



Peak body for five landholder associations and 1600 irrigators in the Murray Valley

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Southern Riverina Irrigators (SRI) welcomes today's announcement of an additional 6% water allocation for general security supplies in the Murray Valley.

The Murray Valley has experienced a long period of zero or extremely low water allocations and while the additional 6% will only take the regional allocation to 19%, this announcement will provide a great opportunity for some autumn watering for many districts farmers.

The regions low water allocation and exceptionally dry period has resulted in another drought year with disappointing crop losses. The NSW Office of Water announcement of additional allocation, will enable improved early planning for limited autumn water activities and initial crop preparation.

The additional water availability has resulted from increased flows in the Darling and into Menindee.

SRI will continue to liaise with the NSW Office of Water to assist with information exchange on Murray regional issues. Although extended drought conditions still prevail, some localised rain events have boosted summer pastures such as lucerne. The opportunity now to capitalise on summer rain events with an autumn watering program will be highly valued and the timing of this announcement will assist farmers in their decisions.

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