



5 November 2013

## More time for Namoi and Border Rivers landholders to register interest in a floodplain licence

NSW Water Commissioner, David Harriss, today announced a further extension of time for landholders wishing to register an interest in a floodplain harvesting access licence in the Namoi and Border Rivers regions.

Mr Harriss said that the Healthy Floodplains project is currently being rolled out across the Namoi and Border Rivers valleys, following the initial phase in the Gwydir Valley earlier this year.

“Recently, the Namoi Water Users’ Association requested additional time for landholders to lodge their interest in obtaining a floodplain harvesting licence and I am happy to provide this,” Mr Harriss said.

“As a result, the NSW Office of Water will now close off the registration of interest for the Namoi and Border Rivers valleys on **30 November 2013**.”

Mr Harriss said that this project is about improving floodplain management, which includes the regulation and licensing of floodplain harvesting activities to ensure the sharing of floodplain water between water users and the environment.

“All floodplain landholders that capture water runoff from their property, whether they think they are floodplain harvesting or not should participate in the project and lodge an interest in obtaining a floodplain harvesting licence”.

“Landholders that receive a floodplain harvesting licence will be guaranteed access to floodplain water and these licences will be able to be traded.”

“All floodplain harvesting activities in the project areas will be incorporated into the NSW Licensing framework by the end of June 2015,” Mr Harriss said.

The project is being implemented across five northern valleys in NSW’s Murray-Darling Basin – the Gwydir, Border Rivers, Namoi, Macquarie and the unregulated Barwon-Darling River valley.

Funding for this project is provided under the Australian Government’s Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure program’s Water for the Future Initiative and is part of the \$500 million NSW Sustaining the Basin Project.

Registration of Interest forms are available on the NSW Office of Water website at - [www.water.nsw.gov.au/mdb](http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/mdb) or Freecall 1800 353 104 or email - [information@water.nsw.gov.au](mailto:information@water.nsw.gov.au)

**ENDS**

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