

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: [REDACTED]
To: DPIE W Regional Water Strategies Mailbox
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]
Grafton Presentation from the Fishes.
Attachments: 000 Menindee Comment [REDACTED] 119Y2504.rtf

Attn: [REDACTED]

Please pass this on to [REDACTED] for me – I'm sure she will luv it!

Thanks
[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

Here is a bit more detail – **from the fishes point of view** - for you to consider as to what you are going to do to keep us all (including the wildlife), refreshed and clean for the next 20-40 years.

Attached is a memo (which you may have seen), on one facet of the MDB project (a water fiasco I've been involved with for many years).

The extract of interest for the Clarence was:

“Menindee Lakes is the most significant native fish breeding ground in NSW and we have been raising these issues along with water management in the Lakes for almost two years, and so today marks a great achievement by all Basin Ministers recognising that our communities need to drive these projects.”

They have been thoughtlessly treated by the environmental fraternity for yonks, but the worst was during the last drought.

After the Broken Hill water pipeline was opened, the Menindee Lakes were no longer required to supply Broken Hill's water. So what happened?

The lakes were emptied and sent down to the mouth of the Murray, (The lower Darling waterless farmers were not allowed to take one drop), to “freshen up” the Coorong, which is estuarine no matter what the environmentalists say. It even has a lighthouse to guide ocean going vessels to the real mouth of the Murray. The Menindee lake beds were left covered with dead fish. Disgusting.

So what has this got to do with a dam on the Clarence?

During the regular dry periods the Clarence and Mann can end up as a series of pools. I've walked across it with my shoes on many times.

It is acknowledged this is not good for water species, particularly the endangered Eastern Freshwater Cod.

The dam, filled to the “recreational” level, would provide an extensive pool for them to survive in and probably increase their numbers.

Has this been considered? (silly question!).

And keep in mind *I've never heard of a duck or a dingo, a pelican or a roo, turn away from a dam because it was not natural...*

Kindest regards,

