Spatial Information Day 2011 Abstract

Title: Strategic Geospatial Information Management to Enable Sustainable Water Policy Development and Implementation

Session: 3 – Water Resource Management

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Abstract:

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) is a Commonwealth agency responsible for the sustainable management of water resources in the Murray-Darling Basin. The Water Act 2007 requires the MDBA to collect and disseminate information used in preparing the proposed Basin Plan and to make that information easily accessible to the public. The spatial information and remote sensing program of MDBA provides spatial science capability to support the Authority's Enterprise Information Strategy (EIS), the goal of which is to establish an authoritative information service for the Murray–Darling Basin. In early 2011, the Authority has developed its Spatial Information Strategy that specifies eight initiatives. One of the Authority's recent projects is the development of web mapping infrastructure to provide online access to the MDBA's spatial information via discovery, access and publishing tools. In line with the requirement to harmonise the Authority's online information strategies with those of other Commonwealth agencies, it is imperative that any web based information services are provided on robust open standards. With this in mind, standardisation of systems that implement best practice industry geospatial standards is a high priority task. A staged approach was undertaken to these implementations, initially adopting an enterprise spatial solution at the back end to provide integrated and scalable web services that support a number of web mapping services. This presentation provides an overview of the process of building the industry best practice compliant infrastructure for the Murray-Darling Basin's web mapping requirements as well as several examples of spatial information capabilities in order to fulfil the requirements for sustainable management of water and natural resources within the Murray-Darling Basin.