The path to water sovereignty
Cultural Flows in action
Outline

• The challenge
• First-Nations-led research
• The outputs
• Putting it into practice
• The research in action
The challenge

‘Lands and waters are sick and unhealthy’

‘Our sacred places have been damaged and destroyed’

- *Echuca Declaration*, 2007

How to determine flow requirements to support First Nations’ objectives?

How to acquire and hold water?
First-Nations-led research

- 8+ years of research
- Aboriginal governance
- $1.4m Commonwealth funding
- 8 research components
- 2 case study sites
The outputs

• A water planning tool for First Nations
• Identifying flow objectives and watering requirements
• Developing Cultural Flows management plans
• Monitoring and evaluation
The outputs

- A Policy and Legal reform guide
- Identifying three key pathways to strengthen Aboriginal rights and access
- Providing model provisions to change law and policy
The outputs

• Technical reports and guidance
• Ecological characterization reports
• Monitoring and evaluation
• Hydrological and hydraulic modeling reports
Putting it into practice

• Implementing and embedding
• Funding for Cultural Flows assessments
• Inform water planning
• Amend water policy and legislation
• Secure cultural flows
The research in action – Tati Tati Nation

- Tati Tati AWA project, key sites
- Build Tati Tati engagement
- Follow up project and funding
- Apply Cultural Flows tool
- Building agency and influence
Thank you! Questions?

www.culturalflows.com.au
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