

## ENVIRONMENT

In 2017-18, the Commonwealth will provide funding of \$656.7 million to support State environment projects, as detailed in Table 2.10.

**Table 2.10: Payments to support State environment services**

\$million	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<b>National Partnership payments</b>					
Assistance for pest animal and weed management in drought-affected areas	4.0	4.0	2.0	-	-
Bushfire mitigation	5.3	-	-	-	-
Development of business cases for constraints measures	5.1	10.0	20.0	30.0	60.0
Environmental management of the former Rum Jungle Mine site	-	6.1	4.0	-	-
Established Pest and Weed Management	5.0	5.0	5.0	-	-
Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative	10.3	0.4	-	-	-
Implementation of the National Insurance Affordability Initiative	7.0	5.0	-	-	-
Implementing water reform in the Murray-Darling Basin	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	-
Management of the World Heritage values of the Tasmanian Wilderness	1.8	1.7	-	-	-
Mechanical fuel load reduction trials	-	0.5	-	-	-
National fire danger rating system	-	0.5	0.2	-	-
Natural disaster resilience(a)	15.0	63.3	nfp	nfp	nfp
Pest and disease preparedness and response programs	21.3	19.9	19.8	20.2	20.5
South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program					
Irrigation efficiency and water purchase	10.5	21.5	-	-	-
Irrigation industry assistance	39.5	25.0	10.0	-	-
Regional economic development	2.5	-	-	-	-
Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program	329.9	434.0	336.5	75.3	19.5
Water Infrastructure Development Fund					
Feasibility studies	13.3	24.9	6.3	-	-
Capital component	-	15.0	45.0	80.0	80.0
Water Reform Programs	2.1	-	-	-	-
Whale and dolphin entanglements	0.2	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>492.8</b>	<b>656.7</b>	<b>468.8</b>	<b>225.4</b>	<b>180.0</b>
<i>Memorandum item – payments direct to local governments included in payments above</i>					
Water Reform Programs	2.1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

(a) Funding amounts are not published for 2018-19 onwards as negotiations are yet to be finalised.

## National Partnership payments for the environment

### National Partnership on Assistance for Pest Animal and Weed Management in Drought-affected Areas<sup>(a)</sup>

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	0.5	0.5	2.0	0.5	0.5	-	-	-	4.0
2017-18	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	4.0
2018-19	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	2.0
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) State allocations from 2017-18 have not yet been determined and are subject to the extent of drought-affected areas.

The Commonwealth is assisting drought-affected farm businesses with installing water-related infrastructure and with managing the impacts of pest animals and weeds.

### National Partnership on Bushfire Mitigation

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	2.3	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	5.3
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is funding State implementation of long-term bushfire mitigation strategies and improved fuel reduction activities.

### National Partnership on the Development of Business Cases for Constraints Measures<sup>(a)</sup>

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	5.1
2017-18	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	10.0
2018-19	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	20.0
2019-20	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	30.0
2020-21	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	60.0

(a) State allocations have not yet been finalised.

This program supports the development of business cases for proposals to ease or remove constraints to the delivery of water to the environmental assets of the Murray-Darling Basin.

### National Partnership on the Environmental Management of the Former Rum Jungle Mine site

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.1	6.1
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.0	4.0
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is continuing to fund the program of work established to improve the management of the Rum Jungle Mine site and to further develop a rehabilitation strategy, in partnership with stakeholders, including the site's traditional owners.

#### National Partnership on the Management of Established Pests and Weeds

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.1	..	0.3	5.0
2017-18	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.1	..	0.3	5.0
2018-19	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.5	0.1	..	0.3	5.0
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

This program builds the skills and capacity of landholders, the community and industry to manage established pest animals and weeds.

#### National Partnership on the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	3.2	-	2.7	-	4.4	-	-	-	10.3
2017-18	-	-	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	0.4
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

This National Partnership continues the capping of uncontrolled bores and piping open bore drains to reduce water loss and recover groundwater pressure. It also funds the maintenance of critical infrastructure and other activities.

#### National Partnership on the Implementation of the National Insurance Affordability Initiative

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	7.0	-	-	-	-	-	7.0
2017-18	-	-	5.0	-	-	-	-	-	5.0
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is funding the construction of a flood levee in Roma and improving flood defences in Ipswich to reduce flood risk and insurance premiums.

#### National Partnership on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	9.4	6.8	2.0	-	1.5	-	0.3	-	20.0
2017-18	9.4	6.8	2.0	-	1.5	-	0.3	-	20.0
2018-19	9.4	6.8	2.0	-	1.5	-	0.3	-	20.0
2019-20	9.4	6.8	2.0	-	1.5	-	0.3	-	20.0
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is supporting the cooperative implementation of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin*.

The agreement aims to ensure continuing progress in restoring the Basin's rivers to health and securing strong regional communities, as well as sustainable food and fibre production.

### National Partnership on Management of the World Heritage Values of the Tasmanian Wilderness

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	1.8	-	-	1.8
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	1.7	-	-	1.7
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is supporting the management of the World Heritage values of the areas added to the Tasmanian Wilderness in 2013 and the development of cultural heritage evaluations.

### National Partnership on Mechanical Fuel Load Reduction Trials

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017-18	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

This program supports research into the effectiveness of mechanical fuel removal in forests where conservation values could be compromised by burning.

### National Partnership on a National Fire Danger Rating System

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017-18	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5
2018-19	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	0.2
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth will provide funding to develop a prototype national fire danger rating system and associated social research to assist the States in communicating fire danger information to the public.

A new measure associated with this National Partnership is listed in Table 1.4 and described in more detail in Budget Paper No. 2, *Budget Measures 2017-18*.

**National Partnership on Natural Disaster Resilience<sup>(a)</sup>**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	3.4	2.1	3.0	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.3	1.3	15.0
2017-18	17.0	10.4	15.0	7.8	5.2	2.6	2.6	2.6	63.3
2018-19	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
2019-20	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp
2020-21	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp	nfp

(a) Funding amounts are not published for 2018-19 to 2020-21 as negotiations are yet to be finalised.

The Commonwealth is providing the States with funding to strengthen community resilience and minimise the impact of a range of natural disasters in Australia.

The National Partnership is a joint funding arrangement that provides the flexibility for States to address their specific natural disaster risk priorities. This arrangement recognises that the Commonwealth and the States have a mutual interest in reducing the impact of, and increasing resilience to, natural disasters.

A new measure associated with this National Partnership is listed in Table 1.4 and described in more detail in Budget Paper No. 2, *Budget Measures 2017-18*.

**National Partnership on Pest and Disease Preparedness and Response Programs<sup>(a)</sup>**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	0.3	0.5	17.3	-	0.6	-	-	2.6	21.3
2017-18	0.3	0.4	17.0	-	0.1	-	-	2.2	19.9
2018-19	0.3	0.4	17.1	-	0.1	-	-	2.0	19.8
2019-20	0.3	0.4	17.4	-	0.1	-	-	2.0	20.2
2020-21	0.3	0.4	17.7	-	0.1	-	-	2.0	20.5

(a) State allocations are indicative estimates only. Funding is conditional on agreed national responses to pest or disease incursions.

This program contributes to the eradication of exotic animal and plant pests and diseases which, if allowed to establish and spread, would have serious economic and environmental impacts. The Commonwealth is involved owing to the potential implications for biodiversity, market access issues for agricultural products and the need to protect nationally significant environmental assets.

**National Partnership on the South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program**

The four components of this National Partnership support the Murray-Darling Basin water reforms by contributing to a healthy working river system, strong communities and sustainable food and fibre production, while providing certainty for affected communities and water users.

**Irrigation Efficiency and Water Purchase Components**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	10.5	-	-	-	10.5
2017-18	-	-	-	-	21.5	-	-	-	21.5
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is providing funding for South Australia to deliver a grants program to support more efficient delivery and use of water by irrigation water providers and irrigators. The program also enables South Australian irrigators to sell their water entitlements to the South Australian Government for return to the environment. In total, these two components aim to return 36 gigalitres (the long-term average annual yield) of 'gap bridging' water to the Commonwealth.

**Irrigation Industry Assistance Component**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	39.5	-	-	-	39.5
2017-18	-	-	-	-	25.0	-	-	-	25.0
2018-19	-	-	-	-	10.0	-	-	-	10.0
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is providing funding for South Australia to deliver a grants program to improve the productivity of the South Australian River Murray irrigation industry.

**Regional Economic Development Component**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	2.5	-	-	-	2.5
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is providing funding for the redevelopment of the Loxton Research Centre, a program of industry-led research, and a Regional Development and Innovation program. This component aims to create opportunities for economic diversification and regional development for Basin communities in South Australia.

**Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	56.5	191.1	20.0	-	28.7	17.6	16.0	-	329.9
2017-18	109.3	187.7	18.1	-	55.6	22.8	40.5	-	434.0
2018-19	144.8	120.5	28.2	-	7.7	17.3	18.2	-	336.5
2019-20	45.3	10.0	20.0	-	-	-	-	-	75.3
2020-21	-	19.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	19.5

The Commonwealth is providing funding for the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program. This funding is provided under a number of arrangements, such as the *National Partnership on Water for the Future* and Water Management Partnership Agreements under the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin*.

The program funds most of the water recovery to 'bridge the gap' under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. It also aims to improve the efficiency and productivity of rural water management and usage, deliver substantial and lasting water returns to the environment, secure a long-term sustainable future for irrigated agriculture, and improve the health of wetlands and freshwater ecosystems.

**National Partnership on the Water Infrastructure Development Fund**

This program facilitates long-term economic and regional development by enhancing the knowledge base underpinning water infrastructure planning and decision making, undertaking the detailed planning required to inform water infrastructure investment decisions and expediting the construction of water infrastructure.

**Feasibility Studies Component**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	0.1	2.0	4.2	2.5	3.2	-	-	1.3	13.3
2017-18	1.3	1.8	15.6	3.8	0.5	-	-	2.0	24.9
2018-19	1.0	0.1	5.0	-	-	-	-	0.2	6.3
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth will provide funding to support delivery of feasibility studies that inform investment decisions on water infrastructure.

**Capital Component<sup>(a)</sup>**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2017-18	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	15.0
2018-19	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	45.0
2019-20	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	80.0
2020-21	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	80.0

(a) State allocations from 2017-18 have not yet been determined.

The Commonwealth will provide funding of up to \$220 million to partially fund the capital construction costs of a small number of high-priority water infrastructure projects.

**National Partnership on Water Reform Programs**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	-	-	-	-	2.1	-	-	-	2.1
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is providing funding for the Water Proofing Eastern Adelaide Project as part of the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan. This project will help secure water supplies by reducing the use of potable water.

**National Partnership on Whale and Dolphin Entanglements**

\$million	NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Total
2016-17	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	..	0.2
2017-18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2018-19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2019-20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2020-21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The Commonwealth is providing funding to purchase equipment and deliver training to improve responses to whale and dolphin strandings and entanglements. This funding forms part of the Commonwealth’s broader Whale and Dolphin Protection Plan.