

Dear Sir/Madam,

We wish to make the following submission in regards to the Murray Regional Water Strategy.

It is disappointing that this strategy, along with the Reconnecting River Country Program, both refer to the environment yet fail to properly address the main environmental issue facing the Murray River. The first step to improve the health of the river must be to address the issue of continuing pollution of the river due to inappropriate discharges being allowed to enter the river. Inappropriate developments and overloading of antiquated and and overloaded infrastructure is seeing river pollution caused from Sewerage Treatment Plant and industrial area run-offs. To achieve a healthy river, these issues must be addressed first and foremost. Any other measures will be ineffective until these issues are addressed.

We do not believe that the present push to lift constraints on flow volumes down river can achieve a positive environmental outcome. The amount of erosion and degradation that would be caused by the lifting of constraints would definitely see a negative outcome for the riverine environment. The biggest single action that could improve the health of the river is to drastically reduce the pollution that is presently entering the river.

Regards,

