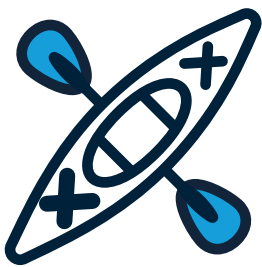


A healthy environment is a healthy community. The rivers, wetlands and lakes of the Murray-Darling Basin provide benefits to people contributing to a strong economy and the health and wellbeing of residents.

Five years into the Basin Plan, early evidence shows improved environmental outcomes, with expected positive flow on effects to Basin residents and visitors, and to key industries like tourism and recreational fishing.

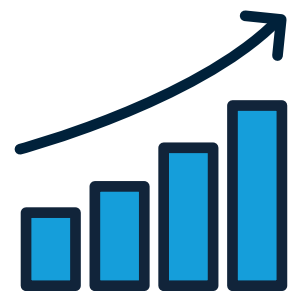


### INCREASE IN TOURISM

Spending on tourism increased by \$1.8 billion over the last five years and is now worth around \$7.5 billion per year.

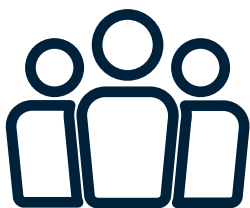
### GROWING POPULATION

The population of medium to large regional centres in the Basin grew by more than 90,000 people in the last five years. Some smaller communities are still struggling.



### FISHING NEEDS HEALTHY RIVERS AND WETLANDS

Recreational fishing is estimated to be worth around \$1 billion each year, generating more than 10,000 jobs.



### HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Healthy water resources provide Basin residents with a sense of place, psychological wellbeing and local identity.

### IMPROVEMENTS FOR LOCALS

Investment by local and state governments in the Basin's lakes, rivers and wetlands has increased.



### WATER QUALITY

Improvements in salinity have provided a net benefit of approximately \$5 million per year to river water users, including irrigation farmers.

