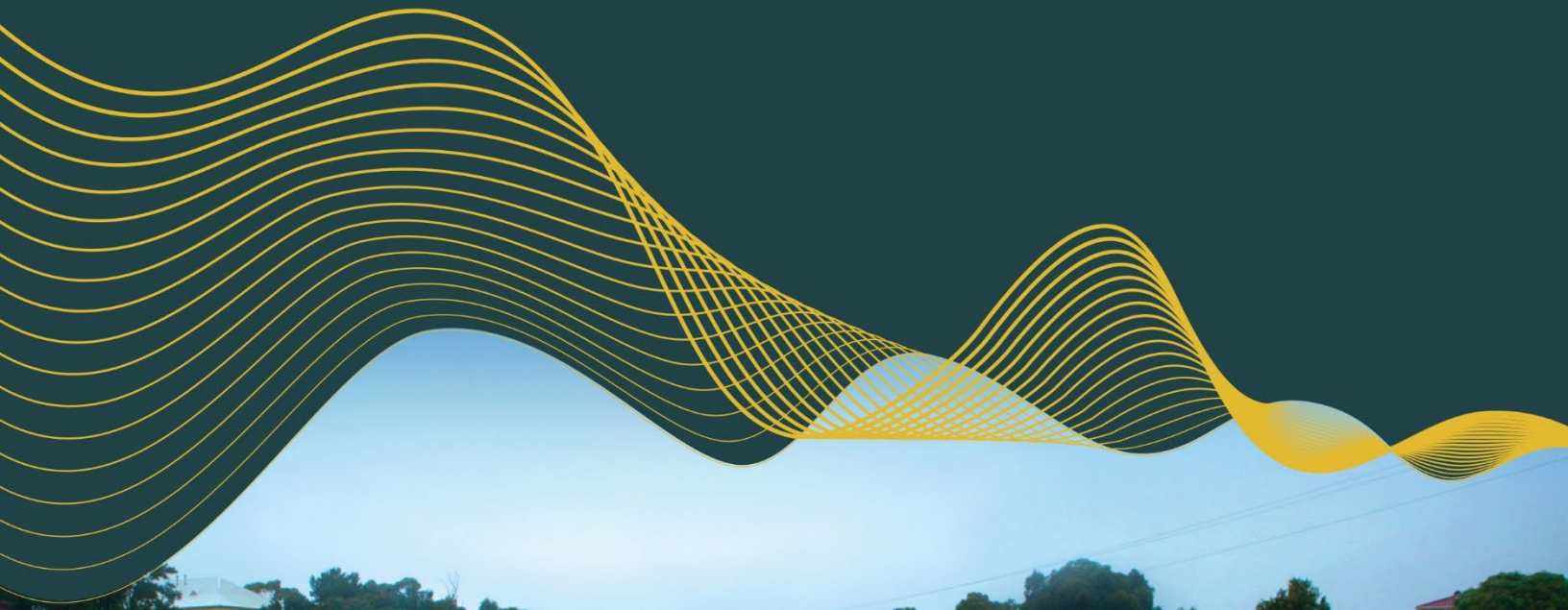




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15 – 16 October 2025
Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Resort, Pokolbin NSW

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Building Partnerships, Finding Solutions

PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM – TUESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2025

8.30 am	Pre-Conference Workshop Registration –	
	Pre-Conference Workshop 1	Pre-Conference Workshop 2
Room	Semillon 3	Semillon 1
9.00 am	Guidelines for the Maintenance of Stormwater Treatment Measures Presenter: Murray Powell, Optimal Stormwater This full-day workshop covers all aspects of Operations and Maintenance for all types of stormwater treatment measures. These Guidelines, adopted by Stormwater NSW, have become the Australian industry standard and reference document for the maintenance of stormwater assets across the country. The Workshop is aimed at Maintenance Managers and Cleaning Contractors, as well as Council staff involved in the sizing, siting, and approval of stormwater treatment measures.	Navigating the WSUD Maintenance Compliance Framework: Step-by-Step Guidance for Councils Presenters: Daniel Rider, Ocean Protect Dr Andrew Thomas, Cooks River Alliance This highly practical and interactive workshop is designed to demystify the WSUD Maintenance Compliance Framework and equip councils with the tools to enhance stormwater infrastructure resilience and environmental outcomes. This hands-on session will guide participants through a structured, step-by-step approach to implementing the Framework within existing council operations. Through real-world case studies and expert facilitation, attendees will gain: • A clear understanding of the key components of the WSUD Maintenance Compliance Framework • Practical strategies to overcome common implementation challenges • The ability to design and apply a compliance program tailored to their local context Whether you're just starting your WSUD journey or looking to strengthen existing programs, this workshop will provide you with actionable insights, peer collaboration opportunities, and access to technical experts.
10.30 am	Morning Tea	
11.00 am	Workshops Continue	

12.30 pm	Lunch
1.00 pm	Workshops Continue
3.00 pm	Afternoon Tea
3.30 pm	Workshops Continue
5.00 pm	Workshops Conclude
5.30 pm	Conference Registration, Wine Tasting and Networking sponsored by:  STORMWATER SERVICES AUSTRALIA
6.30 pm	Conference Welcome Reception
7.30 pm	Welcome Reception concludes

CONFERENCE PROGRAM – WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2025

8.15 am	Conference Registration and Exhibition Visits – Tea and Coffee on Arrival
9.00 am	Welcome to Country
9.05 am	Welcome to franc.2025 Nerida Taylor , Conference Chair and President, Stormwater NSW
9.20 am	Keynote Presentation Climate Change Impacts on Rainfall Intensity Dr Tomas Remenyi , Founder and Director, Acclimatised <i>Dr Remenyi presents the previous work on rainfall intensity in the Australian context, including recent scientific opinions on which projected scenario's are looking to be the most likely into the future, and therefore, which ones matter to flood managers. Tom will discuss some of the future estimates that have been made in the past 10-20 years, how these align with recent observations, and therefore how much confidence we should have in the science, and more recently published estimates on high intensity rainfall. Tom will then discuss the recent changes to the Australian Rainfall and Runoff with regards to climate change guidance, point to some of the tools and resources available to practitioners to access, some key gaps that could be addressed by collective action/funding, and put forward pragmatic suggestions that flood managers can apply to simplify decision making.</i>
9:50 am	Panel Session What does AR&R Mean for Managing Stormwater <i>Cut through the climate science noise with Dr Tom Remenyi – this session will allow participants to engage in a practical, evidence-based discussion on flood risk, rainfall projections and climate ready decision-making.</i> Facilitator: Dr Tomas Remenyi , Acclimatised Panellists: Dr Angela Maharaj , Dept of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Australian Government Anna Wilson , Hobart City Council Prof Jason Evans , University of NSW
10.50 am	Paladium Sponsor Welcome Robert Chesterfield , General Manager, Atlan
10.55 am	Morning Tea
11.25 am	Move to Breakout Rooms

Theme	Flooding and Climate Change	Waterway Restoration	Invisible Pollutants
Session Chair	Andre Magar Room: Semillon 3/4	Nerida Taylor Room: Semillon 1	Justine Barrett Room: The Lodge
11.30 am	Climate Change Impacts on Flooding: Implications of the 2024 Update to Australian Rainfall and Runoff Dr Angela Maharaj Australian Department of Climate Change, Energy, The Environment and Water	From Low-Hanging Fruit to the Pick of the Bunch: Prioritising Urban Waterway Improvement Opportunities Across the Parramatta River Catchment Alexi Gilchrist Parramatta River Catchment Group	Contamination and Biofilters Craig Naughton Hornsby Shire Council
11.45 am	Framework for Planning Nature-Based Solutions to Meet Long-Term Catchment Scale Pluvial Flood Mitigation Targets Wenhui Wu UNSW	Framework for Waterway Restoration and Revitalisation Through Physical Form Typologies Frankie Coen Arup	Coarse sediment – the forgotten fraction. Will capturing it all in GPTs cause hungry but clear water? Oliver Light Alluvium
12.00 pm	Estimating “Reasonably Practicable” Contributions to Stormwater Flow Targets Across Development Types and Scale (Melbourne Water) Shaw Abrey Alluvium	Nepean River Restoration Aditi Verma Camden Council	From Factories to Front Yards: Investigating Microplastics in Urban Stormwater Sanjith Udayakumar UNSW Daniel Rider Ocean Protect
12.15 pm	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel
12.45 pm	Lunch		
1.50 pm	Move to Breakout Rooms		

Theme	Maintenance/Litter	Passive Irrigation	Moving Ahead with IWCM
Session Chair	Brent Cassidy Room: Semillon 3/4	Dr Andrew Thomas Room: Semillon 1	Lachlan Shackcloth-Bertinetti Room: The Lodge
1.55 pm	Zero Litter to the Bay Brad Dalrymple Ocean Protect	Selecting Climate Change Factors for Flooding and Stormwater Management Anna Wilson Hobart City Council	NSW Integrated Water Cycle Management Framework: Focus on Stormwater Integration Emma Brunton and Dr Beata Sochacka Department of Climate Change, Energy, The Environment and Water
2.10 pm	Thirty-Two Percent – That is the Average Functionality of GPTs in Australia. How Can We Do Better? Justine Barrett CSIRO	Turning Runoff into Resilience: Integrating Passively Irrigated Street Trees in Urban Planning Shreyaa Sundararaghava Sydney Water	Bathurst – The Largest Stormwater Harvesting Scheme in the Southern Hemisphere Murray Powell Optimal Stormwater
2.25 pm	A Future-Proof Drainage Upgrade to Alleviate Flooding at Ree Place, Bidwill Thanh Nguyen Blacktown City Council	Smart Partnerships, Smarter Assets: Passive Irrigation and Digital Innovation for Long-Term Urban Resilience Dr Harsha Sapdhare Space Down Under	Integrated Stormwater Planning for a New City – the Western Sydney Aerotropolis Dan Cunningham Sydney Water
2.40 pm	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel
3.10 pm	Afternoon Tea		
3.25 pm	Move to Plenary		
3.30 pm	Keynote Presentation: Integrated Catchment Management Governance for Healthy Waterways: The Ultimate Aspiration for NSW Dr Louise McKenzie NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water		

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4.00 pm	Platinum Sponsor Panel Session From Fragmentation to Resilience: Uniting Industry to Transform NSW's Stormwater Future Moderator David Nixon, Stormwater Services Australia Panellists: Colin Chin, Stormwater Services Australia Andre Magar, Zeal Consulting and Stormwater NSW Dr Andrew Thomas, Cooks River Alliance and Stormwater NSW
5.00 pm	Conference Day One Concludes
6.00 pm	Pre Awards Drinks – The Lodge, Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
6.30 pm	2025 Stormwater NSW Awards for Excellence Presentation
7.15 pm	Franc.fest
10.00 pm	End of Day 1

CONFERENCE PROGRAM – THURSDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2025

8.00 am	Conference Registration and Exhibition Visits – Tea and Coffee on Arrival		
9.00 am	Welcome to Day 2 and Housekeeping Justine Barrett, CSIRO and Executive Committee, Stormwater NSW		
9.05 am	Keynote Presentation: A Plan to Manage Blue-green Algal Blooms in Lake Tuggeranong, Canberra Dr Ralph Ogden , ACT Healthy Waterways Program Manager, ACT Government		
9.35 am	Panel Session: Urban Recreational Water Quality - Is Swimming a Real Driver to Waterway Health? Swimming in our urban rivers, lakes and estuaries is making a big comeback – but why? This panel will explore the growing community interest in urban swimming, asking whether the push for swimmable urban waterways is a catalyst for investment, and will it really influence waterway health? Drawing on international and local examples such as the Parramatta River, Canberra's lakes and initiatives across Western Sydney, our panel of experts will discuss how the interest in swimming is shaping policy, planning and catchment management. Join us as we unpack whether swimming is simply a liveable cities trend or a genuine driver for healthier waterways Facilitator: Alexa McAuley , Civile Panellists: Dr Ralph Ogden , ACT Healthy Waterways Program Manager, ACT Government, Alexi Gilchrist , Parramatta River Catchment Group Leanne Niblock , Sydney Water		
10:30 am	Morning Tea		
11.00 am	Move to Breakout rooms		
Theme	Asset Management	Blue-Green Lens	Managing Future Water Flow
Session Chair	Justine Barrett Room: Semillon 3/4	Ben Wolfram Room: Semillon 1	Andre Magar Room: The Lodge
11.05 am	Square 1 Asset Management - The Challenges and Lessons of Doing Asset Management at 3 Separate Councils. Craig Naughton Hornsby Shire Council	Transition Pathways Towards Blue-Green Infrastructure: Adopting a System's Approach Somayeh Sadegh Koohestani University Of Technology Sydney	Climate-Resilient Stormwater Management in Urban Areas Dr Hamed Esfahani Stantec

11.20 am	Love the SQID You're With Murray Powell Optimal Stormwater	An Assessment of Incorporating Trees into Bio-retention Basins Nigel Bosworth SLR Consulting	Climate Change Rainfall Data Algorithm for Continuous Modelling of Stormwater Mircea Stancu Cleanstormwater
11.35 am	Beyond the Planting: Keeping WSUD Systems Functional Over Time Eric Lin Stantec	Are Stormwater Wetlands 'Ecological Traps'? Brad Dalrymple Ocean Protect	Smarter Systems, Cleaner Water: Improving Biofilter Performance with Real-Time Control Jiadong Zhang UNSW
11.50 am	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel
12.20pm	Lunch (50 mins)		
1.15 pm	Move to Breakout Rooms		
Theme	Strategic Planning	Who is Responsible?	Whole LGA Mapping and Planning
Session Chair	Murray Powell Room: Semillon 3/4	David Nixon Room: Semillon 1	Erin Sellers Room: The Lodge
1.20 pm	Holistic Catchment Management: Combining Real-World and Modelled Flood and Water Quality Analysis for Prospect Creek Sumari Veal Stantec	Is Your Tender Specification 'Specific, Certain and Enforceable'? John Weaver Interflow	Catchment GIS for Dummies (Like Me) Craig Naughton Hornsby Shire Council
1.35 pm	WSUD Implementation on Linear Transport Infrastructure: How Are We Doing? Yuna Chen Aurecon	Water Sensitive Urban Design – Monitoring and Managing Privately Owned Systems Kate Murphy Blacktown City Council	Using LGA-Wide MUSIC Models to Plan, Justify, Predict and Track WSUD Projects on a City-Wide Drainage Network Adrian Smit City of Sydney
1.50 pm	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel	Q&A Panel
2.20 pm	Afternoon Tea		

2.40 pm	Move to Plenary
2.45 pm	Plenary Address: Stormwater 2030 and SQID Taskforce Dr Andrew Thomas, President, Stormwater NSW
3.15 pm	Panel Session: SQID Taskforce Updates Hear how industry is shaping practical improvements, lifecycle costing, and future standards for stormwater treatment. Facilitator: Brad Dalrymple , Ocean Protect Panellists: Dr Kefeng Zhang , UNSW Kristy Good , Blacktown City Council Christine Del Duca , Dynamic Corporate Solutions
4.00 pm	Stormwater NSW Forum – Next Steps
4.30 pm	Conference Wrap Up and Close Nerida Taylor, President, Stormwater NSW
4.40 pm	Conference Close

TECHNICAL TOUR PROGRAM – FRIDAY, 17 OCTOBER 2025

Showcase of Excellence Site Tour

Registration: 8.30 am – Lobby of the Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens
Tour Departure: 8.45 am for 9.00 am departure
Departure Point: Mercure Hunter Valley Gardens

Technical Tour sites include:

Tramway Drive, Wallsend

This site will feature a series of GPTS and raingardens in a sub-division with different levels of establishment along with an opportunity to discuss sediment and erosion control

Mary Street, Jesmond

This site features nature-based solutions for managing overland flow paths on-grade which provide multiple benefits, including improved amenity, aesthetic appeal, effective water conveyance, and enhanced biodiversity corridor connections.

Throsby Creek in Litchfield Park, Mayfield

Hunter Water has been making significant strides in enhancing the amenity of open stormwater channels across the region, with a key project at Litchfield Park in Mayfield closing out the series of upgrades. The upgrades were designed to enrich the natural environment and bring the community closer to their local creeks and waterways.

Lake Macquarie Estuary Project, Park Road, Speers Point

Lake Macquarie (NSW's largest coastal lake) is the blue heart of the local government area, and it is central to the city's landscape, lifestyle and identity. During the 1980s and 90s poor water quality due to stormwater inflows and other catchment inputs impacted the health of the lake to the point where it was on the verge of eutrophication, with frequent algal blooms and fish kills.

In response a large-scale program of water quality improvements commenced in the early 2000's and has continued to this day. The site tour will share the results, highlights and lessons learned from 25 years of water quality management.