

# Coal seam gas and coal mining: Is integrated catchment management now a possibility in New South Wales?

## John Williams

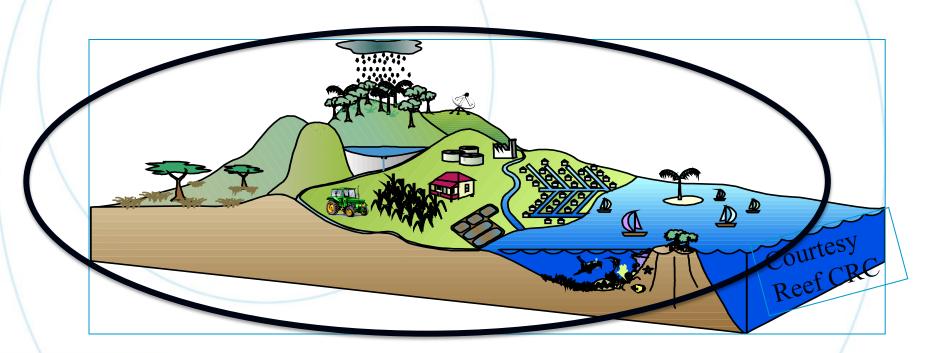
Commissioner, NSW Natural Resources Commission

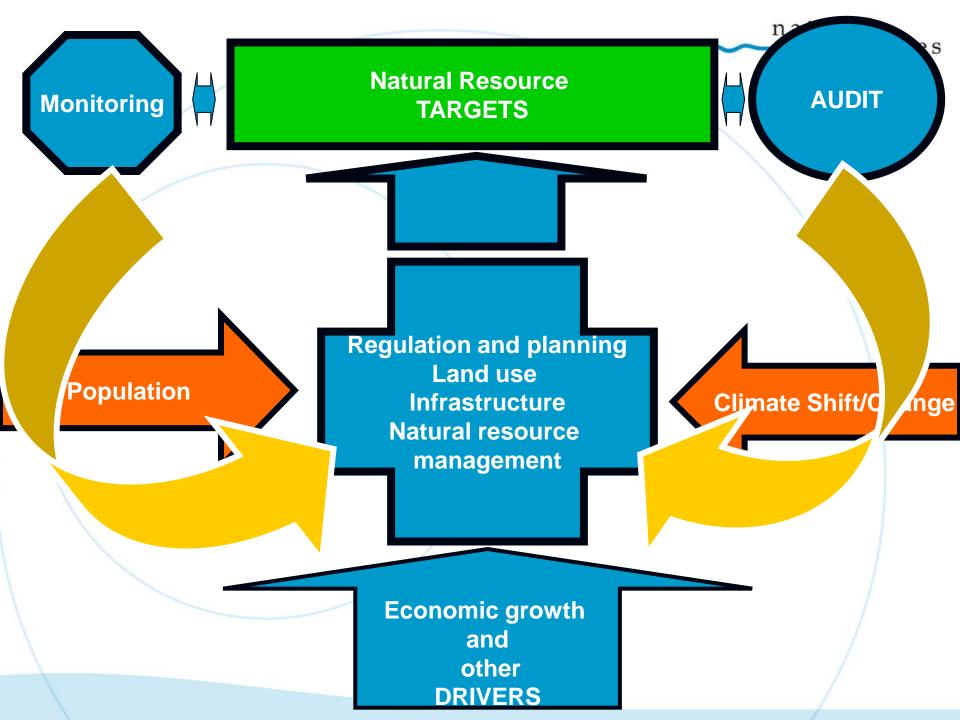
16<sup>th</sup> May 2011



# 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 landscape functional integration between resource use for mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development etc...



## Not just a recent development

1948

RESEARCH FO

NEW SOUTH WALES.

#### REPORT

OF

Hunter River Flood Mitigation Committee

The Hon. GEORGE WEIR, M.L.A.,
MINISTER FOR CONSERVATION



### NSW reforms in 2003

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

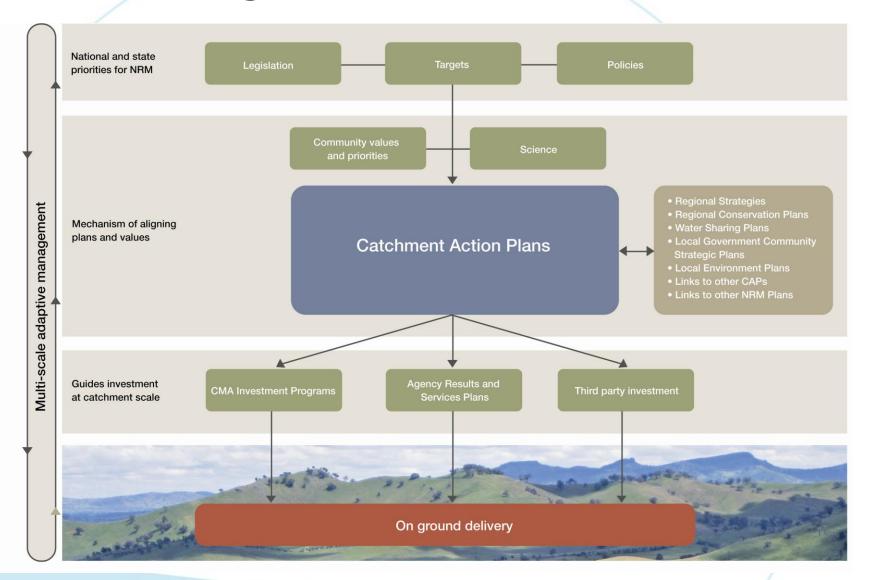


Regional catchment management areas (CMAs) in NSW





# 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