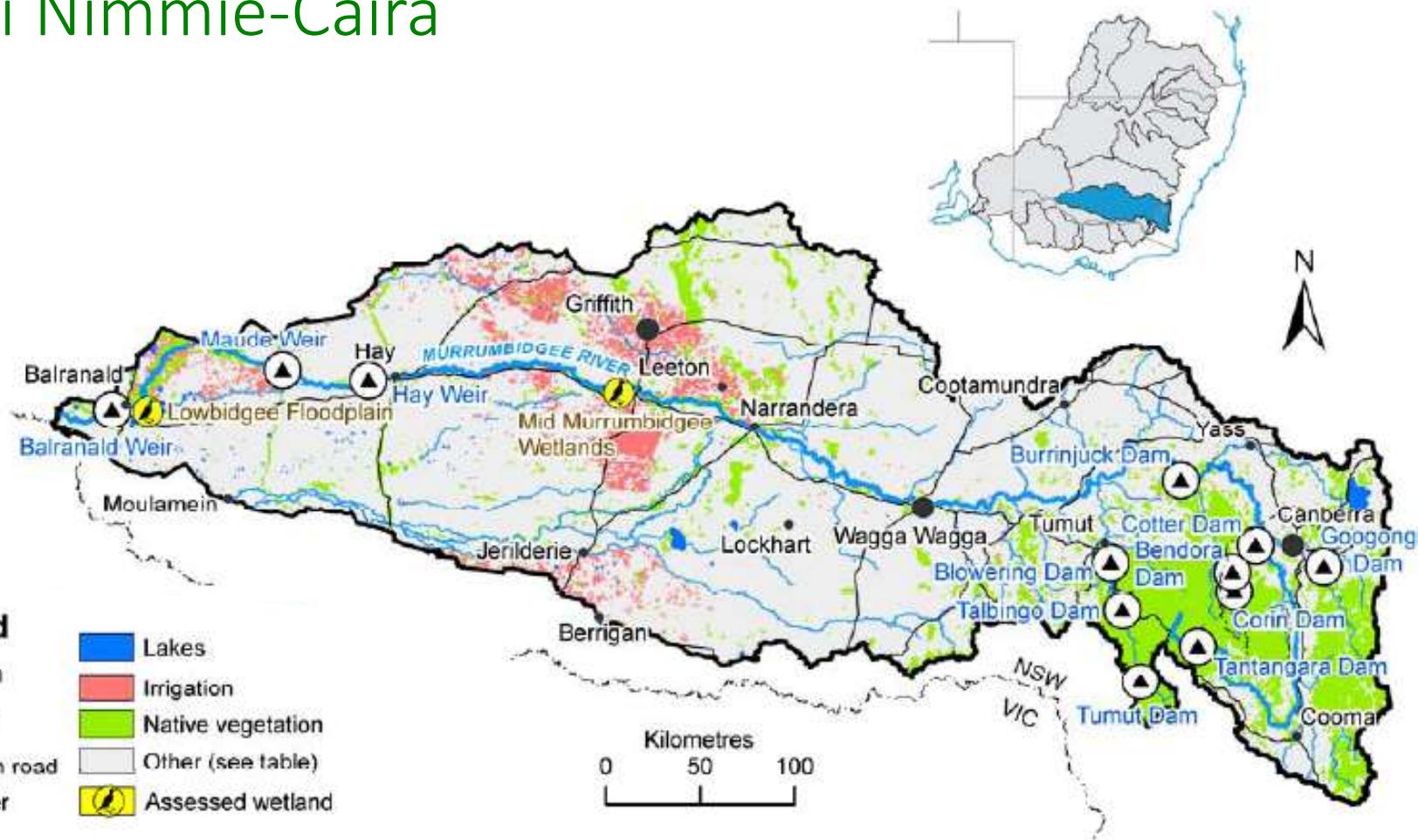


Gayini Nimmie- Caira



Gayini Nimmie-Caira



Gayini Nimmie-Caira

1

The Gayini Nimmie-Caira system is approximately 84,000 hectares of freehold land covering open lignum floodplain in the lower Murrumbidgee.

2

Receives diversions from the Murrumbidgee River at Maude Weir between Hay & Balranald

3

Adjacent to Yanga NP, the area is of national and international ecological significance. The floodplain wetlands are home to endangered and vulnerable species and breeding rookeries used by migratory water birds.

Gayini Nimmie-Caira

4

The Lower Murrumbidgee Floodplain has been identified as one of the MDBA's Key Environmental Assets for the first Basin Plan.

5

Was used for significant organic grain farming operations and grazing

6

Priority Project Deal: **\$180,133,974**, 19 irrigated farming properties with a total area of **84,417 hectares**, the ownership of which will be transferred to the State, and the transfer to the Commonwealth of **381,000 unit shares** of Lowbidgee Supplementary Water Entitlement in one single licence

7

Purposes of Priority Project:

- achieve water recovery which provides a substantial contribution towards 'bridging the gap' under the Basin Plan;
- implement management arrangements for the Gayini Nimmie-Caira area which give priority to enhancement of environmental and indigenous cultural outcomes within and potentially beyond the Gayini Nimmie-Caira area;
- implement arrangements for the future commercial use of parts of the Gayini Nimmie-Caira Land that are consistent with the environmental restoration of key areas, ecological objectives and indigenous cultural values;
- restore the floodplain health and ecosystem functions in the Gayini Nimmie-Caira area of the Lowbidgee floodplain;
- establish secure and lasting protection for the ecological assets, floodways and habitats in the Gayini Nimmie-Caira;
- plan and undertake activities to make an assessment against convention listing requirements with a view to a potential joint nomination of high ecological value areas of the Lowbidgee floodplain for inclusion on the List of Wetlands of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention

Gayini Nimmie Caira

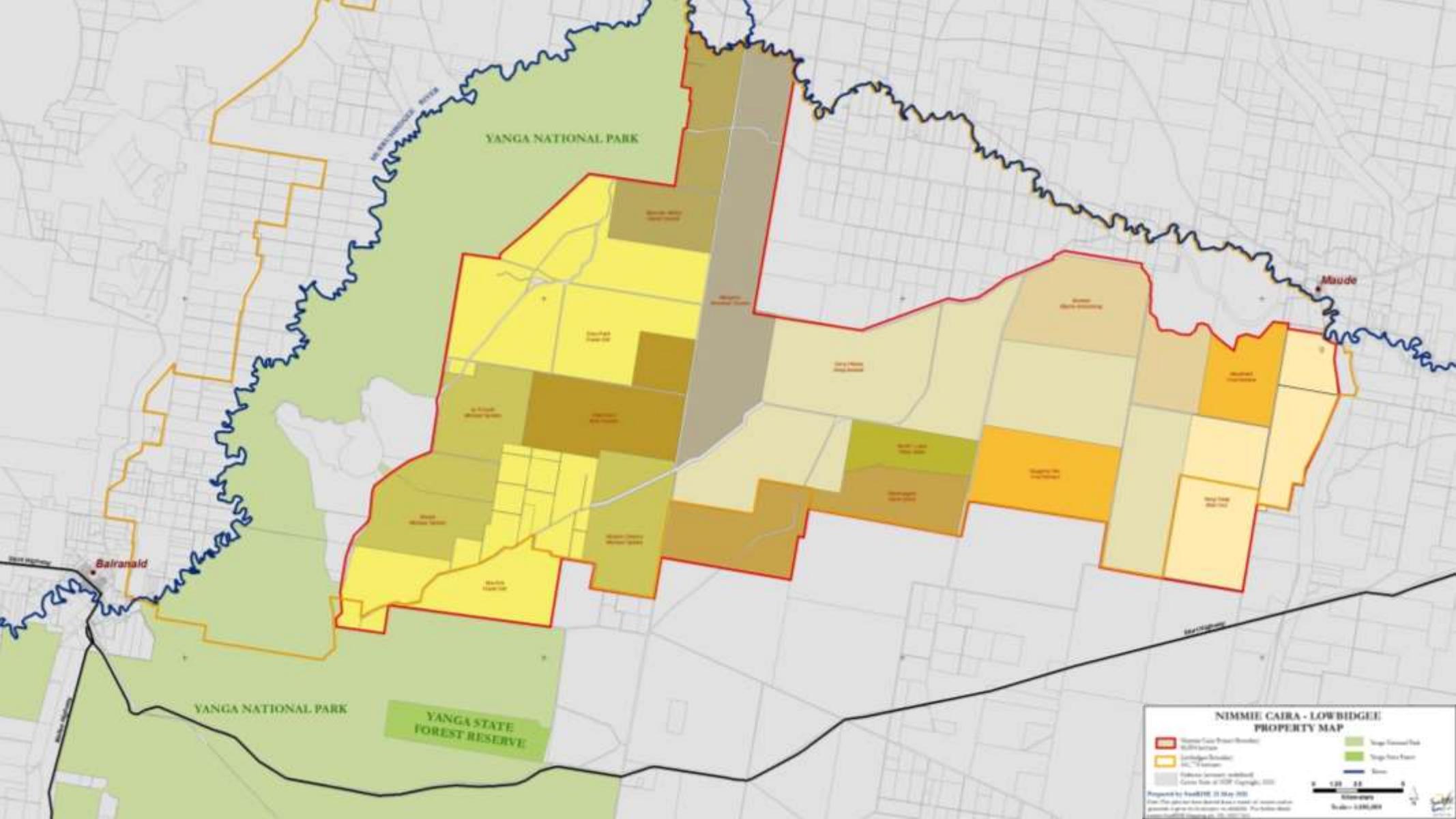
The land assets bought were approximately **84,417 ha**

Of this, **23,800 ha** are classified as protected lands under the NSW Soil Conservation Act. These zones are areas of significant environmental importance including the wetlands and rookeries

The **nineteen individual properties** that comprise the Gayini Nimmie-Caira system were freehold, with areas of perpetual and annual crown lease.

The properties were held by **11 owners or partnerships**

Land Water Management Plan



NIMMIE CAJRA - LOWBIDGEE
PROPERTY MAP

- Legend:**

 - Yellow square: Human-wildlife interface
 - Blue square: Littered shoreline
 - Red square: HCL (Human-Careless Litter)
 - Green square: Non-human-wildlife interface
 - Grey square: Non-littered shoreline
 - Black square: None

Scales: 0 1.25 2.5 Kilometres
Scale bar: 1:250,000

A wide-angle photograph of a riverbank at sunset. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The river in the foreground is calm, with a dark blue tint. On the opposite bank, there is a dense forest of large trees, their leaves glowing with the warm light of the setting sun. The trees are reflected perfectly in the still water.

Pollen
Creek
on
GNC

Our vision is to build a self-sustaining model to protect, manage and enhance the environmental and cultural assets of the Gayini Nimmie Caira.



Roles of Consortium Partners

Name	Contact	Role
Ian Woods, Nari Nari Tribal Council	0415 829 200	Landholder (Trustee) Cultural On ground land management
Dr Deb Nias, MDWWG	0417 287 651	Environmental Watering
Dr James Fitzsimons, TNC	0410 567 695	Conservation Finance (SII) Global model
Dr Richard Kingsford, Centre for Ecosystem Science	(02) 9385 3442 0419 634 215	Science and Strategic Asset Management approach for community engagement in land management
Nari Nari Tribal Council/Woodwards		Commercial – agricultural, sequestered products, tourism and knowledge products

Core team

Initial membership will comprise one representative from each Nari Nari, MDWWG, TNC, UNSW plus key Nimmie Caira staff

Role:



Develop Land and Water Management plan and annual Budgets for review by the Implementation Panel and endorsement by the Advisory Panel



Coordinate funding proposals



Coordinate implementation of the Land and Water management plan through strong partnerships



Review progress reports and coordinate reporting under lease agreement and to Implementation Panel and by Advisory Panel

Secretariat:

TNC and Gayini Nimmie Caira Property manager

Gayini Nimmie Caira proposed activities

Administration - Governance, Finance, Staff, Safety

Cultural Heritage Assessment and Management

Building repair and maintenance

Fire Management

Women's business

Cultural/ environmental tourism

Carbon credits

Vehicle Access/ Fire Trail Grading

Weed management

Men's business

Health programs

Bee farming
Biodiversity credits/ stewardship

Fencing/Yards/ Sheds

Animal Pest Management

Threatened Species management

Grazing management

Maintain Water Infrastructure

Water management

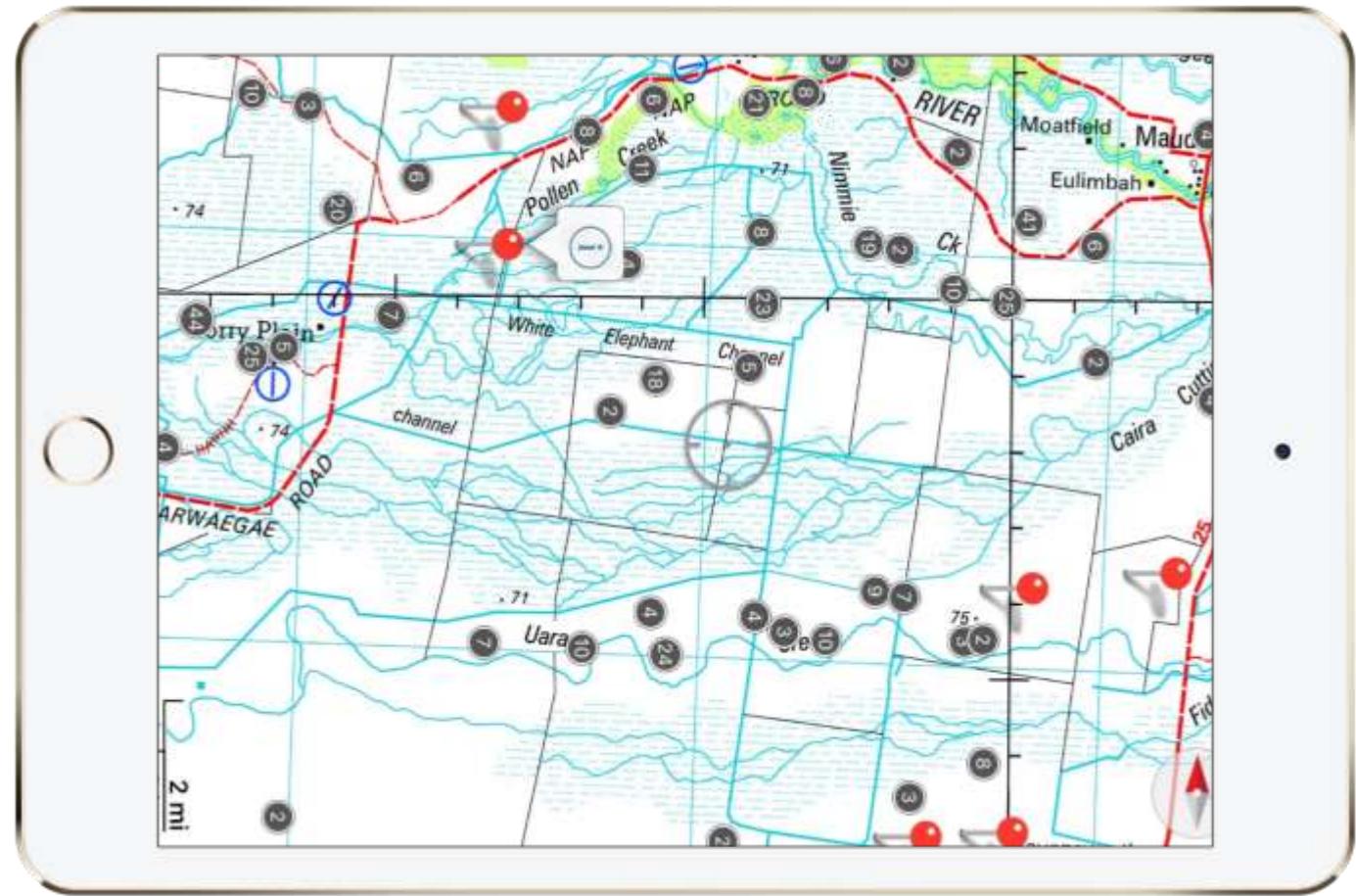
Research & Learning

Opportunistic cropping (not irrigated)

Adaptive Management- Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Gayini: Nimmie Caira

A cultural landscape of
international significance



Healthy Country Planning

We will draw on the Strategic Adaptive Management (SAM) Guidelines for effective conservation of freshwater ecosystems developed by Richard Kingsford and Harry Biggs

Consistent with Global Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation but more accessible
<http://cmp-openstandards.org>





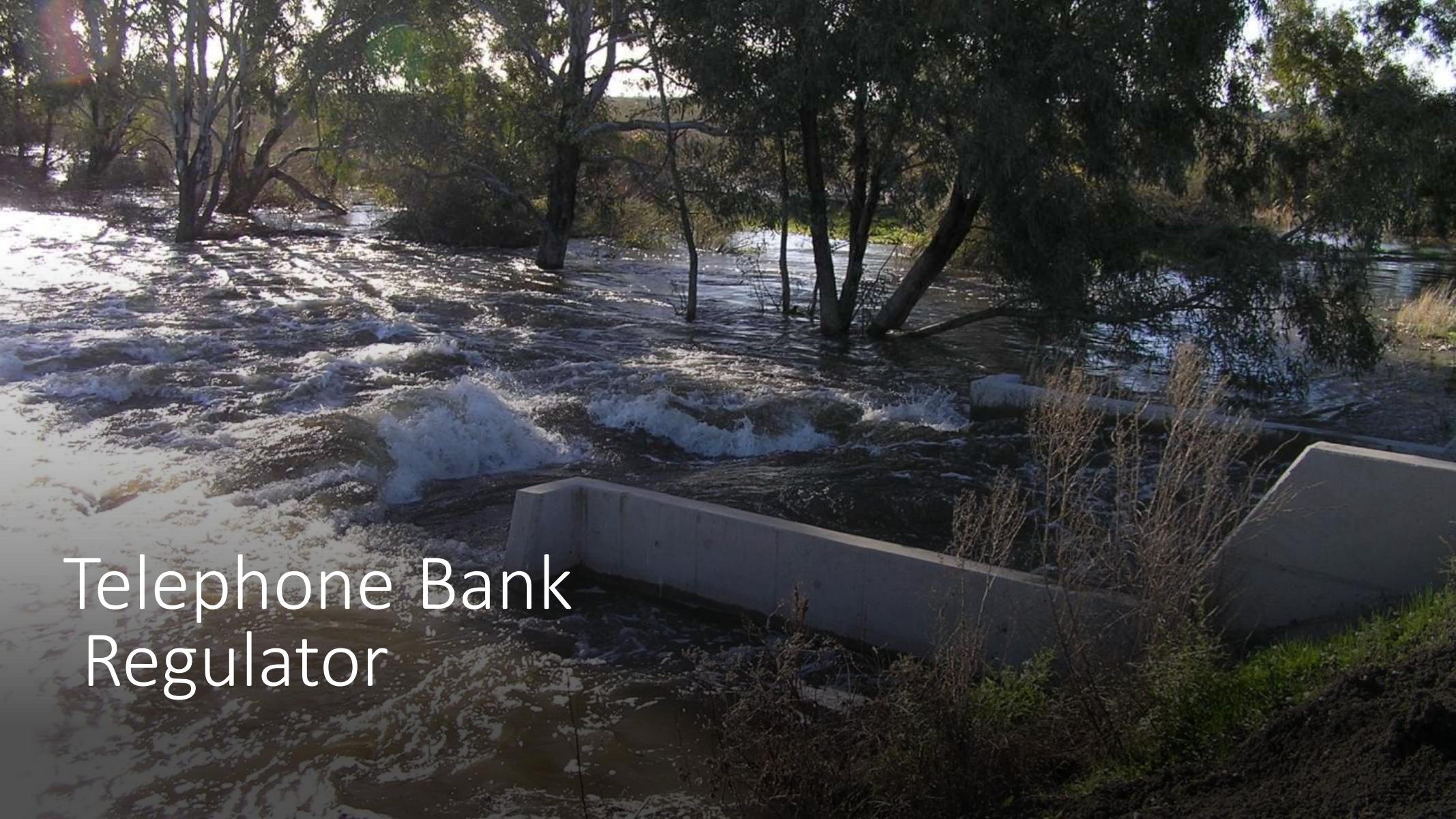
The Assets - Infrastructure

Infrastructure at the offtake of the Nimmie-Caira from the Murrumbidgee River includes Maude Weir and the 3 “Caira” regulators that **control the direction of flows**

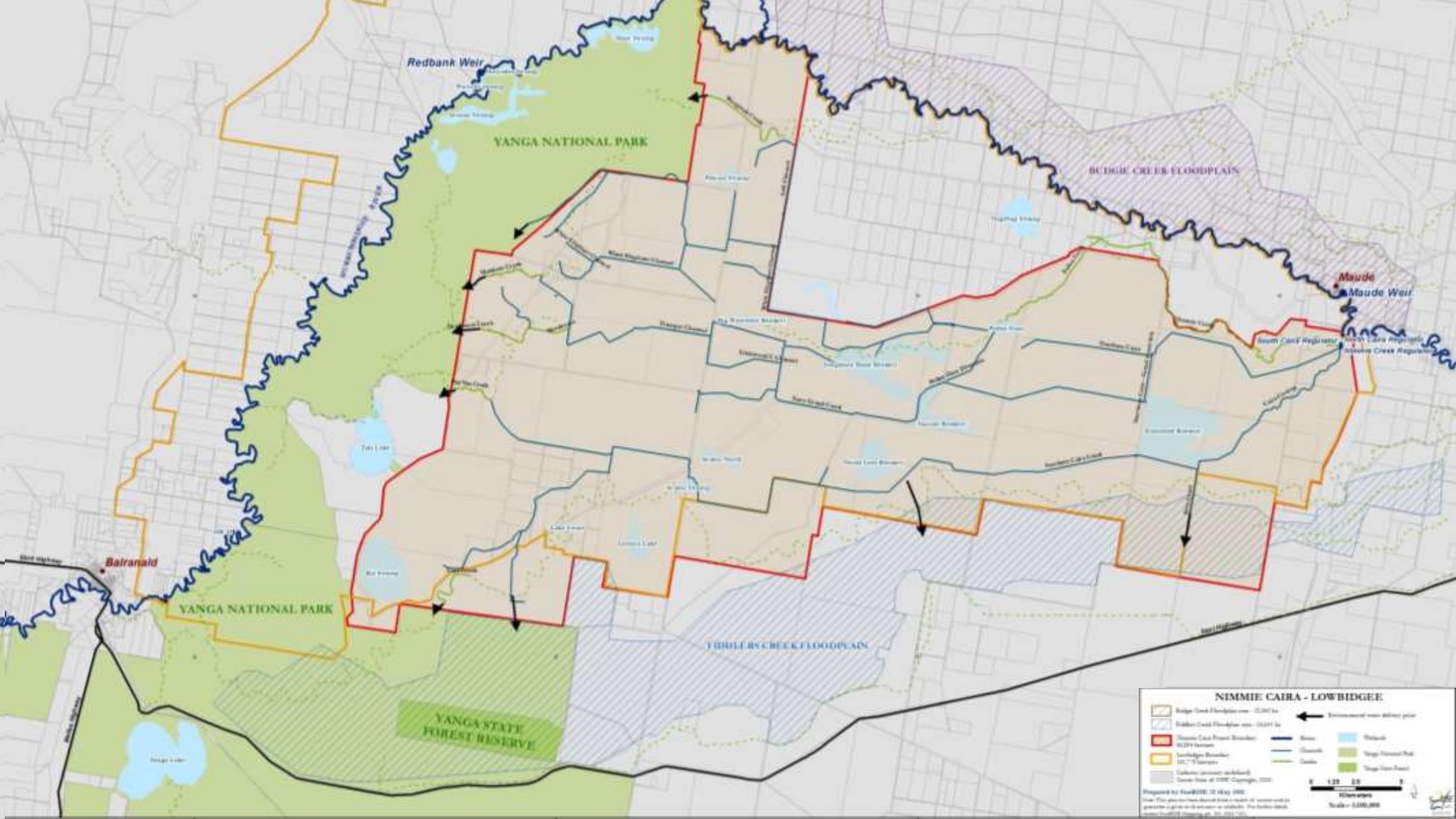
400 kilometres of channels systems can supply specific areas of the floodplain, including key environmental assets in the Gayini Nimmie-Caira and in Yanga National Park. The 3 major channel systems are the Southern Caira Channel, White Elephant Channel Structures and the Centre Channel Structures

2,100 kilometres of floodway levees enable the control of flows across the floodplain

The private infrastructure has been used (under paid agreement) by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service to **deliver environmental water**



Telephone Bank Regulator





South Caira Channel

Use of Infrastructure for Environmental Watering

Gayini Nimmie-Caira infrastructure used under agreement with NSW Government to **deliver environmental water**

Between June 1 and September 2nd 2010 a total of **82,925 megalitres** of Environmental Water was delivered into Yanga NP using Nth and Sth Caira Channels and White Elephant Channel.

The area of Yanga forest watered had not seen water since 2005, some areas had not been watered since 2000. Yanga Lake, dry since 2001 was filled

25,000 ML of this was diverted down the Uara Creek which had not seen water since 1989

A further **15,360 ML** was diverted down the stranded Fiddlers Creek finishing October 6, also the first water since 1989.

In total **98,285ML** were delivered over a period of about 120 days.



Nest marking in
Telephone Bank



Thank you and Question

GAYINI (NIMMIE-CAIRA)

People and nature thriving together



UNSW
SYDNEY



Murray Darling
WETLANDS
WORKING GROUP LTD.



The Nature Conservancy 