



Is integrated catchment management now a possibility in New South Wales?

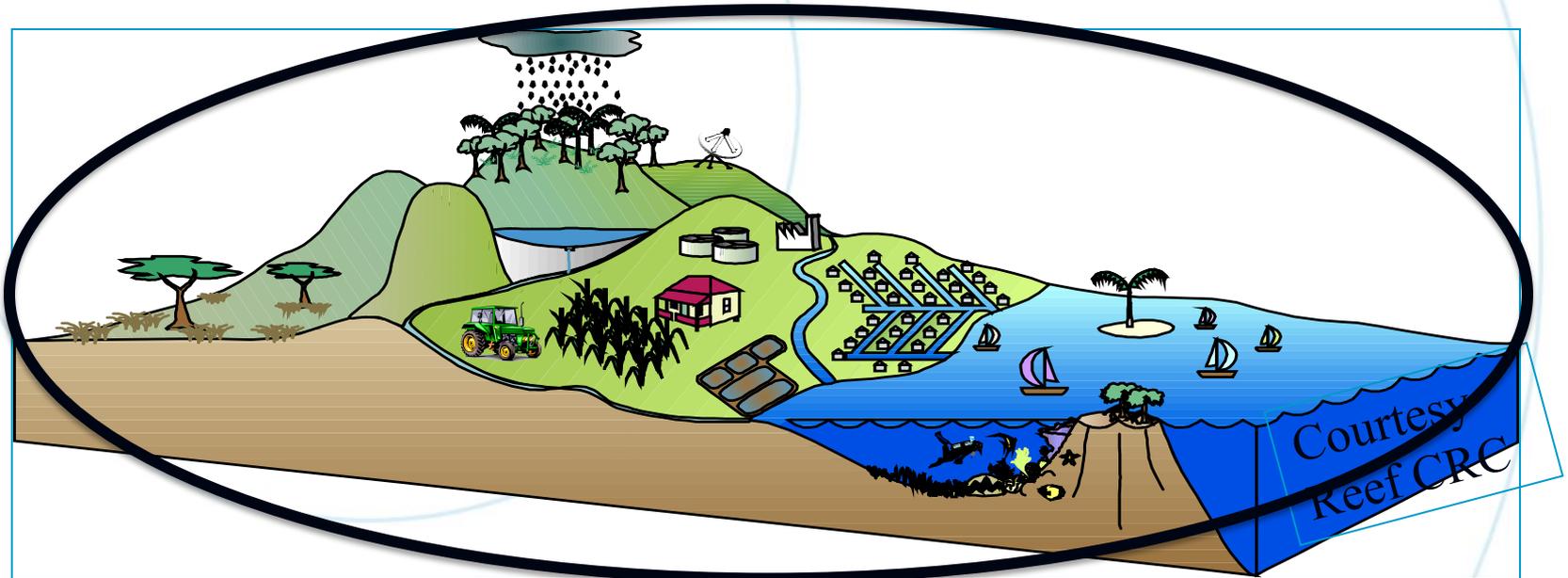
John Williams

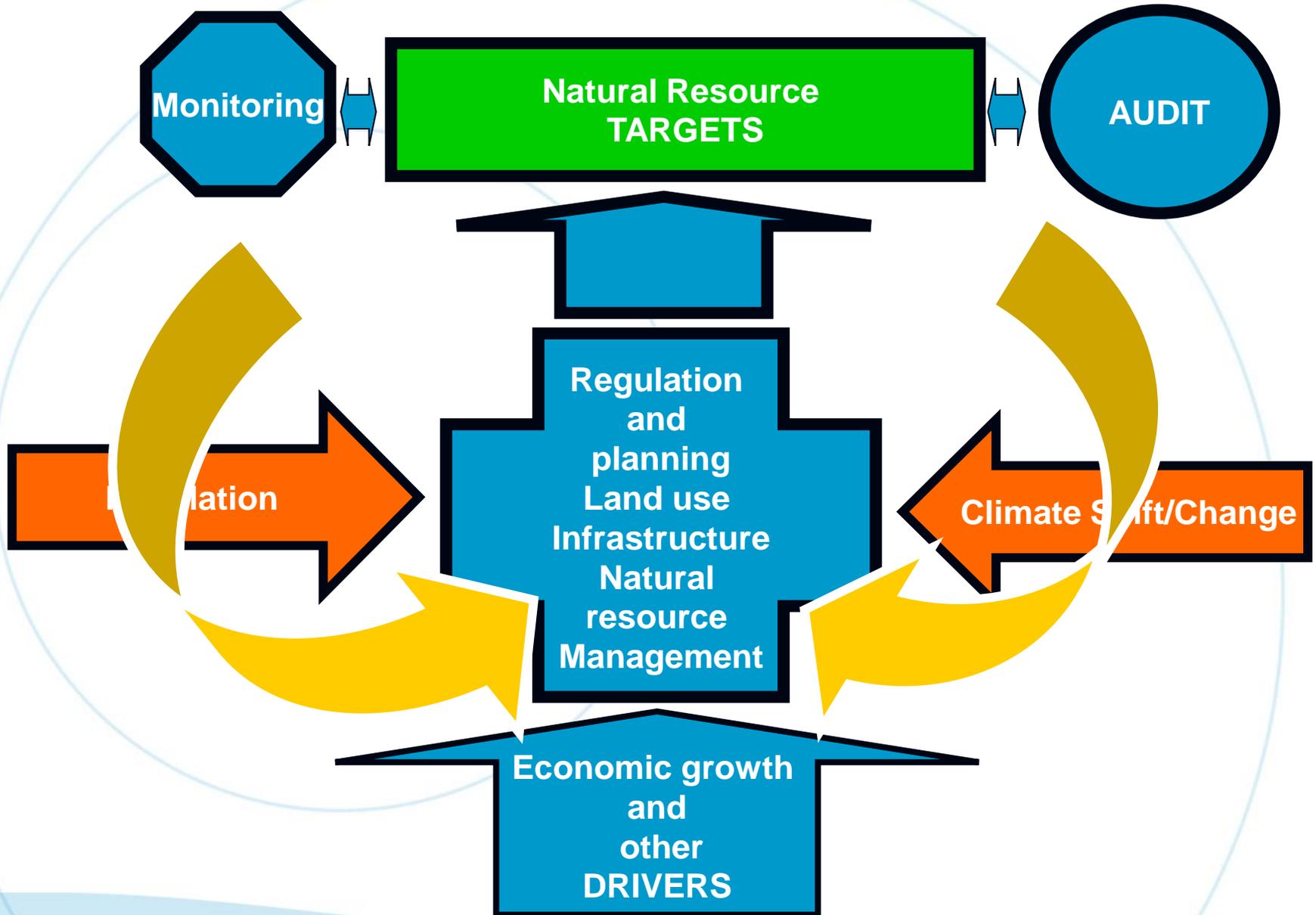
Commissioner, NSW Natural Resources Commission

27 April 2011

My vision

Integrated action, based on sound science, to manage water in the landscape for all users, for now and the future.



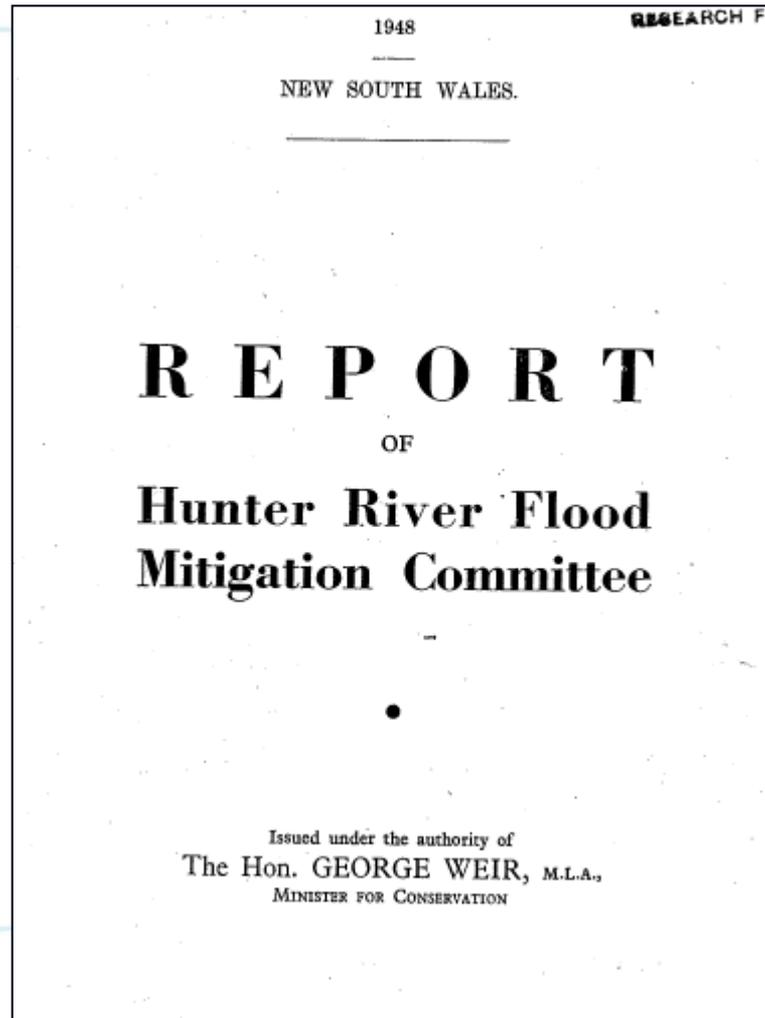


Integrated catchment management

Basic principles:

1. Take a holistic approach to the management of land, biodiversity, water and community resources at the water-catchment scale
2. Involve communities in planning and managing their landscapes
3. Find a balance between resource use and resource conservation

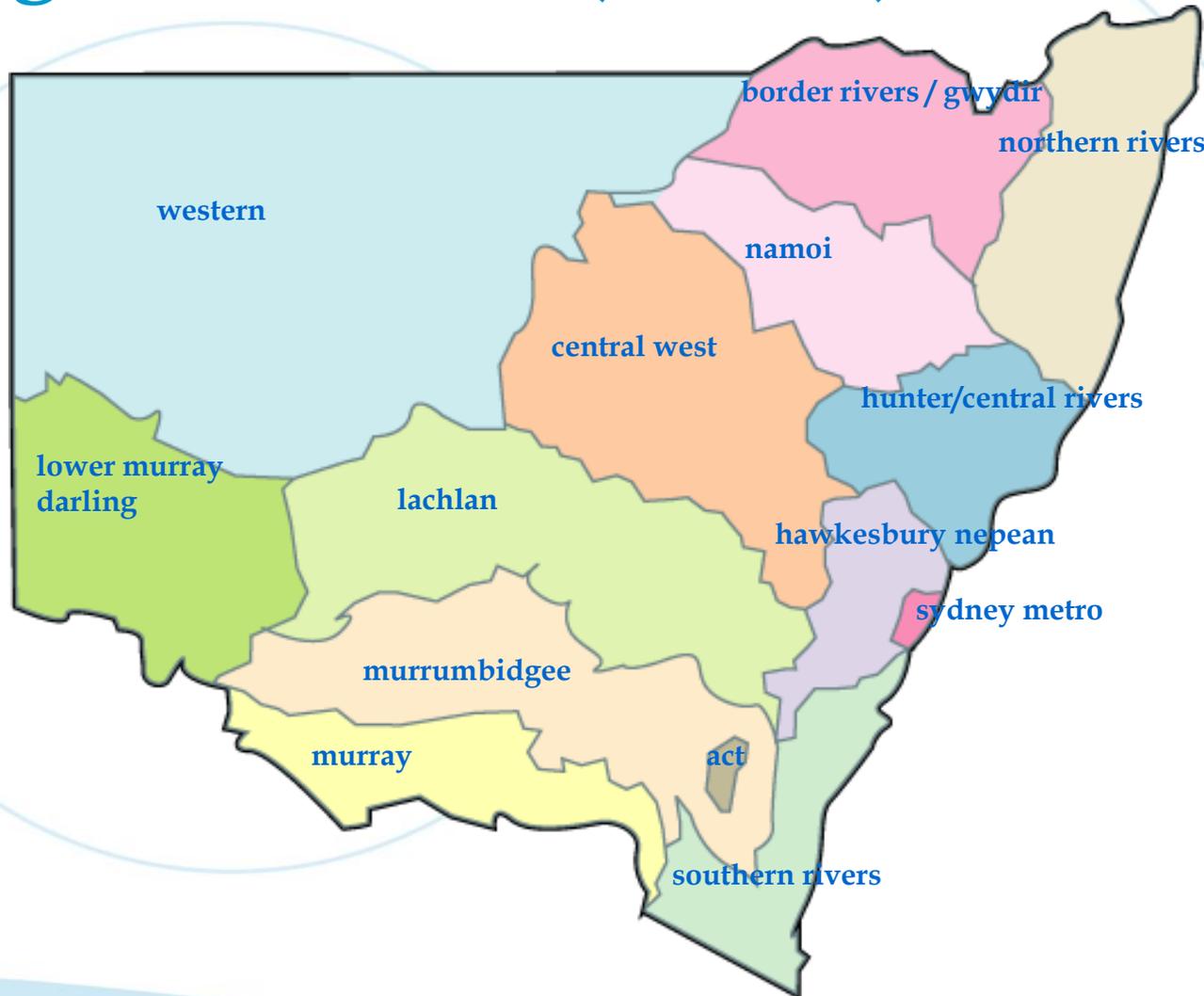
Not just a recent development



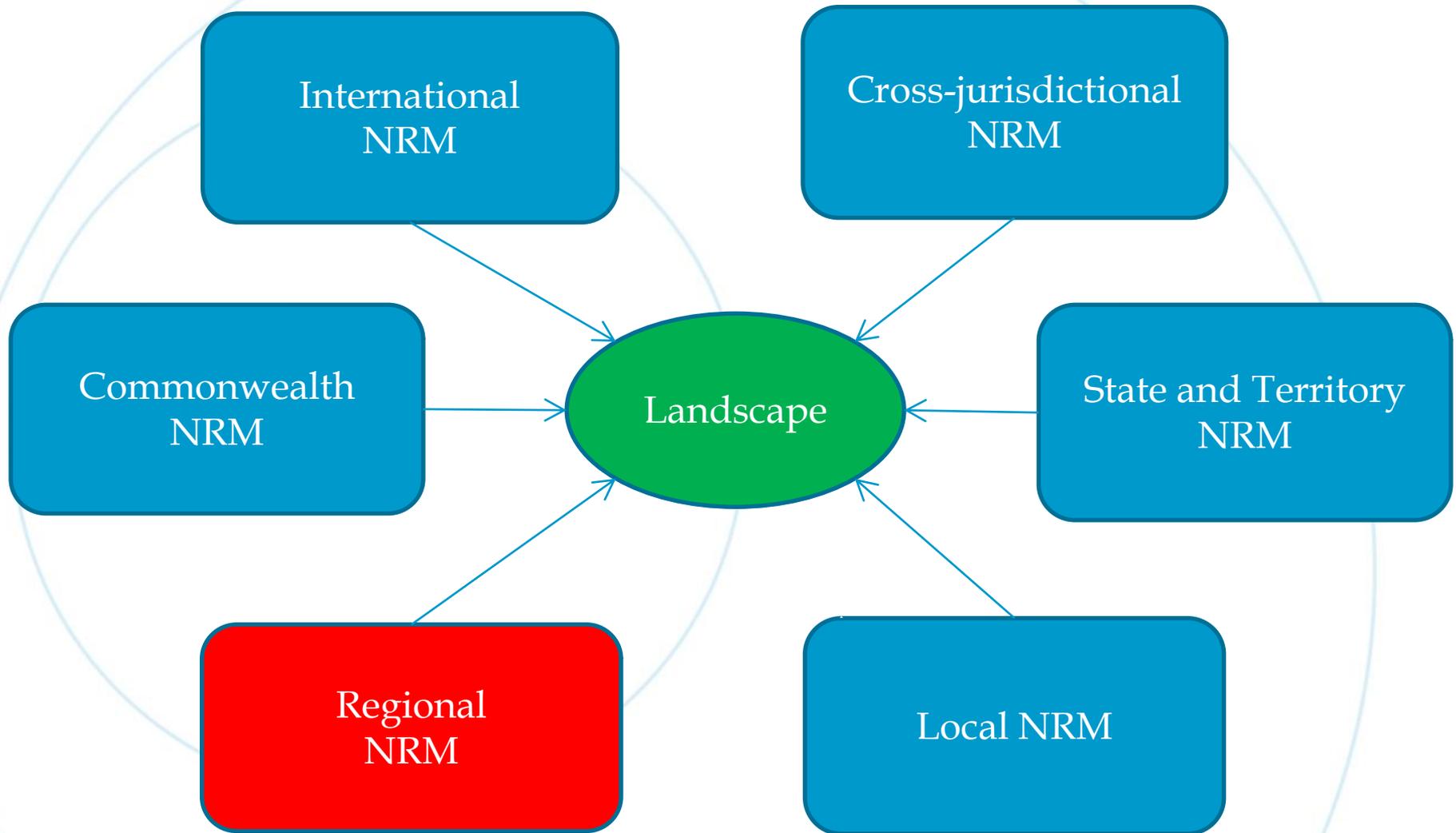
NSW reforms in 2003

- 13 regionally based CMAs
- Targets and Standards
- Catchment action plans
- Natural Resources Commission
- More integrated government involvement

Regional catchment management areas (CMAs) in NSW

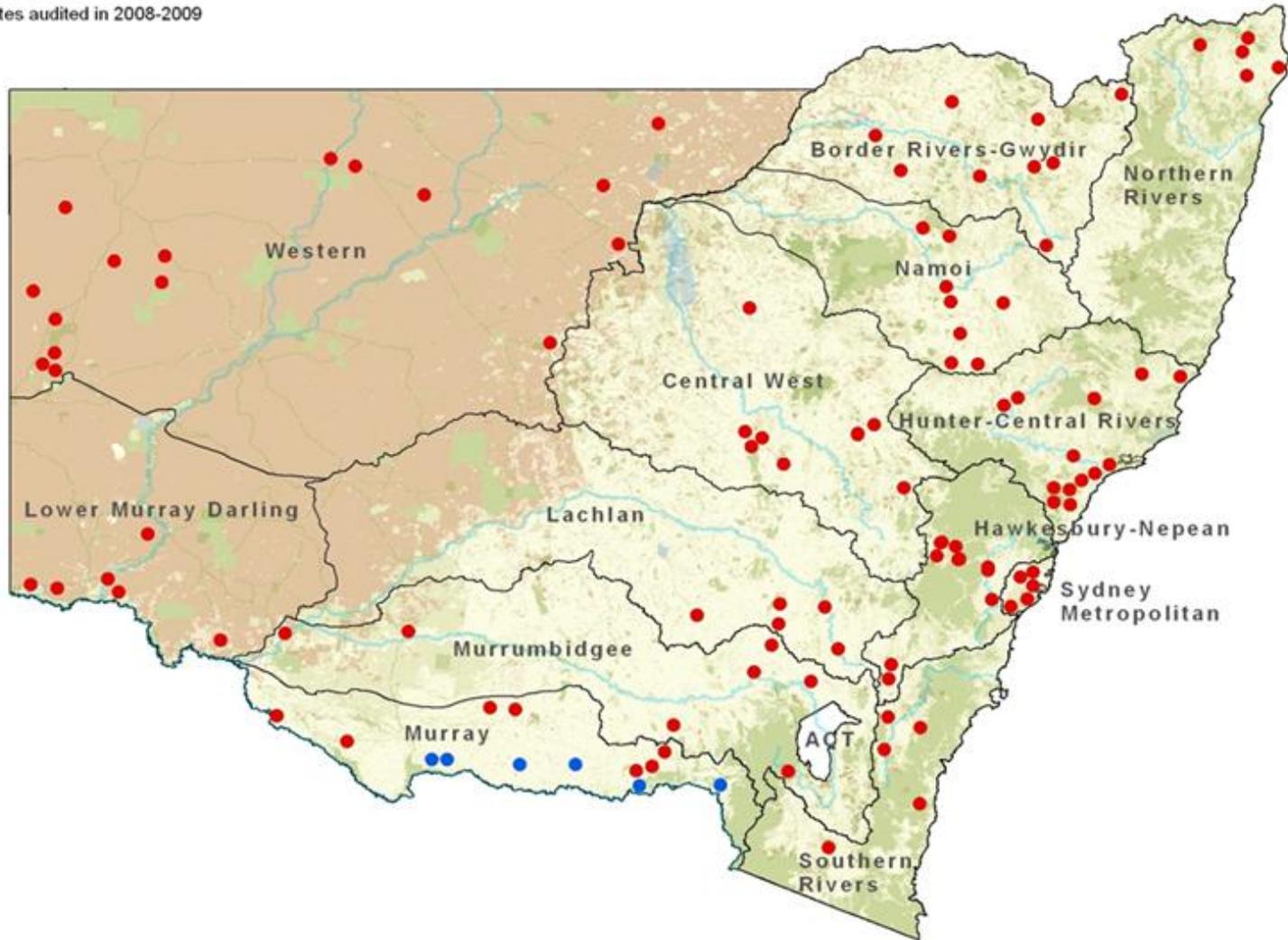


Part of Broader scale NRM



Evidence base for NRC review

- Sites audited in 2010
- Sites audited in 2008-2009



Progress – what has been done since 2003?

1. Framework in place
2. Good projects (90% delivery)
3. Continuity of institutions
4. Strength of CMAs
5. Shift in thinking
6. Value of local involvement

2010 PROGRESS REPORT

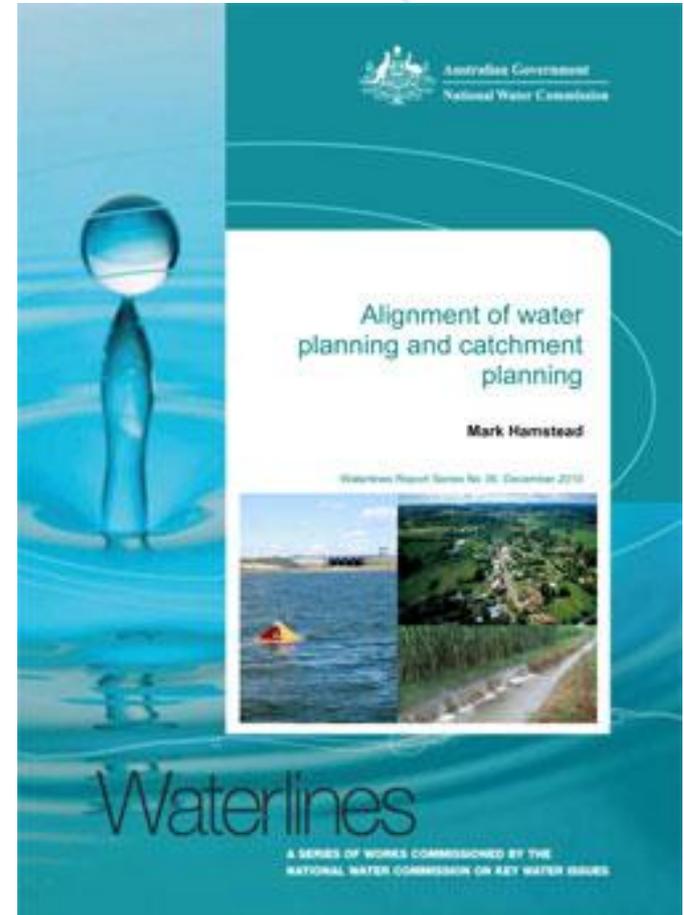
PROGRESS TOWARDS HEALTHY
RESILIENT LANDSCAPES
IMPLEMENTING THE STANDARD, TARGETS
AND CATCHMENT ACTION PLANS

natural
resources
commission



Trial – the value of regional solutions

1. Regional solution to policy problem
2. Strong 'alignment' possible
3. Plans based on common values, information and risk assessments



Benefits of integrated management

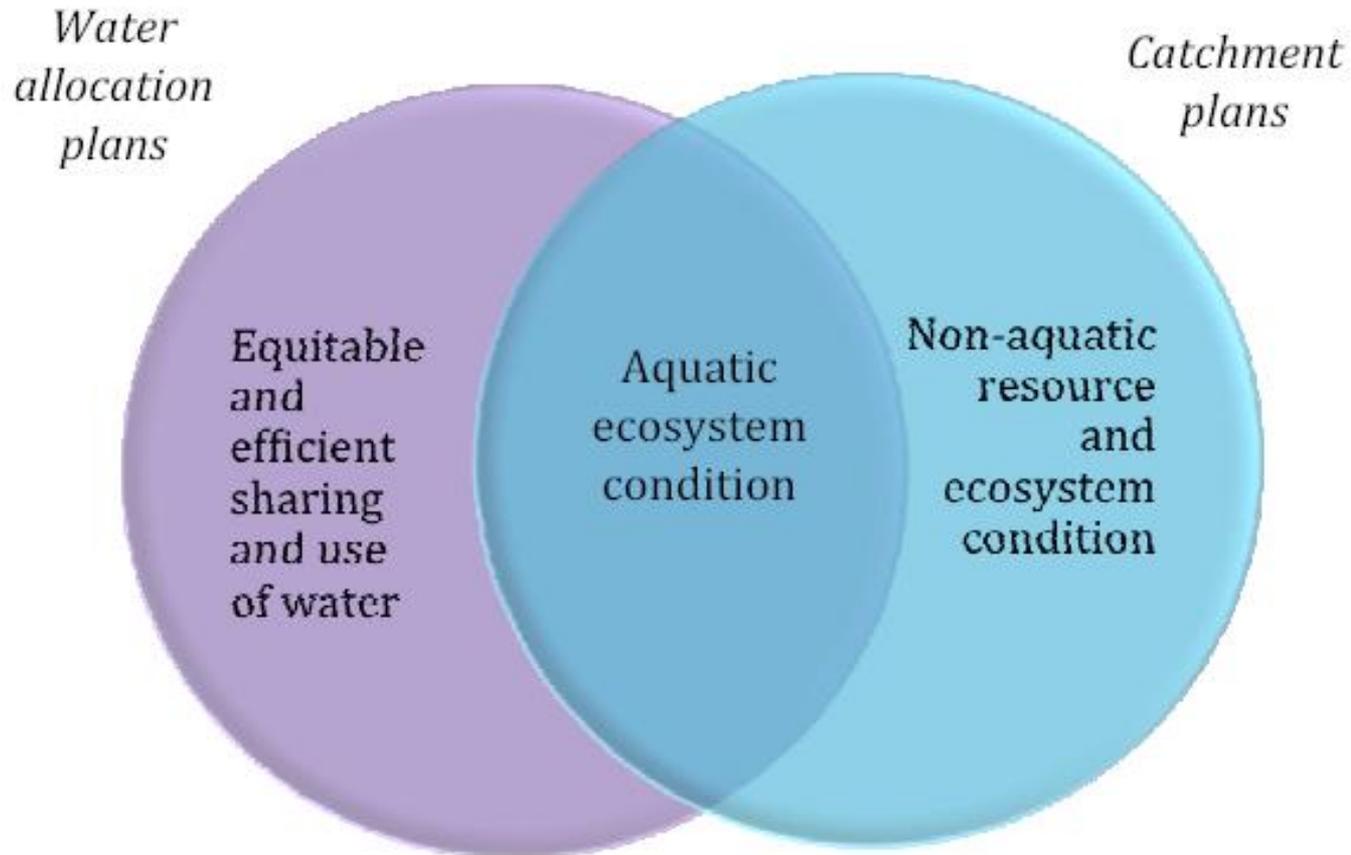
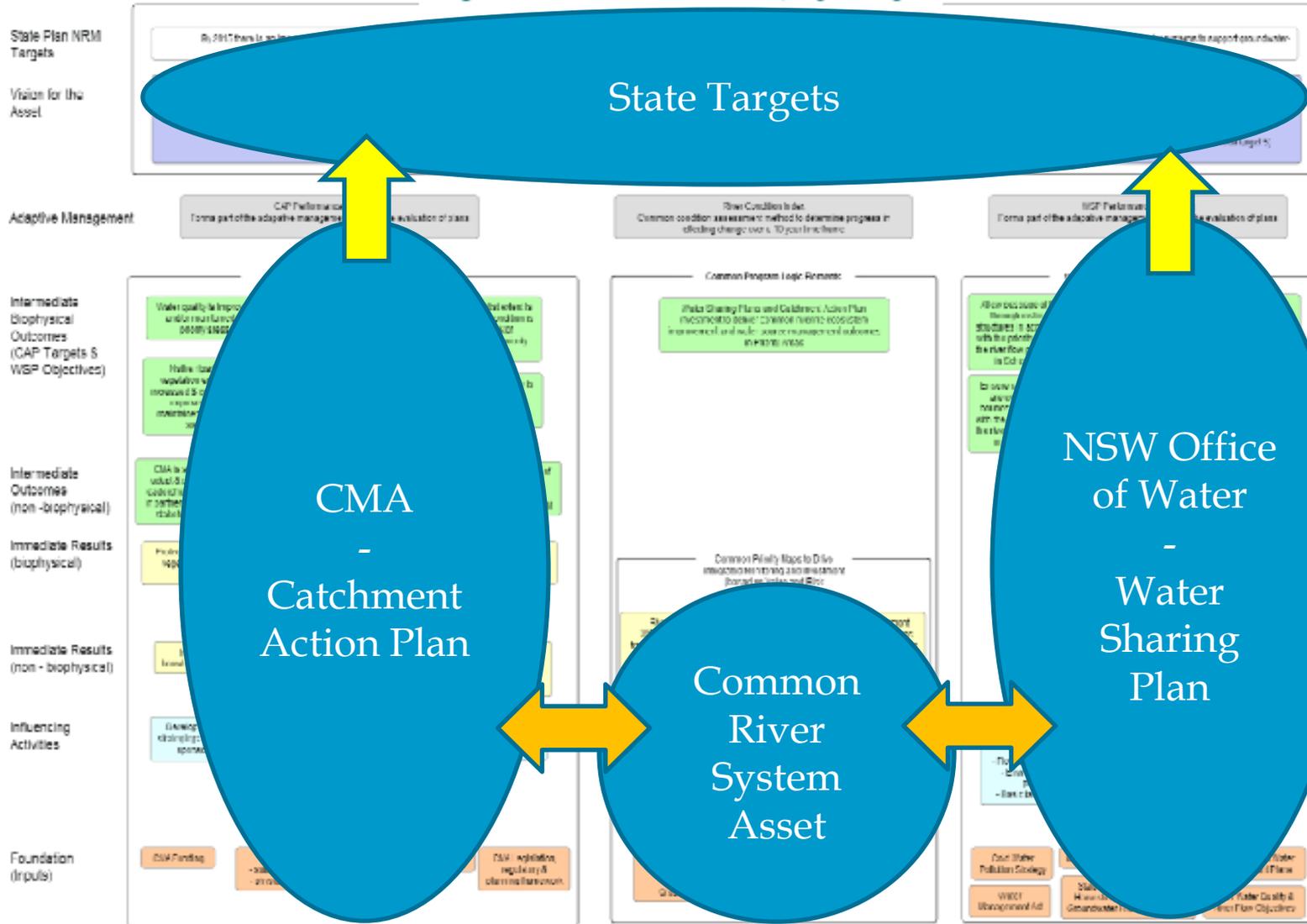


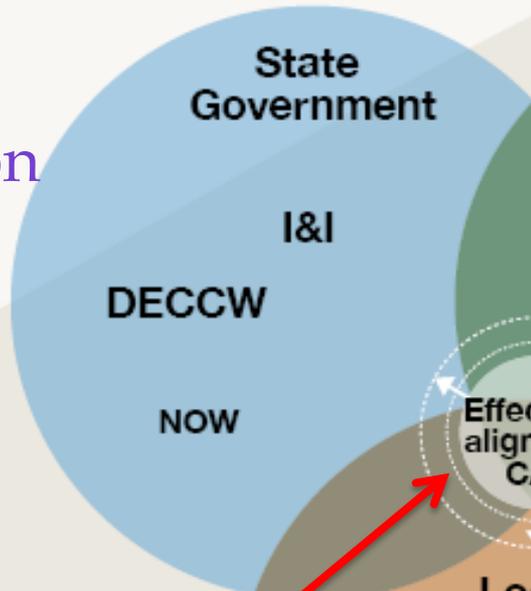
Figure 1: Overlap between water allocation plans and catchment plans

Figure 18: Linked WSP and CAP program logic



Aligning investment

~\$1
billion



~\$3 billion



~\$130
million

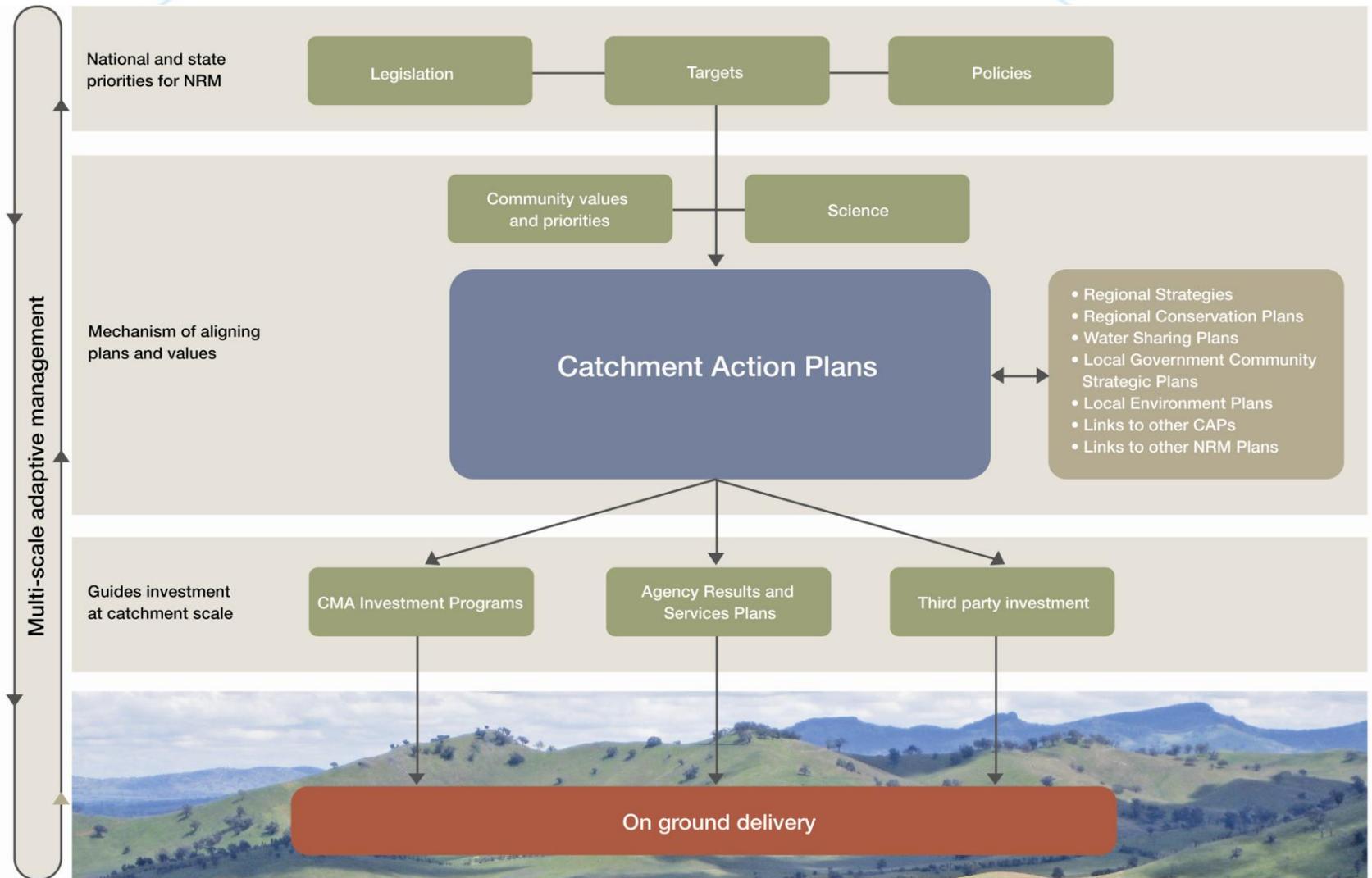


~\$1.7
billion

Priorities for the future

- Implement whole-of-government and community catchment planning
- Match funding to landscape need
- Design sound policy to complement stewardship

Future of upgraded CAPs



Answering the question ...

“NSW now has institutional arrangements and maturing organisations that are giving us the best chance we have had to truly implement an integrated approach to catchment management.”

- **Commissioner’s foreword to the 2010 Progress Report**