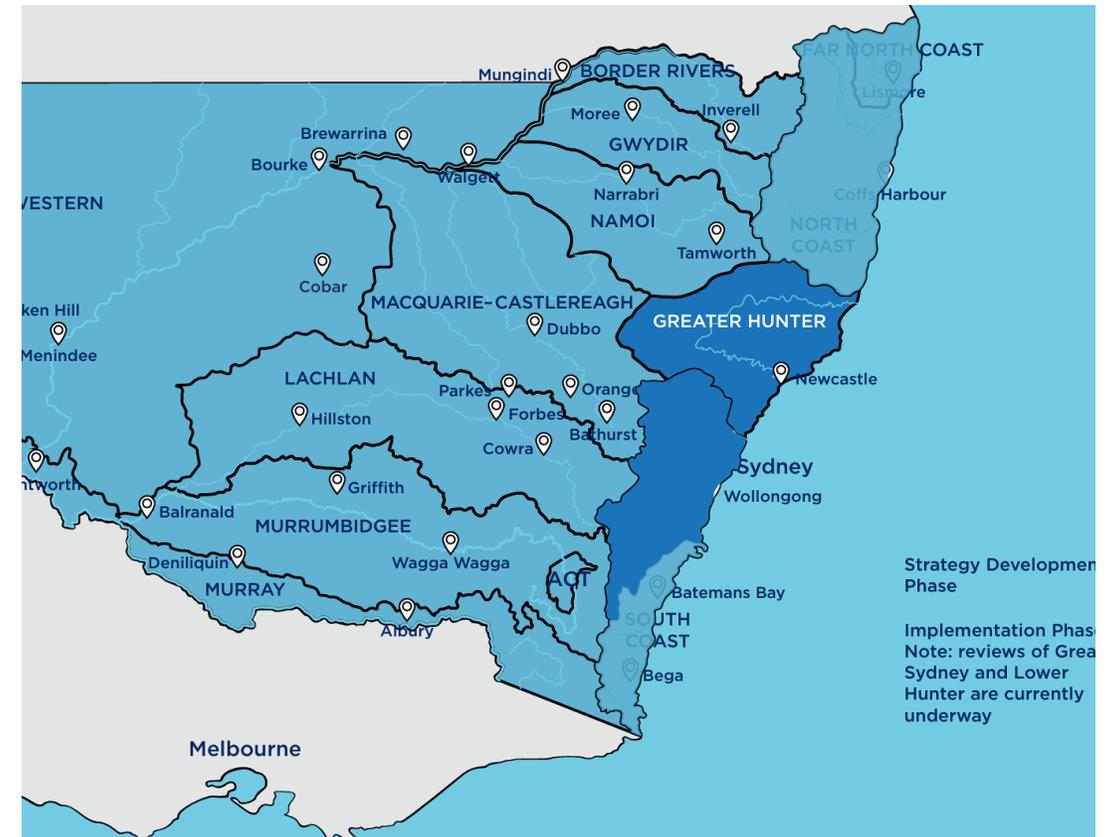


Water security projects – planning for the future

- ▶ Clarrie Hall Dam raising by 8.5 metres, proposed by Tweed SC in 2015 after significant community consultation
- ▶ Increasing concerns about saltwater intrusion at Bray Park Weir on the Tweed River
- ▶ Far North Coast Regional Water Strategy published in June 2023
- ▶ NSW Far North Coast Regional Water Supply Preliminary Business Case now underway funded by National Water Grid



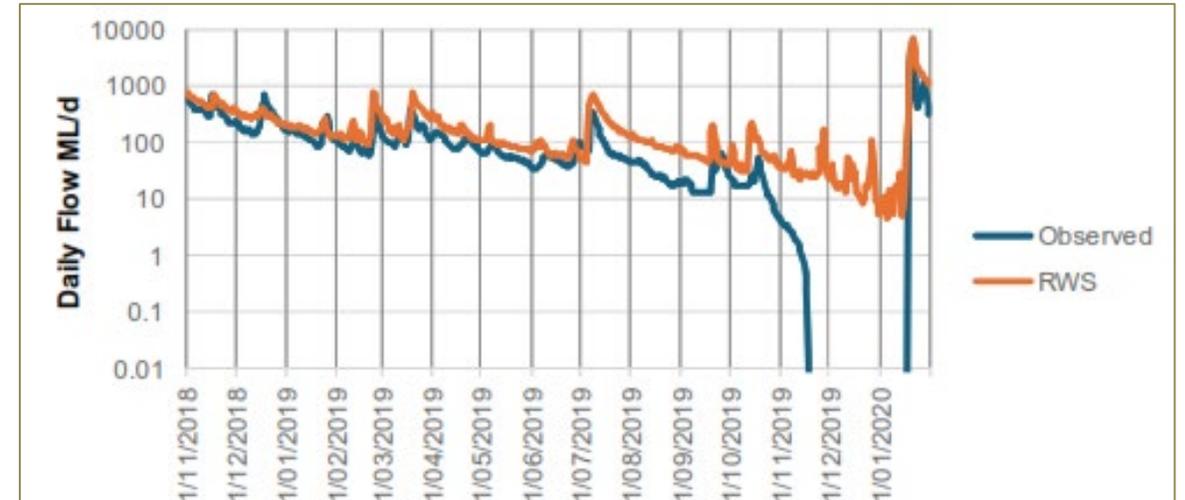
Disconnect between IWCM and RWS (1)

- ▶ Saltwater intrusion risk due to sea level rise is increasing, the risk was not addressed in the FNC Regional Water Strategy
- ▶ Timing: the FNC Regional Water Strategy came along after council had already been consulting on IWCM options for 10+ years. This led to considerable confusion in the community
- ▶ Options are continually being revisited that were ruled out for sound reasons



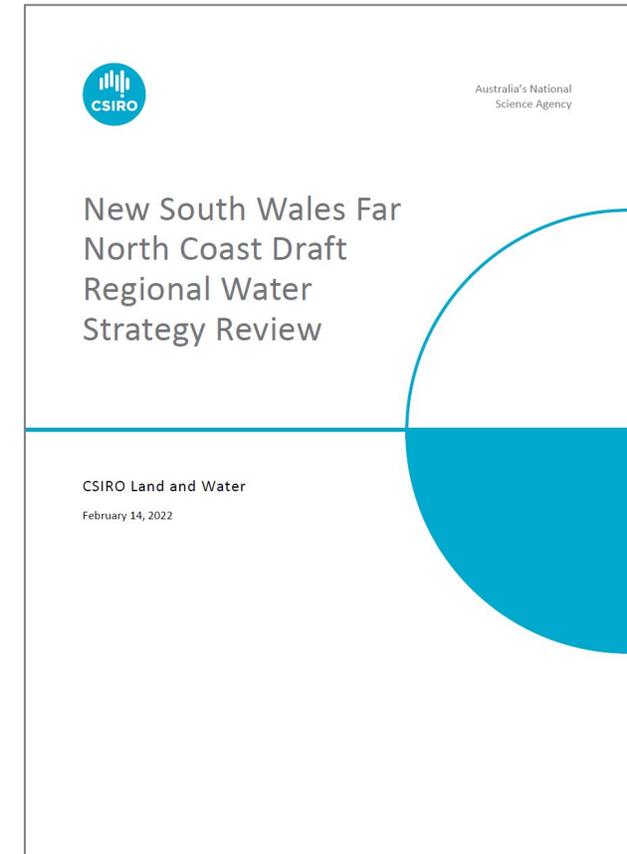
Disconnect between IWCM and RWS (2)

- ▶ RWS modelling does not correlate with IWCM modelling at low flow
- ▶ Evidence based on actual town water supply data from the Millennium Drought and the Tinderbox Drought is that the risk of water supply failure is higher than stated in the RWS's
- ▶ Acceptance of total water supply failure is simply not an option for LWU's due to extreme social and economic consequences



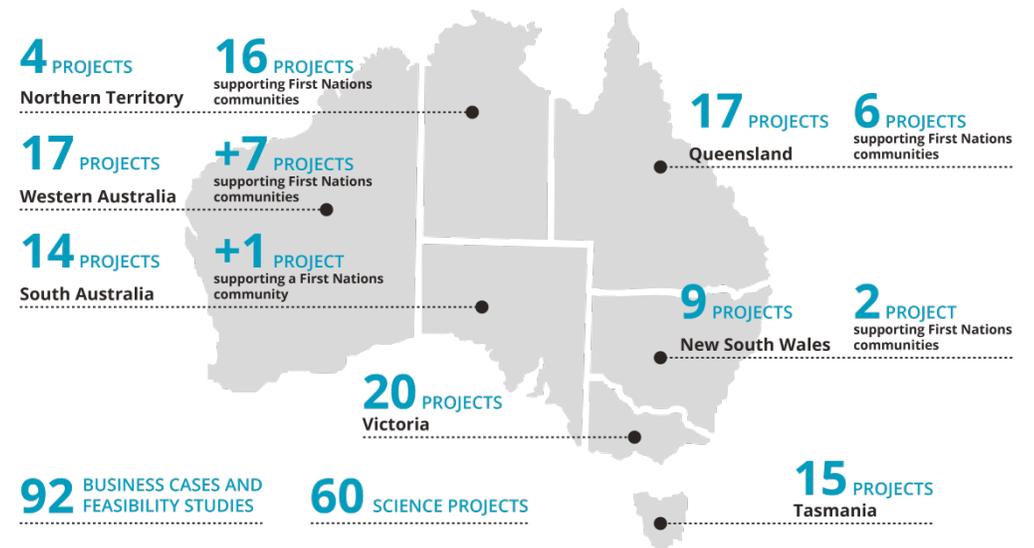
CSIRO review of the FNC regional water strategy

- ▶ DCCEEW did not agree with all the recommendations of CSIRO's independent review
- ▶ DCCEEW's response to Recommendation 20:
Understanding the distribution of impacts from town water supply shortfalls is beyond the scope of the regional water strategies



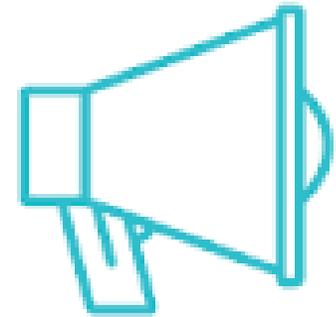
National Water Grid Fund

- ▶ No guarantee of NSW Safe and Secure Program funding going forward
- ▶ A new Preliminary Business Case is now underway with National Water Grid funding to assess a NSW Far North Coast Regional Water Supply
- ▶ Applications for NWG funding must be endorsed and managed by NSW DCCEE



Call to action? Up for discussion...

- ▶ Independent review of the interface between Regional Water Strategies and LWU IWCM
- ▶ ‘Stress test’ our water security contingency plans and drought emergency response plans
- ▶ Allow LWU’s to access NWG funding directly



Thank you