Dirranbandi

Keytah Station, Moree - remote monitoring technology, GVIA comparative cotton trials



Lachlan Valley Water and Central West Farming Systems are jointly running an irrigation & cropping tour to northern NSW and southern Queensland to look at irrigation management practices, managing herbicide resistance, weed control technologies, telemetry systems for metering and on-farm monitoring for irrigation control.

**Cost: Members of LVW and CWFS \$300
Non-members \$400**

Cost includes transport, 2 night's accommodation (twin share), most meals.

Numbers required by 4th September.

For more information and to book contact:

Diana Fear, CWFS, 0427 897 530

cwfs@dpi.nsw.gov.au

Mary Ewing, LVW, 0427 512 538

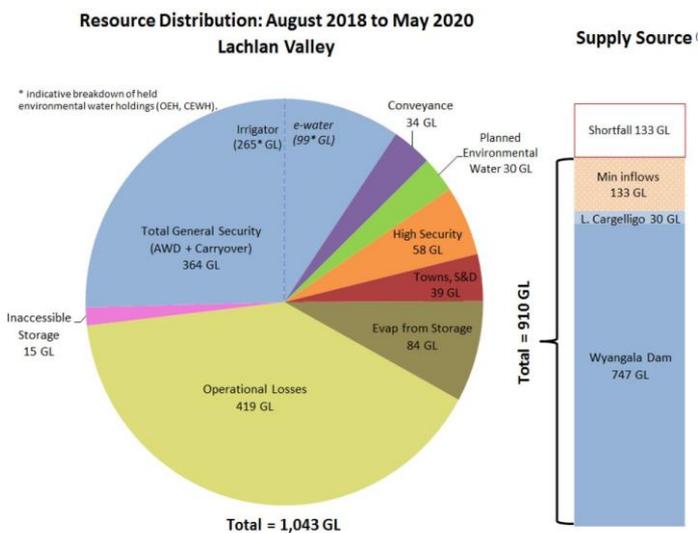
mary.ewing@lvw.com.au



Water Availability Update

Dol-Water issued the August [Water Availability Update](#) last week and the standout item is that there's now 133,000 ML additional inflows required before there can be any new general security AWD (up from 50,000 ML in July). This large increase is because there must be enough water, either in storage or expected in historical minimum inflows, to run the river and deliver high security, plus the water already held in accounts, for the next 2 years before there's any new AWD for general security. Each month the assessment is based on the minimum inflows sequence starting from that month, so as we move out of winter into spring the expected minimum inflows sequence becomes summer-winter-summer and therefore a lower figure, so the shortfall increases.

WaterNSW also publishes a [Water Operations Report](#) on their website every quarter and have just put one up for August. This provides a lot of useful information about the resource assessment, forward outlooks and operational losses. One of the key points is that they expect to deliver 304 GL of water in 2018/19 and 190 GL in 2019/20.



Waiver of Fixed Charges

The NSW Government has announced a rebate, capped at \$4,000 per licence, for the fixed charges for general security licence holders and supplementary water access licence holders in rural and regional NSW for both surface and ground water. Also for customers of Irrigation Corporation Districts for the Government fixed costs incurred by customers of the Corporations. High security licences are not eligible for the rebate.

No action is needed by customers to get the rebate, groundwater and unregulated surface water customers with annual bills will receive the credit on their next annual bill (for 2017/18). Regulated surface water customers on quarterly bills will receive a credit on their next four quarterly bills.

LACHLAN VALLEY WATER ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9.30am, Wednesday 29th August, 2018

at the CWFS Research Innovation Hub
(ex-LIRAC Farm), Willow Bend Rd,
CONDOBOLIN

AGENDA

9.30am Opening

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of 2017 Meeting
3. Chairman's Report
4. Financial Report for year ended 30/06/18
5. Executive Officer's Report
6. Nomination of Executive Committee of LVW
7. General Business

10.15am Morning tea

Guest speakers

Andrew Parkes, Customised Farm Management

CFM is a rural asset management firm based at Moree, and directs the management of several properties in the Lachlan. Andrew will outline CFM's overall management approach, their water management, and the opportunities and risks he sees in the Lachlan Valley.

Neil Fettell, Senior Research Scientist, CWFS

Neil will discuss the CWFS irrigation research priorities and current projects.

Mark McKenzie, CEO, NSW Irrigators Council

Mark will cover state level issues including metering and Water Resource Plans

12.15pm Close of AGM and BBQ lunch

The LVW AGM is being held in conjunction with an Open Day for the opening of the new CWFS research facility, which will commence immediately following lunch.

1pm – 3pm CWFS OPEN DAY

Speakers from CWFS, CSIRO, GRDC and Lachlan Shire Council, followed by a field walk and inspection of current research trials.

For catering purposes please RSVP to 6851 2538, 0427 512 538, or email to mary.ewing@lvw.com.au

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

If you have any questions about information in the newsletter please give us a call.

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