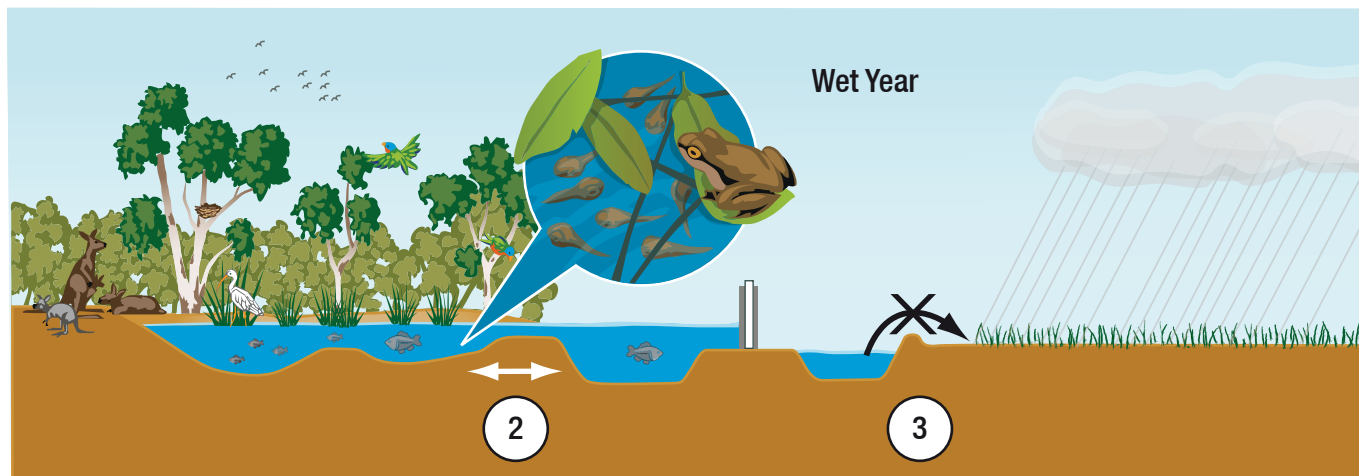
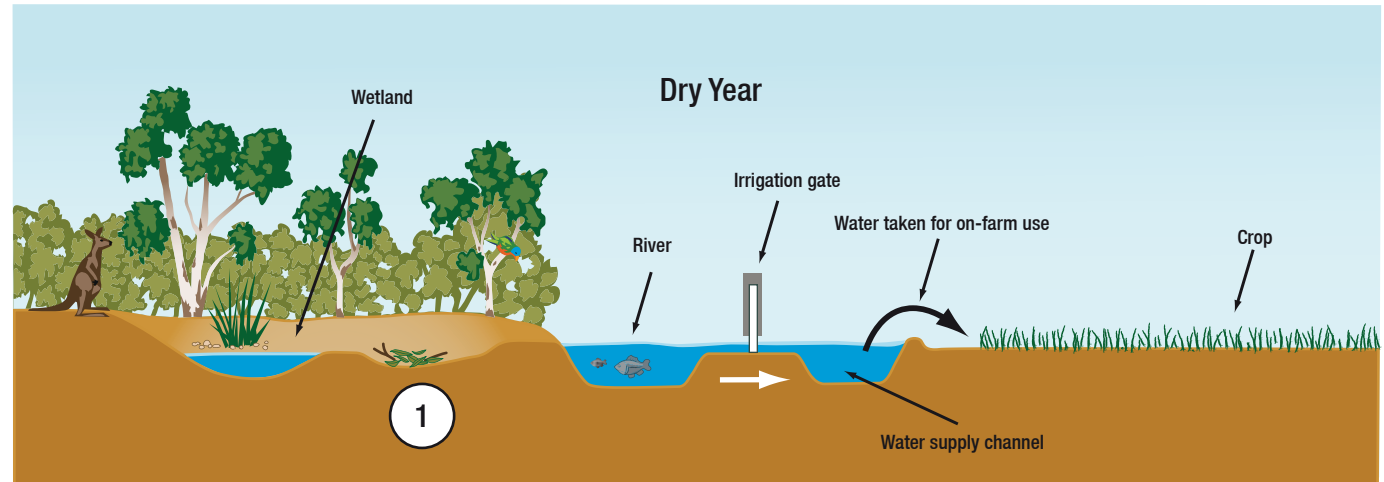


Murrumbidgee River Reach Project

This project will progress the use of innovative water products such as options. Previous studies indicate options may provide a greater opportunity for complementary production and environmental gains. In trialling innovative water products, the project aims to examine flexible and efficient approaches to offering water for environmental objectives and irrigators needs, giving preference to those that maintain existing irrigator rights.

In a wet year, environmental managers can use water allocated to an irrigator under their entitlement to induce flooding of wetlands, billabongs or floodplains, to enhance river system health and water quality. Alternatively, in a dry year, an irrigator can use water that is not required to meet environmental needs for productive use.



When dry,

- 1 Decomposing organic matter such as leaf litter, which is a source of energy (carbon) and nutrients, accumulates and is stored in floodplain soil.

When inundated,

- 2 When river and floodplain connect, the energy and nutrients stored in floodplain soil releases into the flood waters and becomes available to aquatic plants and animals. The aquatic organisms, nutrients and energy are exchanged in both directions.
- 3 Water not needed on farms is used for enhancing river system health and water quality.



Australian Government Water Fund
Water Smart Australia

The evolution of water products and markets is an important step in achieving the sustainability and economic viability of the river systems and environment in NSW and is a key objective of the National Water Initiative.

